

Pit Farm Tennis Club Newsletter



May 2026

We hope this finds you well – please read on for all the latest news and updates from the club.

May is a good month to...

Bring a guest to play at the club.

Our playing members are welcome to bring a guest to play with them, but please adhere to the club rules:

- Only one guest per member is permitted at a time.
- Each guest is allowed a maximum of 6 visits a year.
- **The guest's name must be included in the court booking.**
- Please add your guest's name to the visitor book in the clubhouse.
- You will need to pay the guest fee before playing. This can be paid in two ways:

Online:

Bank: Lloyds

Name: Pit Farm (Guildford) Hard Court Tennis

Sort Code: 30-93-74

Account number: 00171127

SumUp Machine (turn to page 4 for how to use)

- The cost is £5.00 for seniors and £2.50 for juniors.
- Members may bring their children for £2.50 per visit, with no limit on the number of visits.

Celebrate our team spirit!

Congratulations to our Ladies Surrey 1st Team on winning Winter League Division 8, Group 2, and securing promotion. A special well done to **Dawn Davies, Alex Orr, Bridget Parker, Karen Smith, Hiroko Canning and Yuri Marautani** for their dedication, teamwork and consistently outstanding tennis throughout the season

A huge thank you to **Andrew Mundell** for his continued support and an impressive 30 years as Team Captain – his dedication and steady leadership have been truly appreciated. **Fred Johnson** will be taking up the role as Captains for the Mens 2 in the Surrey Leagues and Chaucer League.

If you're interested in playing for one of our club teams, please get in touch with our Club Captain, **Alex Webb**, who will be happy to chat through the options and help you find the right fit. You can contact Alex at: contact@pitfarmtennis.co.uk



Enter the first Pit Farm Tennis Pickleball Tournament.

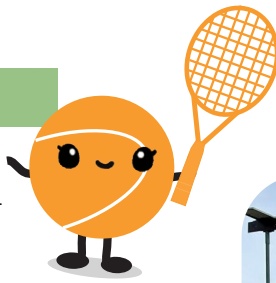
Building on the success of our 2025 Pickleball Sessions, Gary Kemp returns to Pit Farm with his pop-up Pickleball courts. Join us on **Saturday, 18 July** for our very first club tournament (running from 4pm to 8pm). It's the perfect opportunity to experience the sport and discover why Pickleball is the fastest-growing sport in the world. Entry information will be shared nearer the time.

Discover new Junior playing opportunities.

We offer a wide range of playing opportunities for our **Junior and Junior Limited members** at the club. These include our Junior programme, a Box League for more competitive players and several team options for those wishing to compete in external leagues. In addition, our Thursday evening social session for adults is now open to stronger Junior players and coaches. This provides an excellent opportunity to gain doubles experience while enjoying matches with fellow Juniors and adult members in a fun, friendly and social environment. Several of our coaches already take part in these sessions, which we now refer to as our 'Junior Friendly Session'. Sessions typically run from around 5:30/6:00 pm into the evening, and Junior members are very welcome to come along and join in. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch with Caroline or Paul (contact emails on website).

May is also a great time to ...

Congratulate our Orange-ball Tournament winners.



Well done to our recent tournament winners **Nada** and **Salma**, with a special mention to **Ariana** and **Sara**. Events like this are exactly what grassroots tennis is all about — fun competition, building confidence and learning new skills in a supportive, local environment.

Our young players brought great energy to the court, showing real focus, resilience and fantastic sportsmanship throughout the matches.

A huge thank you to coaches **Richard** and **Will** for running such a great event and to **Paul** and his team of talented coaches for their continued work developing our junior players.



Please join us in celebrating our emerging star **River Kozak**. After an incredible journey of 186 LTA matches over the past three years, River reached his first tournament final at the Surrey Sports Park Grade 5 LTA event last month — and we couldn't be prouder. Well done River!

 [Click here for info.](#)

Try out some new sports for FREE!

If you've got kids in School Years 3–8, check out the **Team Surrey Junior Games** at **Surrey Sports Park**. It's a free, family-friendly event where kids can try all sorts of beginner-friendly sports – including tennis. On 10 May there are drop-in activities, family sessions and exclusive Starter Sessions. It's a fantastic way for kids to have fun, build confidence and maybe even discover another favourite sport - besides tennis of course!



This month join us in...

Celebrating our London marathon runners.



Huge congratulations to members **Zoe Rowe** and **Kathryn Betts** for taking on and completing the London Marathon. What an incredible achievement!

This was Zoe's sixth marathon - yes she has run a marathon six times! Zoe told us "the whole day was amazing, and was probably my favourite as the atmosphere was incredible. There wasn't a single moment along the course when there weren't hundred of spectators cheering the runners on."

Kathryn was thrilled to complete the event which "was tough in the heat." She ran for the Evelina London Children's Charity and if anyone would like to make a donation you can find her Just Giving page [here](#).



Feeling inspired by a new world record!

Bread and honey for breakfast. 150 miles of training each week. That's what powered **Sabastian Sawe** to a world record at the London Marathon that's genuinely hard to comprehend. He became the first man to run an official sub-two-hour marathon, finishing in 1:59:30. His preparation was relentless, he raced in a groundbreaking sub-100g "super shoe" — also worn by Tigst Assefa as she set a new women's-only world record the same day — and kept his pre-race routine simple.

With around 800,000 spectators lining the course, he averaged approximately 2 minutes 50 seconds per kilometre — or about 17 seconds per 100 metres. He basically sprinted the entire race.

