

Another excellent year for tennis and squash

Welcome to the 2024/25 membership year. We have again enjoyed some excellent tennis and squash over the summer – Middlesex leagues, tournaments and social – and look forward to more this coming year. Congratulations to the league teams on their successes. Further details about the tennis leagues are on page 3 and the squash leagues on page 6.

Two eminent captains are standing down this summer and deserve special mention. Ian Lush has captained M2, the men's second tennis team, with great distinction for eight years. The team has enjoyed several promotions, near misses and of course reverses, but he has engendered a great team spirit throughout. I am delighted that Everton Loundes has agreed to take on the mantle. Our other retirement is Simon Ruff, who has captained Stormont 1, the first squash team, also for eight years. He has led the team to the dizzy heights of division 2, which is a higher standard than any Stormont squash I can recollect over the last 50 years. Sadly, the team is disbanding as he and several of the core team members move away. Stormont 2, which I run, will be the new Stormont 1, though we will content ourselves with a lower division where we are competitive.

Simon is also standing down from Stormont's committee (soon to be Board) but I am grateful that he has agreed to continue as webmaster and help us with all things IT. Barbara Kalirai is also standing down from the committee but she has agreed to continue to be available for informal consultation which will be valuable.

The big news of the last few months is that the long-promised acquisition of the St Luke's tennis court completed in April and it was resurfaced and new fencing installed in May/June. Thank you for your patience while the court was out of action. The court is looking magnificent in its new colours and I hope everyone is enjoying how well it plays. One gremlin is that the recent dry weather has caused a crack to open up on top of the root barrier on the road side as the court surround has subsided fractionally. This was a problem that we experienced last time the court was resurfaced. We are in discussions with ETC, the contractor, about resolving it.

Phase 2 of developing St Luke's court includes floodlights, a refuge and public pay-to-play access in accordance with the covenants we inherited with the court. This will not happen for a time, not least because we need to link the court to electricity and other services, but also because some of these improvements require planning permission.

The other big development is the transfer of the activities, assets and liabilities of the club into the new company limited by guarantee we formed to acquire St Luke's. The transfer is scheduled to take effect from 1 October to coincide with the new subscription year, so in renewing for 2024/25, members will be joining the club in its new form. As a technicality, the old club (ie the unincorporated association) will still continue to run off certain residual activities after 1 October where these cannot practicably or completely be transferred to the company, so for 2024/25, membership of the club will include membership of the old club



St Luke's in progress, and above in its new colours

for this limited purpose. Hopefully members will notice no substantive difference in the way the club operates. Members approved this transfer at the last AGM on 1 May 2024, but I have included a short note on the website to remind them of what is involved and how the associated obligation to contribute up to a maximum of £1 to the company's assets would affect them in the remote event of the Company becoming insolvent and being wound up. Stormont's financial condition remains robust.

In due course the website address will change to www.stormont.club and new bank accounts opened, but not during the membership renewal period, so please renew as before. Details are on the membership and renewal application form at www.stormonttsrc.com, and remember that members paying before 1 October are entitled to an early renewal discount of 10%.

I am continuing as chair of the club and, subject to Barbara and Simon's resignations, the board of the company has the same experienced members as served on the committee and were elected at the last AGM. They are listed on page 6. Though specific responsibilities are noted there, we are all focused on trying to do the best we can for the club.

As I say each year, Stormont is a private members' club so what we do is entirely with the interests of members in mind, having regard to the local community in which we operate and seek to cooperate. If there are improvements or changes you would like or if you would like to contribute by joining the board, please let me (07802 608580) or any committee/board member know.

Tony Hulse, Chairman, August 2024

TENNIS

STORMONT TENNIS CLUB FINALS 2024

The weather forecast was dire and several people messaged to ask Dinny if we would be going ahead. We always do and we started and it rained and we played in the rain and stopped and resumed and played in the rain. Later the sun came out.

