



# April 09 Newsletter

Club Secretary – Jackie Tyler 01708 443 686  
Junior Club Secretary – Carolyn Cruse 07908 887 300

- We thought it would be a nice idea to introduce a member's newsletter, so here is the first issue of many we hope. Issuing the newsletter will depend on how much 'news' there is to pass on, we would very much like to email to all adult and junior members, therefore it is extremely important that you provide an email address on the 2009 membership application form. For those of you that do not have email, the Newsletter will be available in the clubhouse – so please do pop in and take one.
- These are exciting times for the club as we have major developments happening. As you are all aware the court resurfacing projects are now complete and courts 1-3 are playing very well. Courts 4-7 are bedding in nicely and surface speed is improving and will continue to do so, ultimately giving us a choice of 2 superb playing surfaces. This resurfacing work cost approximately £100,000 and was largely funded by loans and grants from the LTA. However, the most exciting part of this project is now underway with contracts being signed on Friday Feb 27, 2009 for our NEW FLOODLIGHTING SYSTEM and we hope to be up and running by late summer! Some members of the committee have worked extremely hard over the last 3 years to bring this project to fruition and we can now look forward to having a superb system installed on courts 4-7 using 6 metre high retractable columns which will give excellent light levels on the court. These light levels will be vastly superior to the existing lights and will enable play up till 9.00pm throughout the year. We have waited a long time for these lights but finally we have been successful and this project will mark a turning point in the club's history. No longer will mid-week tennis be limited to a few short summer months and we will be able to take advantage of those pleasant spring and autumn evenings. So – watch the notice boards and check the CLUB WEBSITE for details of new tennis events.
- The cost of these projects has come out at over £250,000 and we have been extremely lucky to have received funding from a variety of sources but mainly from the LTA. As part of these loan conditions we have an obligation to 'increase yearly subscriptions' in line with LTA guidelines. In accordance with this we must increase subscriptions however, we have recognized that we are in a difficult economic climate and have kept this increase to the absolute minimum at only £10 per adult and £5 per junior, no change for under 8's.
- Our website [www.gideaparkltd.co.uk](http://www.gideaparkltd.co.uk) has been up and running since last year and has loads of information about what is happening at the club. This year we will not be publishing a handbook but will be displaying everything on the website. To obtain contact numbers for other club members you will need to access the 'members' only section' which can only be entered with a *user name* and *password* to protect members' privacy. These passwords will be sent out to all members with their new season membership documentation, however if you would like to access this section sooner, then existing members can obtain their password by either emailing [website@gideaparkltd.co.uk](mailto:website@gideaparkltd.co.uk) or phoning Elaine on 01708 749044.
- Ladies Tennis takes place every first Saturday of the month from 2-4pm, everyone welcome, all abilities; any questions please contact Gemma on 07989 177264.
- Tuesday League begins on the first Tuesday in May at the usual time of 6.30. As you know this is an extremely popular social evening so watch out for the list going up on notice boards and sign up straight away. Adult social tennis also takes place on Friday evenings from 6.30pm and on Sunday mornings from 10am until finish (usually 1pm). The bar is open so come along and have some fun.

- League team tennis matches for both ladies and men often take place on Mondays evenings, Saturday and/or Sundays from 1pm till finish, on courts one to three, so check the diary if you wish to come and support your club teams. If you wish to play at the weekend, the afternoons are usually fairly quiet and you should be able to get one of the grass courts most weekends without pre-booking, however do check the Court Booking Diary as courts 5 &6 may be booked for junior matches from about 4.00pm onwards.
- This year we are intending to run a men's match practice evening on Thursday evenings from 6.00pm till dark. These evenings will begin at the end of April/start of May and are open to any men who are currently playing matches for the club as well as any others who would like to be considered for any teams (Essex League, Romford/Ilford Leagues, and Veterans etc). If you would like to be included please email Wayne as soon as possible at: [wayne\\_lemoine@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wayne_lemoine@hotmail.co.uk)
- The club currently holds monthly social events, (usually on the last Friday of the month – notices posted around the club) but we would like to set-up a Social Committee to 'brainstorm ideas' for expanding these events. Therefore if you feel you would have the time and would like to take part, or you have any ideas for social events, and are committed and willing to help please contact either Jackie or Carolyn (numbers at the top of the newsletter).
- All members who wish to bring visitors to play tennis at the club please complete the Visitors Book – Playing Guests, this is found in the clubhouse, or a visitor for social events, the social visitors' book found in the bar area.
- We would like to mention that we have now been accredited with 'CLUBMARK' status, what that means is the club operates within the guidelines, policies and procedures as set out by the LTA. We are now able to run LTA tournaments at various times during the year which the LTA will advertise for us to all other clubs in Essex; the tournaments will be posted on the Junior Notice boards.
- Part of the Clubmark requires members, coaches and parents of members to provide feedback on the club, these forms are available in the clubhouse, please feel free to take one and let us know your comments – thanks.
- Do any of you work locally to the club? Do you have a notice board at work? Or do you know someone who works locally and has a notice board? If the answer is yes, please contact Carolyn for a club flyer to add to your notice board – contact number at the top of newsletter.
- We run a Regeneration Club for adult members and would like to extend this to parents of junior members. This is a club fund raiser for miscellaneous club equipment, last year a plasma TV was purchased for the bar area and so far this year the sound system has been upgraded. If you are interested in taking part in a monthly prize draw, it costs either £5 per month (via standing order) or if you wish to double your chances of winning, £10 per month, please email Jean on [jmchennells@googlemail.com](mailto:jmchennells@googlemail.com) or call her on 0708 732 693 for further details.

If you have a trade or profession that we could call upon should the need arise, from a general handyman to helping out on club tournament days please email the Newsletter Editor. No matter how small or how little time you would be available your assistance would be greatly appreciated. We can only improve the club with members' participation, so please let us know ASAP.

Finally Gidea Park LTC would like to thank you for taking time out to read this Newsletter and we hope you have found it informative.

Newsletter Editor - if you have any news you would like to be included in the next issue please email [carolyn@thecruses.demon.co.uk](mailto:carolyn@thecruses.demon.co.uk), thanks.