



## CHALFONT ST GILES CLUB NEWSLETTER - EDITION: Spring 2019

### Dear Members

First, I would like to thank you for taking part in our recent survey of members' views of the Club. Cormac has kindly summarised the findings of the survey, which are attached. A number of you said you could spend some time helping at the Club. The Committee would be grateful if you could schedule some time to help with the events the Club runs.

The findings of Cormac's survey will be used to help determine the future direction of the Club.

Our website is now well established, and we keep it up to date with all club activities and information about the club, so please make use of: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/chalfontstgilestennisclub>

The Committee have been considering the longer-term financial viability of the Club. We are aware that our floodlights are now well over 20 years old and the actual lights are very old fashioned and replacing bulbs is expensive. Our carpet courts have been laid on the existing tarmac courts and at some stage in the future we will need to repair or even replace the tarmacadam surface. We expect the current carpet surface to last 10 to 12 years from new. When we come to replace the carpet courts the tarmac courts will be well over 20 years old and it would be wrong to assume that we can keep the existing tarmac for a further 10 years plus.

Given the above considerations the Committee has decided it would be prudent to increase to £6,000 pa the amount of money we put away each year to fund future repairs and renewals. In light of this decision we have revised our membership charges.

I hope you enjoy your tennis in 2019.

**Mark Fraser**

**Chairman**

**[markaf47@gmail.com](mailto:markaf47@gmail.com)**

### Club Open Day

Our Open Day is Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2pm to 4:30pm. There will be a 10% discount for new members joining on the day so please encourage friends and family to come along. If you can spare some time to help with the Open Day please let me know.

### Club Activities and Competitions

This year's Social Activities, Ladies lunch dates, friendly tennis match dates, American Tournament dates, inter club matches, Junior activities and court usage will all be posted on the club website.

### Court Usage

Court Usage is increasing, and members are using WhatsApp to arrange for groups of players to get together. The Club does not have the resources to formally manage WhatsApp usage by members. While the Committee has no objection to members setting up groups amongst themselves, representatives of the Club will not be involved in setting up, or supporting WhatsApp or similar applications and take no responsibility for how WhatsApp or similar applications are used.



## Chalfont St Giles Tennis Club

The increase in court usage also underlines the need for all members to use the ClubSpark court booking system [Court Booking](#). The Committee has decided that members who book courts for specific times have priority over members who are using a court but have not booked in advance.

### Wimbledon Ballot

This year 71 members of the Club have entered the Wimbledon Ballot. The allocation of tickets will be handled automatically by the LTA, successful members will be informed by email & given up to 14 days to accept & pay for the tickets or decline. Declined tickets will be reallocated within the club up until 25th May. It is important that if you don't want to take up the offer of tickets you decline as soon as possible. The names of the winners will be posted on the website once the process is complete.

### Planned Improvements

One of the points made in the survey was the need to improve the state of the clubhouse. We have started work on this, the three main rooms in the clubhouse have been redecorated, and further improvements will be made during the year.

We have also applied to the Chalfont St Giles Show Committee for funding to repaint the junior court.

Recently we have replaced the flood lighting controls with a simple switch system, which enables members to use the floodlights free of charge. We have also decided that the Club will continue to provide tennis balls, free of charge for use by members.

### Club Competition

This year we have decided that for all doubles matches we will draw names from a hat to mix up the pairings and facilitate members getting to know each other. If you wish to take part in the competition please go to <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/chalfontstgilestennisclub> select the Events page and enrol in the matches you want to enter.

### Membership Fees 2019/20

In light of the proposed increase in our sinking fund we have looked at the membership charges and membership categories of other local clubs and we have revised our membership fees as shown below. The biggest change we have made is the removal of the Veteran member category, Veterans will now be included in Individual membership.

Note. Family membership is defined as including children up to the age of 18 or in full time education.

<b>Membership Category</b>	<b>Price</b>
Individual Membership	£125
Family Membership	£285
Junior membership	£49
Student membership	£80
Visitor Fee*	£3

(\*Visitors are normally limited to playing 3 times a year, but the Committee can relax this rule.)



# Chalfont St Giles Tennis Club

Membership renewal reminders will be sent out to all members in early April from our ClubSpark system, payment is required by bank transfer or cheque by 30<sup>th</sup> April.

## Membership Subscription Payment.

If possible, please pay your subscription by bank transfer and include your name as a reference.