The wet courts inhibited some players movements and there were one or two falls but the players gamely battled on. Many matches were very close and everyone was very impressed by the high standard of play.

Both ladies found playing in three finals rather tiring!

We are so lucky that Kevin James runs the bar brilliantly and that John Lanham cooks fabulous food on the BBQ.



- Ladies Singles**
Izzy MacCallum beat Hannah Isaacs 6-4 7-5
- Mens Singles**
Alex Minogue-Stone beat Daniel Moreno 7-6 6-3
- Ladies Doubles**
Izzy MacCallum and Sue Goddard beat Sally James and Hannah Isaacs 6-4 6-3
- Mens Doubles**
Dan Shaw and Fabien Zinsner beat Alex Minogue-Stone and Callum Conway-Shaw 6-3 3-6 6-3
- Mixed Doubles**
Izzy MacCallum and Dan Shaw beat Hannah Isaacs and Nick Ruff 4-6 7-5 6-3



TENNIS

TENNIS TEAMS

With all our first two round home matches being played away because St Luke's was being resurfaced, life was tough. We are not always keen on astroturf or carpet, and some don't like artificial clay.

Top of divisions for a while and sometimes bottom but hopefully not for toooo long.

Beaten 0-24

Won 22-2

Where would all the teams be at the end of the season?

With several teams we didn't know until the final ball of the final match was struck or until the website decides what to do with defaulted matches.

LADIES FIRST TEAM IN DIVISION 1

We have been plagued by injuries but having the triple Champion Izzy in the team has brought us many points.

14-10 one way or the other was our most common score. Stalwarts Barbara Kalirai, Dinny Ravet, Izzy MacCallum, Sally James, Sue Goddard and Wendy Levin were the regular six. We didn't want to blow out people for the seconds so we had one off support from Hannah Isaacs, Harriet Grynfeldt, Polly Glegg and Susan Carter. Katherine Binns and Norma Clarke put in second appearances for our last match after the last second team match. Norma filled in with less than two hours notice and won two sets with Sue Goddard.

We finished third by one point, showing how every single set is worth battling for. As they endlessly say in commentary, such small margins.

Dinny Ravet, Ladies' First Team Captain

LADIES SECOND TEAM IN DIVISION 3

The women's second team had a difficult season. Beset by match date clashes, rain, sun, injuries, too much work and even insect bites, we struggled to field a team at times. Still we played some brilliant tennis and had lots of fun. Thanks to Katherine B, Patricia, Sheena, Harriet, Jeni W, Jenny T, Norma, Dinny, Polly, Wendy, Sarah, Ping, Waed, Catherine M, Jane D, Amira and to Chie (who would have played but for an insect bite) and Paul for his excellent coaching.

Susan Carter, Ladies' Second Team Captain

LADIES THIRD TEAM IN DIVISION 4

It's tricky to find enough words

For the plucky Stormont ladies thirds.

With gritty resolve, they played great tennis,

Their skills and spirit are truly relentless!

Fourteen ladies each played their part,

In matches full of fun, soul, and heart.

Battling through wind and sun and rain,

So next year in Division 4 we will remain :)

It really was a fabulous whole squad performance from Catherine M, Janete, Patricia, Jenny, Sheena, Chie, Nancy, Armelle, Melissa, Liz, Natasja and Bridget who all played their part in the matches. Well done all - you rock! Looking forward to a very exciting future and welcoming our new players in the thirds squad - Jaga, Ros, Alice and Nathalie. If there are any other future thirds out there, please do get in touch with me.

Amira Kohler, Ladies Third Team Captain

MEN'S FIRST TEAM IN DIVISION 3

I sit here, 4.35am, Wednesday the 14th of August 2024 in a fog of weary sleep deprivation, frantically refreshing the league table. Our rival's final fixture was allegedly played last night, and I refuse to sleep until I know whether or not our loyal heroes have indeed achieved the unachievable. The only thing that matters right now, as the planet burns around us, and the world order changes drastically as the Overton Window forever shifts: did Stormont Men's First team get promoted to the dizzying heights of Middlesex East Division 2?

