



2006/7

Southwark City Tennis Club

Report

Southwark City Tennis Club
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FOREWORD

Our vision, is a simple one:

“for the Club to support the development of more players and better players in Southwark”

This is consistent with the Lawn Tennis Association’s (LTA) goal at a national level and we have a particular focus on junior tennis and community development. During our first two years we have concentrated on widening participation. We have achieved some notable results including providing taster sessions to over 1,600 children at local schools. We are now looking forward to working more on developing players.



Highlights for year April 2006 to March 2007 included a visit by our juniors to Wimbledon, well attended junior tennis camps and Saturday coaching, coaching for the disabled and community groups and the staging of a number of fiercely contested tournaments. In June 2006 we achieved City Tennis Club (CTC) status from the LTA. This makes us part of a national network of Clubs supporting grassroots tennis in urban areas.

The progress to date could not have been possible without support from a wide range of partners. From within the Club this includes a large number of volunteers and parents as well as the captains of our various senior teams. In particular, Eliana Bruni has made an outstanding contribution to the Club as Events Organiser.

I would like to thank Pat Turner and Nicola Donnelly from Southwark’s Sport’s Development Team for all their hard work and support. We are also grateful to Steve Cahalan, the manager of the Burgess Park Tennis Centre (BPTC), and his team. This partnership arrangement included use of courts with a value over £8,000 without which we could not have operated.

Finally, I would like to thank John Connolly and the coaching team of Milton Gayle, Valda Visinskyte, Denis McMillan and Ashley Martin for all their work on court where it matters.

*Tom Ulicsak,
Club Secretary*

SENIOR TENNIS

As a park club we see a lot of players dusting off their racquets for a few weeks every summer during Wimbledon. Our job is to provide a coaching and competitive framework to get some of these players participating for longer and improving their game.

2006 Champions

The singles tournaments in September featured 27 men and 12 women. The standard of play was significantly higher than last year.

Womens Singles - Jolanda Hagoort (right)

Mens Singles - Ikani Agabi (below)

Mens Doubles - George Thomas & Rasheed Oloyede

Womens Doubles - Eliana Bruni & Jackie Hodge

In our champions versus coaches match Ikani prevailed over Milton but

Jolanda lost to Valda ensuing that honours were equal.

League Results

Following our promotion last year the men's team found the going much harder this time in the Surrey Kia League losing 6-0 in our first match. We did recover strongly to end up as runners up finishing with 2 wins and 2 losses. In the Southwark Men's Challenge Cup we made it through to the semi finals before losing to Old College 5-3. We also participated in the Southwark mixed and men's doubles leagues coming about mid table.

The Ladies team lost one match on a tie break but were well beaten in the other 3 matches in the Surrey Kia League. Given this was some of our players first

ever experience of league play the results weren't too discouraging. We are expecting much better things in 2007/8 following additional training and match practice.

Ladder Tournament

We introduced an electronic ladder tournament www.ropeyladder.com with 9 ladies and 16 men playing. The winners were Bob Hubbard and Jane Holliday.



JUNIOR TENNIS

Our Coaching Programme

Our programme is based around Saturday morning coaching. This is divided by ability and age into red, orange, green and full tennis. In 2006 we had some 120 juniors in the April to July peak period. In October 2006 we were able to introduce free afterschool coaching for the first time and this has been expanded to cover Monday to Friday. To supplement this training we also offer half term and holiday camps.



Competitive Play

We held our first junior mini tennis tournaments as part of Surrey LTAs programme. This covered U12, U10 and Green and Orange age groups. The events were very competitive especially with experienced players from other clubs (with more than 1 racket!) taking on our youngsters. Our own Club championships produced the following results:

2006 Boys Champions

U16 – Lydon-Antani Bartley
U12 – Mason Mckone-Munian (above)
U10 - Lemarr Bartley (below)

2006 Girls Champions

U16 – Melanie Croft
U12 – Chuko Emanuwa
U10 – Lila Simpson

Work with Local Schools

Two coaches were appointed in June 2006 under the Community Sports Coaching Scheme and are working throughout the year with , Brunswick Park and St Georges primary schools and the Academy at Peckham and Harris Waverley Academy secondary schools. In addition, we have worked with Crampton,, John Donne, Cobourg & Comber Grove on short term programmes.



Community Group Tennis

During the year we a put on a number of sessions for local groups including a Disability Day for juniors in conjunction with Southwark Sports Development Department. We have undertaken sessions with 7 local groups this year during the school holiday period. With 2 continuing during the Autumn term. Feedback from participants has been very positive.

League Matches

In the summer of 2006 we played in the Boys and Girls Little League (10U), playing 12 matches with 2 wins. In our first ever season in the National Junior Club League Boys singles we played four matches, losing them all, but learning a great deal in the process. Building on our participation in the CTC tournament in Southampton we arranged home and away matches against Langdon CTC. The first match was a draw and we won the return match in East London 9-8! We organised an U12 Winter League for teams from Southwark and Lambeth both our boys and girls teams coming second to Old College.