## Bank Transfer Details.

- Account Name: Chalfont St Giles Tennis Club,
- Bank: Natwest, Chalfont St Peter
- Sort Code: 60-05-50
- Account Number: 25060848

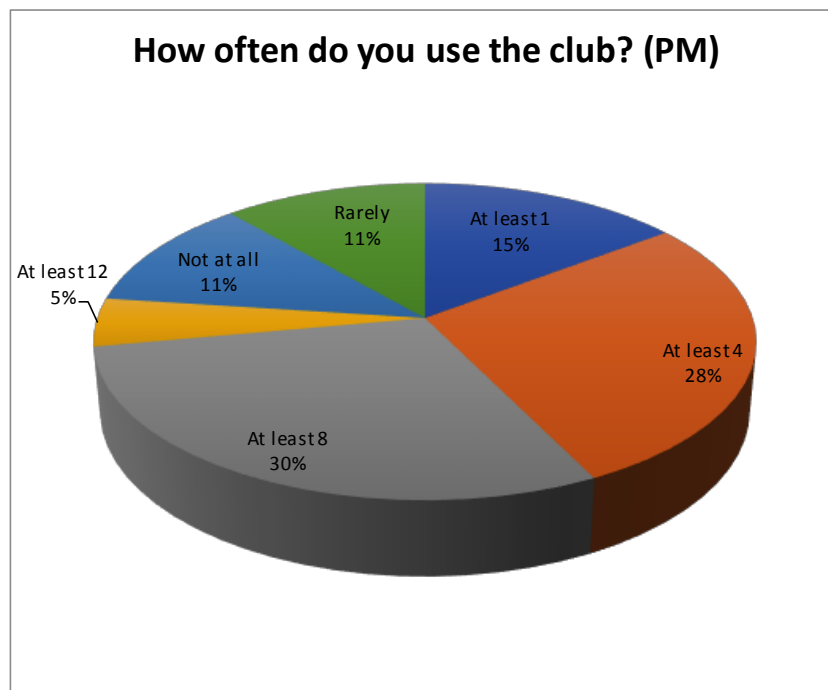
Otherwise please pay by cheque - payable to Chalfont St Giles Tennis Club and send to our Treasurer: Waseem Sadique, Four Trees, Nightingales Lane, Chalfont St Giles HP8 4SF. Please remember to put your name on the back of the cheque.

## CSG Tennis Club Survey of Members

We would like to thank members for taking part in the recent club survey. Over 70% of you provided feedback on what you value about the club as well useful insights on how we could improve.

### *How often do you play?*

Almost 80% of you told us you play at least once per month with 40% playing at least twice per week. 44% tell us you intend to play even more in the coming year and most of the rest playing with the same frequency.



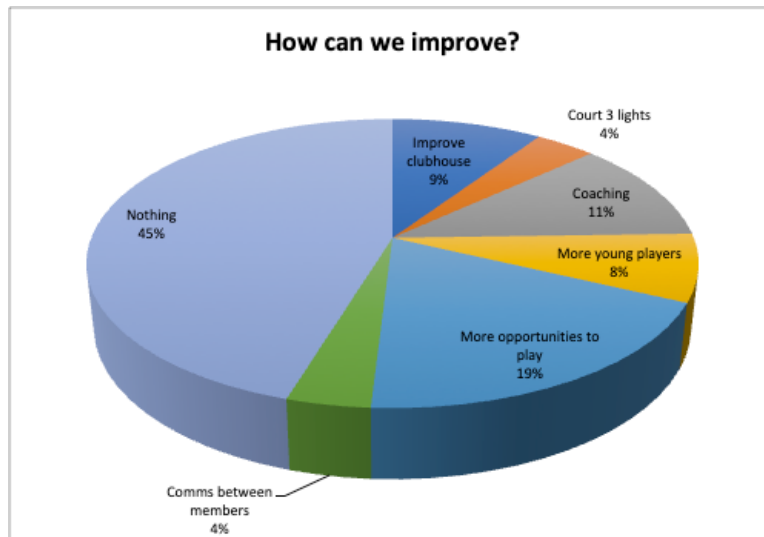


## What do you like about the club?

Over half of you value the club for its warm, friendly and welcoming ethos, which along with an informal atmosphere instils a strong 'sense of community'. The courts were the other big positives with members highlighting the quality of the surfaces and the general high maintenance standard. Good court availability and general convenience were other key benefits.

## How can we improve?

Members felt that there should be more opportunities to play, mix and socialise. The sense is that this does not necessarily need to be formally organised, but could be achieved by enabling members to more easily communicate with each other – WhatsApp as mentioned as a potential solution for this. Coaching was mentioned quite a few times as an area that could add more value. Some members stated a need for group or team coaching as well as coaching clinics focused on particular skills, such as serving or volleying. A number of you highlighted the need to attract new younger members into the club. Lastly, some members felt the clubhouse was a bit 'scruffy' and could do with improvements.



The vast majority of you told us you would positively recommend the club to others but there was some hesitation if it was felt potential members were 'very good players' or 'young'.

