

Solway Tennis Club

We have reached the end of the first season of competitive tennis in Silloth for 10 years and it has been an outstanding success. Firstly the club would like to once again thank all those who were kind enough to sponsor this years tournaments.

Without their generous contributions we would not have been able to provide the range of tournaments, for both adults & juniors, that we have. Secondly we must also thank all those who have participated in this seasons tournaments.

The enthusiasm shown by the all the players has been excellent, even when the weather conspired against us. It is great to see the interest in tennis in the people of Silloth and you can rest assured that the tournaments will be back again next year.

On Sunday 14th July the first 2 finals of the season were held at the Skinburness courts. In the mixed doubles final Anne & Stewart Small put on an exhibition of tennis to beat Peter Wise & Marie Henderson 6-2, 6-1. Anne & Stewart have shown true class throughout the tournament winning all 5 of their group matches, and the final, without dropping a set.

Peter Wise came back from the disappointment of defeat in the mixed doubles final to beat his brother David in an excellent contest for the tennis league title. David won the first set 6-3, but Peter stepped up a gear to take the next 3 sets to claim a well deserved victory. The final score was 3-6, 6-1, 6-3, 6-3.

The following Sunday the final of the Men's Club Championship was won by Stewart Small. His straight sets victory (6-3, 6-0, 6-0) over Peter Wise was an awesome performance. This is Stewart's second piece of silverware this



Mixed Doubles Champions Anne & Stewart Small with David Pigeon

season as he had already won the mixed doubles title with his wife Anne. A third club championship in a row, and his fourth title in all, 6 mixed doubles titles and 3 men's doubles titles make Stewart one of the clubs greatest ever players.

Peter Wise was disappointed after his defeat as he knew that he had not performed anywhere near his best. However he has had an excellent season, winning the tennis league title and coming runner up in both the mixed doubles and club championship. Along with Stewart he has been the stand out player this year, and I am sure he will be looking to claim more titles next season.

As you know, we had



L – Under 11 Boys Champion Isaac Cork
R – Under 16 Boys Champion Ricki Sutcliffe

been trying to get the junior tournaments played for the past couple of months. The poor weather had lead to numerous postponements but all the junior tournaments have now been completed.

Anna Jones picked up both a winners and runners up medal this year. Her loss in the final of the girls under 16's final was coupled with an excellent 4-1 victory over Dawn Graham in the under 11's final. Lucy Wallace was the girls



L – League Champion Peter Wise with David Pigeon
R – Club Champion Stewart Small with David Wise



L – Under 11 Girls Champion Anna Jones
R – Under 16 Girls Champion Lucy Wallace

under 16's champion, beating Anna Jones 6-3. Isaac Cork was also both a winner and runner up this year. He beat James Gribbon 6-0 in the boys under 11's final, but was on the receiving end of a 6-0 loss in the under 16's final. Ricki Sutcliffe is the boys under 16's champion and could well be an excellent prospect for next seasons adult

tournaments.

Many congratulations to all this years winners and thanks to all those who have taken part. For full results of all the tournaments visit the clubs web site @ <http://welcome.to/silloth-tennis-club>.

Just because the tournaments have finished that is not the end of tennis for the year. Contrary to popular belief in this country, tennis does not begin in April and end in August. David Pigeon and David Wise believe that we have enough talent coming to our coaching sessions to produce future county players and we feel that a continued year long training programme will be very beneficial to all our junior members.

We will have access to the Senior School Hall over the winter months. The likely scenario is that there would be 2 sessions (6-7pm & 7-8pm) on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evening, both sessions being 1 hour in length and for differing abilities. Places would have to be limited and, as the cost of the hall is £10 per hour, the cost per child would be about £1 each. I know that other clubs such as Cubs and Brownies are in operation on these evenings so we would appreciate your feedback as to whether you or your child would be interested in this venture. You can contact David Wise on (016973) 32988 for any further information.

See you next month with more news on the junior coaching, the new kids 'Super Saturday' competitions and hopefully news on the resurfacing of the Skinburness courts.
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