

Southport & District Tennis League

Chairman's Report 2021 Season

It has been another strange year but thankfully there has been much less disruption of tennis and the Southport & District League than was the case in 2020. Unlike 2020 we ran a "normal" Summer League and it was great that we were able to run an Autumn League as well. The first time, as far as I know, that we have had two leagues in the same year. I know from conversations with many of the participants that this was greatly enjoyed. Both events were a really good way to be able to go out and forget all about pandemics for a few hours each week! We were even able to run our individual and team tournaments and thanks for these are due to Mick Walsh and Derek Bardwa. We are very lucky that tennis is a naturally social distanced sport.

It was unfortunate that we were not able to run the junior section of the League in 2021 but hopefully this will be back in 2022. It is very important that we encourage our juniors as they are the future of tennis!

I would like to thank all those on the League Executive Committee for their work in enabling all the events that did take place. In particular I'd like to thank Christian Bryan and Jeanette Heague for running both the Summer and Autumn Leagues. Without the work of all those on the Executive the rest of us would not have been playing competitive tennis.

In 2021 we were again able to hold the Presentation Evening and thanks are due to Croston Social Club for hosting the event and to Pauline Pope for organising what I understand was a great evening.

We are hoping that in 2022 we will again be able to run an Autumn League as well as a Summer League but this will completely depend on having a volunteer to be Match Secretary for the Autumn League. Please consider whether you or somebody else from your club could take on this vital role. Feel free to contact me if you would like more details of what would be involved.

As well as the Autumn League Match secretary role there are several vacancies for "general committee members". Please consider whether you could help the League by giving only a small amount of your time. It would be particularly welcome to have some volunteers from clubs that are not currently represented on the Executive Committee as that ensures that the views of as many clubs as possible are taken into account when decisions are made.

Despite these challenging times I hope you are all able to stay well in 2022 and take part in lots of enjoyable tennis!

Rob Hemmings

Chairman, Southport & District Tennis League

February 2022