



## Gerrards Cross Squash Club Newsletter – September 2008

### Your Club is Changing

You may remember receiving a communication from the Committee prior to the Annual General Meeting in June regarding the status of Gerrards Cross Squash Club. The motion put forward by the Committee was that the club should become a Company Limited By Guarantee in order to give greater protection for both Committee and also individual members from becoming liable for large scale damages in the event of a claim against the club.

The motion was debated at length at the AGM with the outcome being that the Committee was given the go ahead to proceed with this change. As a result, from October 1<sup>st</sup>, the club will be operating under the new name of **Gerrards Cross Squash Club Limited**.

How will that affect you? Hardly at all. The Committee have negotiated with the Memorial Centre to ensure that such a change will not affect our tenancy with them and the club will continue to operate in exactly the same way that it has done previously. You will have to squeeze the longer title on to your cheque when you come to renew your membership in October but the subscription rates have risen by no more than they would normally have done as a result of this change.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to express their gratitude to B P Collins Ltd and Nunn Hayward for their invaluable assistance in this matter and especially to Nick Hallchurch of the GXSC Committee who has spent a great deal of time and effort to enable this to happen.

### Membership Renewal

The beginning of the squash year is **October 5<sup>th</sup>** at 7.00pm when members renew their subscriptions, new members are welcomed to the club and the Autumn club handicap competition reaches its finale.

Despite a small increase, the club remains **tops for value** with annual Adult membership at only £84, Juniors at £16 and Family membership at £126. Court fees remain at just £3 for Peak and £2 for Off Peak times.

Our membership records are sparse and therefore we would like you to re-register by completing the attached Membership form.

Either come along on 5<sup>th</sup> October or send your cheque plus a stamped addressed envelope to John Mayfield (9 Valentine Way, Chalfont St. Giles. HP8 4JB). In exchange we will give you the new key card which will be operative immediately; your existing key card will cease to open the door on **5 October**. Cheques should be made out to **Gerrards Cross Squash Club Limited**.

For more details, email the Membership Secretary: [johnrmayfield@hotmail.com](mailto:johnrmayfield@hotmail.com), or visit the website at [www.gxsquash.org.uk](http://www.gxsquash.org.uk)

### Summer Handicap Tournament

Richard and Anita Crosbie are once again organizing this popular tournament which will run from **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup>** through to **Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October**. This is a great event so please sign up for it if you are able to do so. There are notices up in the club and a form on the club website for you to enlist ([www.gxsquash.org.uk](http://www.gxsquash.org.uk)). Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> is also membership renewal night so why not come along to watch the final (if you don't make it that far yourself!)? You can renew your membership at the same time.

## Squash Leagues

The winter leagues will commence at the start of October so if you dropped out for the summer and want to get straight back to competitive squash, contact David Sledge (mob: 07788 813627, email: [dsledge123@gmail.com](mailto:dsledge123@gmail.com)).

## Squash Ladder

The squash ladder has been in operation on the club website for 10 months. There are currently 24 members registered on the ladder but in truth the ladder is acting as a second league for the 4 or 5 members who play regularly.

Members may have forgotten that when they first join, they are able to challenge anyone on the ladder and so don't need to climb every rung. After that first challenge, they are restricted to challenging players up to 4 positions above them so should choose their first opponent carefully.

If members find they are unable to register for the ladder, contact David Sledge (mob: 07788 813627, email: [dsledge123@gmail.com](mailto:dsledge123@gmail.com)).

## Court Booking System

The booking system remains popular and successful despite the recent problems with the terminal in the club (see elsewhere). Members may be interested to hear about a couple of changes that have recently been implemented on the system.

- There is now a 60 minute cooling off period following the booking of a court when the booking can be deleted without incurring a cost. The purpose of this modification is to prevent members from being penalised when a mistake has been made.
- Shared court bookings will remain active for 2 days after a court has been played. This allows members to pay their share of the fee whilst flush with the glow of victory (or not).

Please keep your details up to date on the system to ensure that the committee and other members can keep in touch.

**Please take care to pay your share of court bookings**

## Touch Screen PC

The terminal in the club suffered a major failure on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> August. This meant that there were no court lights available until mid-day on the Sunday. Members with bookings during this period have now had their fees refunded. If you had a court booked when the lights weren't on and you have not received a refund, please contact David Sledge (mob: 07788 813627, email: [dsledge123@gmail.com](mailto:dsledge123@gmail.com)).

