

## SUTTON MONTIS TENNIS CLUB AGM, 13<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026

**Apologies:** From Jacqui Taylor, Rhoda Tyley, Jenny Fitzgerald, Ann Pitt, Jacky King, Michael Williams.

**Present:** Mark Harding-Rolls (Chairman), Richard Pearson (Treasurer), Lindsey Maguire (Media), Lucy Booth, Sarah Williams (Events), Fiona Morgan (Secretary) and David Badham-Thornhill, Yolanda White, Pauline Lewis, Barry Blight, Rebecca Drury, Ira Madan.

### **Chairman's Opening Remarks:**

This year saw the very sad passing of Elizabeth Kerton and Martin Coombs, both great and generous supporters of the Club having been involved since its inception back in 1977. Our good wishes for speedy recoveries go to Sylvia Beaton and Lizzie Snell who are currently suffering ill health.

Sharon Scarlett from Sutton Montis has kindly donated a bench which Lindsey is renovating.

The Summer Knockout Finals last weekend went very well. More later.

We now have 92 members. We need to keep an eye on membership numbers and subs so that we have a pot of reserve cash for e.g. resurfacing the court, a new shed. But as with anything it's the people who make a Club and it's always a lot of fun!

### **Treasurer's Report:**

We have 92 members including 17 children. This has brought in £3100 in fees, up from £2210 the previous year. We have a bank balance of £10,500 but need to be wary of any upcoming costs as above. The Chairman thanked Richard for all his considerable hard work.

### **Subscriptions:**

Subs will stay as they are - £40 per adult, £10 per child. Subs will be due by May 1<sup>st</sup> after which the sub rises to £45 for late payment. New members pay £40/£10. The code for the court will change and given out on receipt of subs.

The fee for guests remains at £2 per person.

The honesty box and envelopes will go as these are not very efficient. Guests will need to pay by BACS and account details will be on the Club door. Over the year Richard picked up £190 in guest and light fees.

### **Club Sessions:**

These have been poorly attended this year, partly through ill health by regular players, and poor communication. The sessions are allocated on Shlott so there is no need to book. Sessions are Monday 2-4, Thursday 10-12, Saturday 2-4. To improve attendance we are going to try a new system for the next month..... Lucy Booth will set up a poll every week for each session on the SMTC Official Whatsapp group. Players just click 'yes' if they'd like to attend. There is no need for everyone to click 'no'. If you are not already on SMTC Official and would like to be please send your mobile number to the Secretary

[fionamorgan175@gmail.com](mailto:fionamorgan175@gmail.com) Some members do not have mobile phones and will have to be contacted direct and their name added below the poll.

### **SMTC Official:**

Our Whatsapp group has about 50 members. It is for finding players and receiving information. **It is not meant for chat, your match arrangements, the word 'thanks' (as that's taken as read), and no single messaging with a 'thumbs up' or other emoji.** Members are kindly asked to be minimalist and disciplined and message each other direct if they want to chat.

### **Tournaments:**

There will be an opening American tournament in May, a summer tournament in July – see dates below.

Last year's Knockout tournament dragged on owing to illness and the difficulty of getting 12 people on the same date. This year we will begin in May with one round per month and the Finals Day set for September. You will be able to sign up when you pay your subs (email coming).

### **Pickleball:**

Barry Blight is happy to give members an introduction on the court. But to continue he could introduce them to the indoor Castle Cary Pickleball Club. [Barryjn77@gmail.com](mailto:Barryjn77@gmail.com) Or 01963 440351.

### **Use of lights:**

The court lights cost £1 per person per session. Lindsey Maguire [lindsey@studio-6.co.uk](mailto:lindsey@studio-6.co.uk) runs a men's group on Tuesday evenings for anyone interested, or another group could be set up on a different day. The lights can be on until about 10pm (thinking of the neighbours).

### **Water Supply:**

This has been solved thanks to Mark and the Tabors.

### **Maintenance Day**

This is on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April 10-12. A list of tasks will be emailed to members.

### **Ground Maintenance**

This costs £900 per year and is our biggest cost. Mark and Linda Perry mow the grass, mend the shed, loo, benches etc. They do not do weeding or spraying. We discussed whether to carry on with this or stop it and do it ourselves. It was decided to keep the Perrys on with the current arrangement.

### **Website and Facebook:**

Our website costs £120 per year to run with the current contract ending in June 2027. Barry would like to hand the website over to Lindsey. Lindsey should be thanked for spending many hours on the phone to Google to get our pin/map organised. He has also written articles on the Club for parish magazines to attract new members, which is what we need!

### **Ball Supply:**

Lindsey orders the balls – one new tube per month. It was suggested he buy Slazenger as they are the better quality.

The ball machine or lobster should be used more, although it is a bit old and might need repairing.

### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The Club was founded in 1977 and it is proposed that we celebrate somehow, inviting those who helped at its inception e.g .Janet Tabor, Caroline McGregor, Rhoda Tyley, Anna Coombs, Jill Mactier.

### **Committee Members:**

Ann Pitt, ball co-ordinator, is standing down. The Chairman thanked Ann for all her work.

Chairman: Mark Harding-Rolls [markhardingrolls@gmail.com](mailto:markhardingrolls@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Richard Pearson [tykes53@gmail.com](mailto:tykes53@gmail.com)

Media and Balls: Lindsey Maguire [lindsey@studio-6.co.uk](mailto:lindsey@studio-6.co.uk)

Events: Sarah Williams [williamssarah231@gmail.com](mailto:williamssarah231@gmail.com)  
Lucy Booth [lucy.s.booth@hotmail.com](mailto:lucy.s.booth@hotmail.com)

Secretary: Fiona Morgan [fionamorgan175@gmail.com](mailto:fionamorgan175@gmail.com)

### **Dates for 26/27**

Fun American Tournament **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May 12.00**

Fun American Tournament **Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 12.00**

Knockout Finals Day **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September, and second choice Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September**

Christmas Drinks Party **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 12.00 Sutton Montis Village Hall**

Annual General Meeting **5<sup>th</sup> April 2027 Sutton Montis Village Hall**

Maintenance Day **24<sup>th</sup> April 2027**

