

Southport & District Tennis League

Chairman's Report 2022 Season

At last! 2022 was back to a fairly normal year as far as league tennis was concerned. A huge relief after two years of serious disruption and a great release from all the pressures of the pandemic. As well as a "normal" Summer League we had an Autumn League for the second year in a row and we hope this will now be a regular annual occurrence. I am very grateful to our two Match Secretaries, Jeanette Heague (Summer League) and Tim Carey (Autumn League) for their work in managing the two leagues and to Christian Bryan for his work setting up the leagues on the League Planner system.

Our adult team and individual tournaments also took place in 2022 and thanks for these are due to Mick Walsh (who is standing down this year as Team Tournament Secretary), to Derek Bardwa (Individual Tournament Secretary) and to Southbank who hosted the individual tournament finals. We really need a volunteer to replace Mick as Team Tournament Secretary as without one we will be unable to run any team tournaments in 2023.

It was also wonderful that we were able to run the junior section of the League in 2022 as this is important for the development of our younger players who will be the future of our sport. Sincere thanks are due to Angela Bardon, our Junior Organiser, for another successful junior league year. Unfortunately, Angela is also standing down this year and so a replacement volunteer is essential if we are to have a junior league in 2023.

I would like to thank all those on the League Executive Committee for their work in running the league in 2022. In particular I'd like to thank our League President John Spurr whose wise counsel from many years of experience on the League Executive is always valuable. John has also undertaken the important role of chairing the League Match Regulations Subcommittee which has a vital role in the smooth running of the league.

I'd also like to thank Formby LTC for hosting the 2022 Presentation Evening which I understand was a very enjoyable evening. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend due to COVID.

As well as the two roles mentioned earlier we also have vacancies for a League Representative to Tennis Lancashire and several vacancies for the League "general committee". For us all to continue playing competitive sport we need volunteers for these roles. None of them take up a huge amount of time but they are essential for the league to function so please help the League by volunteering. It would be particularly welcome to have some volunteers from clubs that are not currently represented on the Executive Committee as that ensures the views of as many clubs as possible are considered when decisions are made.

I wish you all some great tennis in 2023!

Rob Hemmings

Chairman, Southport & District Tennis League

February 2023