Refunds are paid to the member who made the booking. If you had paid a share for a booking when the lights weren't working, contact the person who made the booking for your share of the refund.

The PC is still in pieces on my dining room floor but I am hoping it will eventually make a full recovery once it remembers its purpose in life.

## Honours Board

Competition	Winner	Runner-up
Men's Tournament	S Hefferman	K Wingfield
Veteran's Tournament	S Bayley	K Popely
Ladies' Tournament	A Crosbie	C Sample
Junior Tournament	B May	A Gulati
League 7+ Tournament	D Sledge	A May

Winter Points Champion	S Hefferman	M Lawson
Summer Handicap Tournament	R Gulati	V Paul
Summer Handicap Plate	C Fox	D Pope
Winter Handicap Tournament	D Williams	S Hanover
Winter Handicap Plate	B May	C Fox

## Committee

The Committee for the coming year is confirmed as follows:

Position	Name
Chairman	David Sledge
Secretary	Maria Branton
Membership Secretary	John Mayfield
Treasurer	Ainsley Kemps
Club Captain	Rory Fisher
Ladies Representative	Anita Crosbie
House Member	Richard Crosbie
House Member	Vincent Paul
League Secretary	David Sledge
Junior Secretary	Rakesh Gulati
Elected Member	Peter Scott
Elected Member	Nick Hallchurch

## Captain's Report

The 2007/2008 season was another successful one for the club teams.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Team (Stewart Hefferman: 07785 778345)

The men's first team captained by Stewart Hefferman came second in Division 2, winning 13 of their 16 matches with a very strong performance through out the team. This is the same position that we have ended the season on for the last four years and it terms of points for and against; it was our best performance for over 10 years. Sadly in the crunch match of the season with both teams undefeated at the time we went down badly to our arch rivals Beaconsfield (who fielded a dubious team for the occasion). Taking what positives we could we felt some satisfaction as to the lengths that they had to go to beat us and it will strengthen our resolve to once again mount a serious challenge to win the division this season!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Team (Colin Sawyer: 07860 706936)

The second team captained by Colin Sawyer had a solid season winning 9 out of their 17 matches and ending up mid table. Colin had to put a lot of effort to put out an ever changing team and our thanks go to him and all those who turned and contributed to grind out the results

Looking forward to the new season we will again be running 2 men's teams: the 1st team will be playing in Bucks Div 2 on Tuesday nights and the 2<sup>nd</sup> team in Div 3 on Thursday nights.

### Ladies' Team (Maria Branton: 07711 202100)

In their fourth season in the Bucks leagues the ladies team captained by won 1 of their hard fought 8 matches and finished 5<sup>th</sup> in Division 2.

Once again this season the ladies will be battling hard in Div 2 on Tuesday nights.

### Vintage Team (Mike Lawson: 07788 138921)

Having been promoted to Division 1 in the Middlesex League the team expected a difficult time. We took four points from a possible 16 in our first four games, which gave cause for hope. Soon after Vince Paul took a sabbatical to Australia and we took two points from the remaining twelve games and

picked up the wooden spoon. This year it is back to Division 2, with the same squad, so we are hoping to finish once again at the other end of the table.

Next season will be a demanding one but I know the teams are already in training. Anyone interested in playing for any of the teams please get in touch with either myself or the relevant Captains – we need all the talent we can get!

Also please come along and support your teams on home match nights (dates on the notice boards) - you never know you may pick up a tip or two! If you are unable to come along, then follow the progress of the teams on the club website ([www.gxsquash.org.uk](http://www.gxsquash.org.uk)).

### **Brainiacs Required for Quiz Team**

The Memorial Centre is running a quiz night on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November. The Squash Club has previously entered teams in this event and emerged without disgrace. If anyone is interested in representing their club in a more cerebral fashion, then please contact David Sledge (mob: 07788 813627, email: [dsledge123@gmail.com](mailto:dsledge123@gmail.com)).

### **Dates for your Diary**

Memorial Centre Quiz Night	14 <sup>th</sup> November 2008
Ken Hewison Winter Handicap Tournament	4 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2009
Gerrards Cross Squash Tournament	January – 29 <sup>th</sup> March 2009

**Thanks for reading and good luck on the squash courts  
for the coming year!**