

GLTC Newsletter – June 2020

Dear Members,

It is truly marvelous to observe the club back in action and to see the courts heaving with activity, literally all day through. It is a challenging time for us all and the Club's Executive Committee is doing its level best to enable its members to return to normal tennis as quickly as possible. In order to do so, we are working with the national organising bodies to ensure compliance with the guidelines at all times. This in itself is a significant challenge for a club that is run by volunteers and we are truly grateful for the effort that is put in by so many to help guide us through this difficult time.

Glenageary Lawn Tennis Club is one of the largest and most active clubs in the country, which means that there are always a number of things happening behind the scenes and this newsletter has been put together to inform you about recent developments.

Lastly, please feel free to approach the committee if you have issues you would like to raise with us as we always remain open for suggestions and constructive criticism.

Yours in Tennis
Jan Pettersen, President

Junior Summer Programme

We are delighted to announce that the club is now in the process of organising a Summer Programme, which is scheduled to start on the 6th July. The programme, which is free of charge, will have a Fun-Tennis profile and run from 9am-12.30pm.

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions the places on the programme will be limited and will need to be pre-booked. The intention is to run two 90 minute sessions each day (with a gap of 30 minutes between sessions to minimize contact with children from the other course). To allow all juniors to participate we will be asking parents to prioritise which weeks they would like their children to attend the programme. Based on our experience from previous years this will be a very popular and we would hope to be able to offer all juniors 2 weeks participation.

The Club will be sending out a survey soon to assess numbers and interest. We will do our best to facilitate your requested preferences but it might be the case that you will be offered a place on an alternative week, hence the importance of prioritizing the weeks.

Casey Tennis will also be running a coaching programme from 1pm – 5pm for 8 weeks as previously announced, which will be fee paying. In addition they will also run a junior singles tournament.

We expect to be able to arrange the Junior Championships in August, with dates yet to be decided.

Covid 19 Restrictions

As you are aware, the club has put a lot of effort into the compliance regarding the reopening of tennis and we would like to thank our Compliance Officer Catherine Kerr and her sub-committee, Terri McCoy, Adrian Cooper, Gary Ramsay, and Niall Browne for all of their hard work on implementing and maintain the required standards.

A big thank you also, to all our members for your amazing response to these measures.

We are hopeful that we yet again will be able to facilitate Doubles Tennis shortly and we will of course keep you posted in this regard as soon as we are notified about a change in policy.

In the meantime, restrictions will still remain in place and we would ask you all to stay vigilant with regards to hand sanitation and social distancing for as long as these requirements are necessary.

New Members

We are delighted to welcome all the new club members who have joined us in the past couple of weeks. Many are already involved in coaching sessions with Paul Casey and his team, as well as organized tennis events. Hopefully in the near future, the club will be able to host our weekly club night and new member coaching, which are part of the GLTC tradition. We are also looking forward to inviting you to one of our many social events taking place throughout the year. In the meantime, we hope that you enjoy the friendly atmosphere of the club.

New Heating System

The clubhouse heating system had been causing us some trouble over the past years, adding significantly to our maintenance expenses. Following the presentation of refurbishment requirements at the past EGM, the club appointed a subgroup consisting of Martha Luff, Bridget Whelan and Ciaran McIntyre, who have been running the project with vigour and professionalism and we would like to thank them for offering their expertise and time to the club and for bringing the project in on budget. Having gone through a tender process ensuring value for money, we are delighted to announce that the replacement of the heating and ventilation system in the club has now been fully completed.

As a result, we will now be able to heat the upstairs and downstairs floors individually, boost heating and hot water from conveniently placed locations in the clubhouse, ensure appropriate extraction of air from the dressing rooms and bathrooms and we can also operate the system remotely. There is no doubt that this new system will provide reliability, comfort and cost effectiveness for years to come.

Kitchen Refurbishment

We are very pleased to announce that the next project is under way, as we are preparing to refurbish the kitchen and replace the kitchen units. This is also a long awaited improvement, with the current kitchen being at the end of it's lifespan and deemed unfit for purpose. The project will provide much improved facilities that will enhance the club's ability to cater for social events, as well as hosting events on behalf external bodies such as DLTC and Leinster Tennis.

Upgraded Gate and Door Exit System

Please note that we have installed a new contactless electronic exit system, replacing the old green buttons placed in the hall when you exit the clubhouse and on the outside wall by the gate when you leave the club. All you need to do is to wave in front of the button and door/gate will open. This change is part of the general upgrade of the club facilities.

Update on Clubhouse Extension

At the recent EGM, the club committee was mandated to commence the process of carrying out building improvements and to build an extension to the existing building. The project will provide much improved facilities in what is now the junior room downstairs, including a kitchenette and a lounge seating area. In addition, the extension will provide a spacious viewing balcony.



During its last meeting, the club committee discussed the possibility of moving ahead with the much anticipated extension of the clubhouse, which had been postponed due to the uncertainty brought on by the Covid 19 crisis.

The committee has decided to investigate the situation and to carry out new stress testing of the finance model, based on a number of scenarios that might impact on the viability of the project. It is reasonable to assume however, that the most optimistic scenario will see the project start delayed by at least 6 months till March 2021. The committee appreciates the overwhelming mandate it received at the EGM, but is also cognisant of its responsibility to observing current economic conditions.

Social Events

Social Events are an integral and important part of Glenageary LTC and we see it as the lifeblood of our thriving community. In a normal year, we pride ourselves in our ability to offer a large variety of events with frequent regularity.

Pending the appropriate measures for loosening of the Covid 19 restrictions related to tennis, we are hopeful that we again will be able to run some social events. We have already started to make tentative plans for a New Members Mixed Doubles tournament & BBQ; a Junior/Senior Social Doubles tournament and BBQ; and a Tennis & Hot Dog social tournament for 6-10 year olds.

This could happen as soon as early July, but we are looking forward to announce dates for these events in due course.