I don't know if I can bear the suspense much longer. The sands of time must surely take pause or skip a beat. It's a sweltering mid-summer's night in leafy North London, and I believe in my heart of hearts that Dan S, Alex M-S, Fab Z, Thom G, Tim C, Nick R, Gabe dL, Marc dL, Cal C-S, Josh W, Peter S, Coops, and Binnsy deserve what is rightfully ours, what has surely always been ours: to see our names, right up there, glittering at the top of the tree, forever ingrained, shiny, and bold, in the one and only... runners-up position. And promotion. Sweet promotion.

On the other hand we could also end up third.

Onwards, to the winter. Once again we shall roll the dice.

Your ghost of a once and future captain.

Ash Spencer, Men's First Team Captain

MEN'S SECOND TEAM IN DIVISION 5

In summer 2023 Stormont M2 finished third in Division 6, so we were rather surprised to start this campaign in Division 5. The higher standard, combined with injuries and other absences for key players, meant that we were always going to struggle, and despite fighting hard we ended in seventh of eight teams and will be back in Div 6 next year. Thanks as ever to my squad, including several debutants: our (19!) players were Alex C, Andy C, Ash, Colin, Dan Graham, David R, Ed, Everton, Gabriel, Jem, Josh, Keith, Kiyo, Marc de Leuw, Mark C, Marco, Olly B, Simon B and Tim D.

After eight years as M2 captain, the time has come for me to pass the baton on; it has been a blast, including several winter and summer promotions, some skin of the teeth escapes and much fun along the way – standout memory probably beating Pavilion 14-2 in the final match of a winter season to pip them to second place and promotion. Huge thanks to Dinny for the support throughout, and to my most regular playing partners Antonis, Edmund Cox, Keith and Mark C.

Ian Lush, Men's Second Team Captain

MEN'S CHAMPION THIRD TEAM IN DIVISION 9

Staying up in Div 9! What a roller coaster ride we endured this year. After hugging one of the relegation spots for almost the whole season, it came down to the final match. And an unexpected victory against Highgate Cricket V secured safety. Thanks everyone for your contributions. Well done to Andy Cooklin who topped our stats and thanks to Colin for his captaincy in my absence. Match-day players included Alex C, Andy, Bernard, Colin, David P, Ed, Greg, Ian, John, Kiyo, Marc DL, Marc I, Marco, Mark C, Peter S, Peter W and Tim D. Thanks also for the great attendance at the Saturday practice sessions. If you'd like to join us, please get in touch.

Greg Nowitz, Men's Third Team Captain

TENNIS TEAMS IN THE WINTER

WE RUN

Three Ladies - Two Pairs from each club play each other. 6.30 starts at home 7pm away

Three Mens

Two Mixed

One Mixed Over 40 Saturdays or Sundays

One Mixed Over 55 Monday-Friday daytime

In both the over 40s and Over 55s, matches comprise four rubbers:-

One Men's Doubles, One Ladies' Doubles and Two Mixed Doubles.

Each rubber will comprise two tie break sets. Sudden death deuce.

Players must have reached the appropriate age on 31 December 2024.

Please let Dinny or the relevant team captains know if you would like to be in the squads for any of the teams.

TENNIS CLUBTIMES

Everyone who can play reasonable doubles is invited to come along and mix in for organised games.

Sunday 10.00-13.00

Tuesday Clubtime 10.00-12.00 term time only recommences on 10 September

Wednesday we are returning to 5 till 9pm. One court from 5pm. Two courts from 6pm

TENNIS

Stormont Tennis Coaching Programme

JUNIORS

See the exciting programme below. Please note that coaching for children at Stormont requires your child to join the club. We allow a two-week grace period as a new non-member before you are required to join the club on week three. If on week three you do not wish to continue, you must let us know and we can then issue you a refund for the remaining weeks of the term. To join email: membership@stormonttsrc.com to get form and correct amount to pay.