Participation in CTC Southampton Tournament

We were represented by Daniel Brewer and Ilya Litvinov and Chuko Emanuwa accompanied by Milton and Valda. Eight teams competed with our players winning 2 and losing 5 matches.

Jack Petchey Scheme

We introduced the Jack Petchey Scheme in February 2007. The award is made quarterly to the person under 24 who has made the most contribution to the work of the Club. The first award was made to Sandra Sekabanja for raising £3,000 in grant funding to coach teenage girls.

Summer Barbeque and Christmas Party

Thanks to Eliana Bruni and her assistants Becca Beach and Irene Volterani for organising our first ever social events.



Melanie Croft (left) and Zeni

Sekabanja squared up in the Girl's U16 event.



NON-COURT ACTIVITIES

Our activities are based on a four-year development plan from 2005-9, available on www.southwark.totaltennis.net along with the Club constitution.

Facilities Development

The courts were coated to a high standard in May 2006 while innovative mesh practice walls which we helped to design with the contractor were installed in July 2006.

Decision Making

The Committee met 7 times during the year and were open to all members to attend. The Club has three Officers with Kate Gifford taking over from Julian Jones in September as Chair and Patricia Balogun (Treasurer) and Tom Ulicsak (Secretary). In addition, Eliana Bruni (Events), Sandra and Zeni Sekabanja (Communications) and Melanie Croft (Junior) were appointed to the wider committee in September.

Communications

Our website had a total of 3,500 visits over the year. Our email updates go out to around 200 players and a junior email with around 100 recipients was launched in November. We published and posted two newsletters to members. Our club was featured on Sky News and had coverage in the South London Press and Southwark News.

Volunteers

As a community club we are reliant on members giving up their time to help run our activities. Clive Brown and Tom Ulicsak passed the LTA's Development Coach Award and Ikani Agabi and Ade Balogun passed the LTA's Tennis Coach Assistant course.

Disciplinary, Accidents and Child Protection

There was a disciplinary case brought by the Centre rather than the Club. This resulted in the individual receiving a life ban. There was one Club disciplinary case resulting in a warning. No child protection issues were reported. One accident report was filled in from a senior coaching session (dislocated shoulder).

Membership Fees

Our annual membership fees were held at £5 juniors and concessions, £20 for senior and £30 for family membership. Junior coaching fees varied but stood at around £1 per hour with all after school coaching being free. Our coaching programmes were open to members and non-members alike.

Money

Our financial accounts for 2005/6 were signed off in September 2006. Currently, only draft accounts exist for 2006/7 and these will be signed off in September 2007 by our auditors the Local Accountancy Project. Our accounts will then be displayed on our website.



ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2006/7

More players

- 117 children attended the summer training camps in Burgess Park in July and August
- 60 juniors participated at the Easter and half term training camps.
- 1,600 were coached as part of our work with local schools during term time.
- 77 participants from other priority groups such as disability groups, the Over 50s and young offenders received coaching.
- 60 participants attended our Play Tennis open day event at BPTC to attract new players.
- Club membership reached 240.

Better players

- Organisation of four junior tournaments, U10, U12, Orange and Green, as part of Surrey LTA's mini tennis programme.
- Junior League Tennis - Boys and Girls U12 teams and little league team.
- Senior Tennis men's and women's team in Surrey Kia leagues as well as doubles teams in Southwark leagues.

Other achievements

- Two volunteers passed the Development Coach Award course in November 2006 and two achieved the Tennis Coaching Assistant award.
- We delivered an indoor winter coaching programme at the Damilola Taylor Centre in Peckham and at Cambridge House in Camberwell.



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- The club provided technical advice to the Council for court coating and installation of practice walls.
- We took part in the CTC Challenge at Southampton sending two coaches and three players to the event.

Above Jane Holliday, Ladder Champion and left Ross Murray and Jolanda Hagoort mixed doubles champions.

Opposite 2006 Ladies Doubles Champions Jackie Hodge and Eliana Bruni.

OUR SUPPORTERS

A big thank you to our supporters. As a Club we are trying to provide the highest quality of coaching to our juniors and this takes skilled coaches and resources. It is only through the generosity of our supporters that we can keep the costs low enough to ensure the broadest level of participation from across the community. The returns from this in terms of more active and healthy children, improved skills and talent identification are already starting to show.

Southwark Council, Local Network Fund, Capital Community Foundation, Youth Opportunities Fund, Awards for All, Community Sports Coaching Scheme, the LTA, Jack Petchey Foundation and the Peter Minet Trust.



local network fund
for children and young people



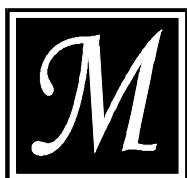
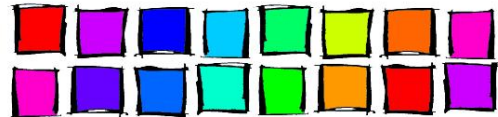
Community Sports Coaching Scheme



Building on your giving



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