



Welcome to the new season

On behalf of the Committee, welcome to the new squash season at Gerrards Cross Squash Club Ltd. It is just one year since the club changed its status from a private club to a public company limited by guarantee and we hope that the only noticeable change is in the recipient name on your cheques for booking credit.

This promises to be another great year – the courts have just been refurbished and the 1st team will be playing top level county squash following their promotion to division 1 of the Bucks league last season. So, dust off that racket, sign up for the Summer Handicap Tournament and fill in your form to renew your membership (just remember to put the right name on the cheque!).

Membership

Membership of the club is steady for nearly all categories and now stands at 220. Demand for membership by the Under 25's has risen by 100%: perhaps they are returning to live with their parents until they find a job. There is plenty of availability of courts with only 10 court slots being booked each weekday and less at weekends.

Sunday October 4 is Renewal Day:

Come down to the club at 7.00pm to see the final of the Handicap competition and enroll for the coming season. Put the date in your diary **now**: it's much easier than catching up later by post. If you want to renew before 4 October, contact John Mayfield on 07947 307998.

The lock on the front door will be changed on that evening and therefore you will not be able to enter the Club after that time unless you have received the new key card for 2009/2010.

Likewise, your membership will cease and you will not be able to book courts beyond 14 October unless we have received your subscription. Download the updated

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Make sure you wear the correct footwear on court!

Help us to keep our courts safe and clean by encouraging others to wear the right footwear.

Court refurbishment

The courts underwent extensive maintenance during August with the front wall on both courts having been completely re-plastered. All the walls have been re-painted, the floors sanded and the doors replaced.

Unfortunately, within a day of the courts being released for play, there were marks from dirty shoes on the floor and other marks on the walls!

Make sure you wear the correct footwear on court!

This is important. The Committee is not merely a group of obsessive compulsives with a fetish for spotlessly clean floors, dirt and grit on the court can be both damaging and dangerous.

The cost of this maintenance runs to several thousands of pounds. This is your money, at least it was until sufficiently recently for you to care where it goes. Remember what you thought about your taxes and MP's expenses.

Help us to police this issue and keep our courts safe and clean by encouraging others to wear the right footwear.

Summer Handicap Tournament

Richard and Anita Crosbie are once again organizing this popular tournament which will run from **Wednesday 30th September** through to **Sunday 4th 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). Sunday 4th 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: leagues@gxsquash.org.uk).

As part of the re-development of the club website, there will be an online system for the leagues. This will allow members to register for entry into the leagues, enter their scores for league matches and maintain their status in the league. The main purpose for this change is to prevent the problems caused by illegible or incorrect scores on the sheets and the fallibility of emails when trying to communicate with the league secretary.

In the first instance, the system will operate alongside the paper version but in the second phase, it will be possible to enter scores from the terminal in the club and so the sheets will be removed.

Please note that the problem with emails addressed to leagues@gxsquash.org.uk has been resolved they are now being accessed regularly.

Squash Ladder

The squash ladder remains popular with a small number of members. There are currently 30 members signed up to the ladder with 75% of matches being played by just 3 of them.

Previously, there was a problem where new members were unable to register for the ladder. This has now been resolved so why not sign up today? New members are able to challenge anyone on the ladder for their first challenge. After that, members are restricted to challenging up to 4 places above their current position.

Committee

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 Vincent Paul
League Secretary	David Sledge
Elected Member	Rakesh Gulati Nick Hallchurch

Can you help out? We are always on the lookout for volunteers to join the Committee or help around the club. Speak to a Committee member about it.

AGM

We held an Annual General Meeting on July. For those who couldn't make it, here are some of the items that were discussed.

- Membership and court fees set for 2009/10.
- House repair and court maintenance
- Footwear on court
- Club nights
- The Club will sponsor a table at the Chaloner's School Ball and offer a family membership as an auction prize.

Other news

- The Memorial Centre will be running their annual Quiz Night in November. The Squash Club usually enters a team. If you are interested in joining the team, please contact David Sledge (email: dsledge123@gmail.com). We can enter multiple teams if this proves popular.

Membership

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Membership form and bring it with you: it enables us to check that your telephone numbers and email addresses are up-to-date. Please note that your membership fee includes a subscription to the Memorial Centre. They have requested that we draw your attention to the Gift Aid form which would allow them to claim extra funds in the form of tax relief.

The court costs are unchanged: £3 for peak time courts and £2 for off-peak courts (50p for juniors). The Annual Subscriptions have increased (due to increases in the fees to the Memorial Centre, Bucks SRA and England Squash) but still represent an absolute bargain:

Adult: £95
Family: £137
Junior (under 16): £18
Under 25: £45
Corporate (Min 4 members): £180

Cheques should be made out to **Gerrards Cross Squash Club Ltd.** You can add additional court credit to your payment if you wish, so that you are ready to go for the autumn months.

John Mayfield
Membership Secretary
9 Valentine Way
Chalfont St. Giles
HP8 4JB
(Email: JohnrRMayfield@hotmail.com)

Juniors

The club doesn't have a juniors section at the moment. If there is any enterprising member who is interested in running or assisting with junior coaching sessions, then please get in touch with a member of the Committee.

Teams

- 1st team:** had an excellent season finishing as champions of division 2 and thereby gaining promotion to the top flight for the coming season.
- 2nd team:** had a tough season but managed to finish 4th in division 3.
- Vintage:** had a difficult season coming 7th out of 9 in division 2 of the Middlesex Vintage league having been runners-up the previous year.
- Ladies:** playing in league 2 of the Bucks league. Any ladies who are interested in playing for the ladies team should contact Maria Branton (m.c.branton@ntlworld.com).

We are very pleased to be hosting top flight County squash this season. Watch out for the 1st team home matches on Wednesday evenings. See the website for details.

Revamp of club website

The club website (www.gxsquash.org.uk) is being updated for the first time in several years. The new site will look and feel different to the current site although initially, much of the content will remain the same. The changes will be most evident in the home page, an interactive map and an online league system.

Persistent visitors to the site may be saddened/relieved to hear that the sound clip on the home page has finally been retired. It was recorded several years during one of the handicap tournaments. There will be a competition to identify the member serving the ball in the clip*.

Any suggestions for useful content will be greatly received. The site is especially light on images and graphics.

Honours Board

Tournament	Winner	Runner-up
Club Champion	P Simmons	S Hefferman
Summer Handicap Champion	C Hockin	K Popely
Winter Handicap Champion	M Burnett	K Popely
Summer Handicap Plate	M Branton	A Crosbie
Winter Handicap Plate	D Colwill	P Adams
Veterans' Champion	K Popely	N W Hallchurch
Ladies' Champion	M Branton	A Crosbie
Winter Points Champion	K Popely	R Crosbie
League 7+ Tournament	A May	N Patel

* This competition is not open to the friends and acquaintances of Chris Hockin