Term starts Mon 9th September

Ends 14th December

(13 weeks)

half term 28/10 - 1/11

All booking to be made through the website

www.tptennis.net



ADULTS

Individual or shared private sessions (up to 4 people) are available to book directly via tptennis@live.co.uk or by calling 07984 349767. Subject to coach availability.

£55 per hour for head coach 1-2-1

£60 per hour for 2-4 people shared

£45 per hour for other coaches

All details and bookings are on the website www.tptennis.net

Juniors

MONDAY

MINI RED/ORANGE TRANSITION (7-9 yrs) - Monday 4pm - 5pm

Players who are able to play on a Red court. Moving up to orange. Novices welcome.

MINI GREEN TRANSITION (10+ yrs) - Monday 5pm - 6pm

Moving into Full court with Green Ball introduction. Games and drills for the developing player.

TUESDAY

MINI ORANGE-GREEN TRANSITION (9-11 yrs) - Tuesday 4pm - 5pm

Class will focus on fun, and developing skills through games and exercises. Rallying and serving skills with games and competitive drills. We will use orange balls for match situations but introduce the green ball situations as they progress. 8 players max on 2 courts with a Lead Coach.

13&U BOYS TEAM TRAINING (10-12yrs) - Tuesday 5pm - 6pm

Competent ballplayers. Match play consistent. Looking to play hard. Higher skill level for ages 11-13 yrs. Using yellow balls. The seamless and eventual transition to U14 team training and beyond.

WEDNESDAY

MINI RED/ORANGE BALL MIX (6,7,8 yrs) - Wednesday 4:15pm - 5pm

Red to orange ball tennis, fun and games to get them playing with proper grips and learning the court. Skill-building, co-operative exercises, drills, and introduction of scoring for points. 8-10 players max on 2 courts with a Lead Coach and a qualified LTA level 1 Tennis Assistant.

GIRLS TEEN TRAINING (14-17 yrs +) - Wednesday 5pm - 6pm

Looking for a more competitive yet fun environment with other girls? Drills and exercises in singles and doubles to help you improve your skills. Fun and competitive but with good banter and an enjoyable atmosphere; you can be a bit silly or super edgy, we don't mind as long as you're hitting balls sweetly! Will suit older players who have tennis experience.

THURSDAY

MINI GREEN MATCHPLAY (10-12 yrs) - Thursday 4pm - 5pm

The Class will focus on gameplay and points with the use of some basic tactical usage. A competent level of play is needed, rallying ability and serving are essential.

GIRLS YELLOW BALL 3 (13+ yrs) - Thursday 5pm - 6pm

A girls only group for 13 yrs plus. playing with full yellow balls. focusing on tennis games and exercises to help develop skills and techniques.

SATURDAY

MINI RED BALL MIX (5,6,7 yrs) - Saturday 9:15am - 10am

Primarily for years 2 and 3 Red ball, fun and games. 8 players max on up to 4 red ball courts possible with an LTA Lead Coach and LTA Assistant Coach. Tennis Rackets for use if you don't have one.

MINI ORANGE (8,9,10 yrs) - Saturday 10am - 11am

Playing on a mini orange size court. Max 8 players. The class will focus on developing more rallying skills, serving, and point-play situations.

MINI GREEN FULL BALL (11-13 yrs) - Saturday 11am - 12pm

Full court with Green & Yellow balls to transition. Games, drills, and points are played for the developing player.

BOYS TEAM TRAINING (13-16 yrs) - Saturday 10am - 11am

This is an invitation-only squad training session. Open to boys of similar abilities with an age range from 13-16 yrs. Match-play drills and exercises in both singles and doubles to help you improve your skills and tactics. Players will be representing the club in Middlesex League matches.

If you think you are good enough to play on this squad, you will have been selected from another class by our coaching team or be directly selected from a 1hr playtest session with our Head Coach.



TEDDY TENNIS (2.5 – 6 years)

The perfect introduction to tennis for pre-school and reception age children.

Generic ball skills, balance, co-ordination and dexterity exercises all introduced through fun games and exercises with a fully qualified Teddy Tennis coach.

Sponge balls, mini nets and rackets provided.

Book online at: www.teddytennis.co.uk. Any questions email: janine@teddytennis.com

SQUASH

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer break and just cannot wait for the autumn junior squash programme to start.

A huge thanks again for your support to date and I hope we can continue to give our young people a good experience.

Paris Olympics 2024 has just concluded without Squash

Let us all welcome Squash at LA2028, it could be you

Brendon Mounter Head Coach – DROP SHOT Squash Academy



Stormont Junior Squash Programme Autumn term 2024



Sessions start date Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Sessions end date Friday 20th December 2024

Half-term Autumn no sessions between 28th Oct – 1st Nov 2024

Tuesdays – 15 Sessions

5.00 – 6.00pm Beginners/Intermediate

6.00 – 7.00pm Intermediate/Advance

Fees: £165 members / £195 non-members

Fridays – 15 Sessions

5.00 – 6.00pm Beginners/Development

6.00 – 7.00pm Intermediate/Advance

Fees: £165 members / £195 non-members



Note:

- Booking early is essential to secure a place
- Equipment is provided
- Join at any point for pro rata cost
- Wear appropriate and comfortable sports clothing with clean non-marking trainers

Payment Options:

- Pay full term
- Pay 1st half – 8 weeks @ £88 members £104 non-members
- Pay 2nd half – 7 weeks @ £77 members £91 non-members



All Fees Payable to – **B Mounter** Sort code: 60-83-71 Account #: 88031591

Contact: Brendon Mounter - DROP SHOT Squash Academy
Email: dropshotsquashacad@gmail.com
Mobile: 07986293022

Venue: Stormont Tennis & Squash Club
13 Lanchester Road, London N6 4SU

Websites: www.stormonttsrc.com www.dropshotsquashacademy.co.uk



SQUASH

STORMONT 1 PERFORMS ZESTFULLY IN DIVISION 2

At the time of writing we are tied for second place in the league, quite an impressive feat for the small club that we are. I will be hanging up my captaincy hat at the end of this season, after around eight years at the helm of Stormont 1. My thanks to Adam Edge for playing and winning so often at no.1, allowing the team's meteoric rise up the league tables in recent years, with Nick and I alternating in the two and three spots. Gratitude is also due to Alfie and Louis for providing years of diligent service, and to all the other squashing Stormontians who stepped in to make sure we had a full team.

Simon Ruff, 1st Team Captain



STORMONT 2ND SQUASH TEAM

Stormont 2 enjoyed a successful and sociable summer season in Division 5. This is a mixed league with a couple of all (or largely) ladies' teams with some strong players. We spent most of the season in second place challenging for promotion until the last fortnight when we lost our matches against Actonians, a dark horse that had postponed a number of earlier games so it was not obvious how strong they were. In the event, it looks like we will come a close and respectable third.

Special mention of team members David Breslin, Nat Hodge and Daniel Moreno who at various stages played No. 1 and bore the brunt of some of our strongest opponents, but also managed some stunning wins. Daniel, Alex Wardle and I managed a win rate of 70%, Nat 75% for the four matches he could make on his return from overseas, whilst Wendy Levin took gold by a distance at 83%. Thanks to others who played (and won) one or two matches: Tim Durham, Jonathan Gillbanks, TaoHai Khan and Rafi Weisfeld, the last two a special achievement as they are under-14 players with a very bright squash future ahead of them.

We look forward to the Winter league when we will be The Stormont Team, following the sad disbanding of old Stormont 1. We will seek to return to two squash teams as soon as player numbers allow. We are always looking for more players to join us, so please get in touch.

Tony Hulse, 2nd Team Captain

England Squash Membership Changes

England Squash has changed the way that membership is provided, separating individual membership from club affiliation. Stormont will continue to be affiliated to ES, but with effect from 30 November 2024, individual members will need to buy and manage their membership directly with ES in order to enjoy the benefits that membership brings such as league and tournament eligibility, personal accident cover and discounted major event tickets. ES will be in direct touch with players offering a choice of membership packages and prices – the standard 'Just Play' option is £15. In the meantime, Stormont members who previously signed up for ES membership will have access to the benefits associated with 'Just Play' which include among other things league eligibility and personal accident cover.

- **Community (Free):** For anyone wanting to be part of the thriving squash community.
- **Support (£10):** For volunteers, supporters and parents who want to give back to the game and support the growth of squash.
- **Junior (£15):** For under 19s who love playing squash.
- **Just Play (£15):** For adults who enjoy playing in leagues and competitions or just for fun.
- **Play Plus (£25):** For adult players keen to accelerate their game to the next level.

Unleash Your Inner Squash Champion



Squash Coaching Services

- Group Classes
- Private Lessons
- Junior Programs

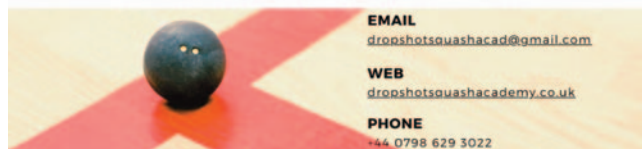


Contact us today, our team of qualified coaches will help you unleash your inner squash champion.

Next Olympics 2028 could be you!

DROP SHOT
SQUASH ACADEMY

Stormont Tennis & Squash Club | Southgate Squash & Racketball Club



EMAIL
dropshotsquashacad@gmail.com

WEB
dropshotsquashacademy.co.uk

PHONE
+44 0798 629 3022

Stormont's membership email address is membership@stormontltsrc.com

Stormont Calendar 2024-25

- **TUESDAY 1 OCTOBER 2024** Renew by today to get 10% off your subscription
- **MID SEPTEMBER 2024** enter public ballot for Wimbledon tickets
- **THURSDAY 26 DECEMBER 2024 11.00 – 13.00** Boxing Day Tennis
- **SUNDAY MAY 4 2025** Stormont Tennis Tournament entries close
- **MONDAY MAY 5 2025 14.00 – 17.00** Angela Seger Memorial Doubles Tournament
- **SUNDAY JULY 6 2025 13.00 – 19.00** Stormont Tennis Finals and BBQ
- Other events will be arranged throughout the year

Stormont Tennis & Squash Club LIST OF OFFICIALS

COMMITTEE/BOARD

TONY HULSE (Chair, Maintenance, Restructuring)
DINNY RAVET (Membership, Coach, Ladies' Tennis Captain, Maintenance)
KEVIN JAMES (Bar)
SALLY JAMES (Social)
BERNARD LO (Welfare including Young Persons Protection and Data Protection, Restructuring)
DANIEL MORENO (Squash)
JON PRICHARD (Maintenance)
PATRICIA PRICHARD (Restructuring)
ROY SEGER (Treasurer, Restructuring)
VAL WUTTKE (Newsletter)
Secretary to Committee/Board AMIRA KOHLER

TEAM CAPTAINS

Squash Team Captain – Tony Hulse	Ladies' Tennis Second – Susan Carter
Men's Tennis First – Ash Spencer	Ladies' Tennis Third – Amira Kohler
Men's Tennis Second – Everton Loundes	Mixed Tennis First – Sally James
Men's Tennis Third – Greg Nowitz	Mixed Tennis Second – Barbara Kalirai
Ladies' Tennis First – Dinny Ravet	Vets over 40 Tennis – Dinny Ravet
	Vets over 55 Tennis – Colin Cooper

Stormont Tennis and Squash Club is an operating name for Stormont Lawn Tennis and Squash Rackets Club and with effect from 1 October 2024 for Stormont Tennis & Squash Club Limited, a company limited by guarantee no. 15538079