To put that into a tennis context: imagine a long three-set match, then picture chasing down every single ball, every point, at full intensity, for nearly two hours straight — without any drop in level. What an athlete!



FREE GROUP COACHING SESSION FOR NEW JOINERS

If you have a friend who might be interested in joining Pit Farm Tennis Club, we'd love to welcome them along. We're now offering a complimentary group coaching session with Ashley as a great introduction to the club, along with an invitation to attend a trial Club Session. It's the perfect way to meet other members, enjoy some tennis, and get a real feel for everything the club has to offer.

If they'd like to find out more or book a place, please ask them to contact Caroline at membership.pitfarm@gmail.com.



May is the perfect time to...

Book a court for a Club Tournament game.

If you'd like to book a Club Tournament match during Club Session times on Tuesday, Thursday or Saturday, please get in touch with Club Secretary Dawn Davies – pitfarmsec@gmail.com. We'll be limiting this to one tournament match per session so everyone still gets plenty of court time. We are not applying this to the Sunday Club Sessions as not all courts are used for Sunday Club Sessions, so there should be good availability.

For Club Tournament matches at other times, you can book a two-hour slot by entering each player's name for a one-hour booking and adding "Club Champs" as the guest/visitor. Please do not book more than two hours.

We hope you will join us for a complimentary BBQ on the Sunday afternoon (28 June) of the Club Tournament Finals Weekend. Contributions of salads or desserts would be very welcome. There'll also be a paid bar.

Level up your game.

Pick up new tennis skills and explore the excellent range of coaching options available at the club with **Paul Kozak** and **Ashley Mount**.

From personalised one-to-one coaching to relaxed, social pay-as-you-go group sessions, we offer a variety of programmes designed to suit all ages and abilities. Available to members and non-members.

Please note the Wednesday evening and Thursday morning Intermediate coaching sessions are now both mixed sessions.

 [Click here to book.](#)



 [Click here](#) for the group coaching timetable.



Catch up with a friend!

Alex stopped by for a cuppa with Derek this week. He is very well and enjoying spending time in the garden, reading and taking phone calls from Pit Farm members. He hopes to pop in soon to see everyone.

Court bookings

When booking a court, all participants names must show on the booking system. Members are permitted to book a 1-hour court allocation per day. Please remember to cancel your court if you don't need it, to allow others to book.

Balls! The balls for club session are disappearing on a regular basis during the week. Balls for club session are marked and should be returned in their can/tin to the rack by the bar after the end of every session.

If they are wet, leave on the radiator by the kitchen. They are not for general use or club tournament matches. Balls are available for sale and can be purchased on the SumUp machine.

Access gate - for security/safety please can you shut the access gate after entry/exit as a mag lock is now in place. The code for entry has been updated with an extra #. If you missed the email, contact Caroline – membership.pitfarm@gmail.com to receive it again.

Clubhouse doors - please be mindful to always close the clubhouse doors if you are the last one using it.

New SumUp Machine

You can now pay for tennis balls and guest fees on the new SumUp machine which is next to the bar in the clubhouse. Press the button on the right of the device to wake it up. The price for balls and visitor fees are set – simply select one, press charge, then tap with your payment card.



New Treasurer/Bookkeeper needed

After many years of hard work and dedication to the club our Treasurer **Ian Kenyon** is stepping down. If you would like to volunteer to take on some, or all of his tasks please take a look at the below duties. We are looking for either one person, or are happy to split the role into two. Please get in touch with Dawn Davies - pitfarmsec@gmail.com – for more information.

Treasurer

- Provide the club and committee with objective financial advice to support the long-term financial sustainability of the club
- Provide the committee/finance committee with regular management accounts
- Produce the annual accounts and liaise with the independent examiner
- Ensure taxes are paid on time and keep abreast of any HMRC matters
- Prepare an annual budget and longer-term financial plan
- Manage the club's cash balances and relationships with the banks
- Approve payments on the bank portal

Bookkeeper

- Prepare payments on the bank portal for approval by the Treasurer
- Update gas/electric/water readings periodically
- Post entries to Xero and prepare draft accounts
- Liaise with Club Secretary on payroll

The work averages approx 2 hours per week – some weeks are heavier than others. The templates are all established in Excel with the accounts held in Xero.

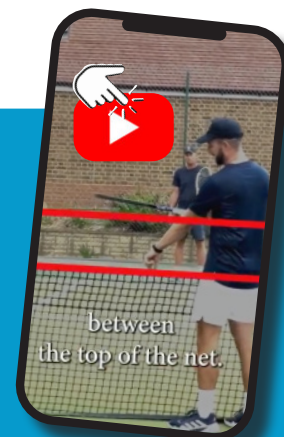
Thanks for sticking with us to the end — we really appreciate it!

Best wishes,

Your Committee 2026-2027

Tim Martin – President • Ian Kenyon – Hon Treasurer • Dawn Davies – Hon Secretary
 • Alex Orr – Chair • Alex Webb – Club Captain

Other committee members: Richard Dvorsky, Laurence Fletcher, David Gould, Matt Jones, Nicky King, Bridget Parker, Phil Rowlands, Karen Smith, Paul Taylor, Thom Van Every, Cephas Vazquez-Howard, Barney Whiteman and Matt Wilkinson.
 Non-Committee: Liz Hill-Smith – Welfare Officer
 Caroline Rowlands – Membership Secretary
 Richard Morris – Examiner Contact pitfarmsec@gmail.com



FREE coaching on YouTube

If you haven't explored our free coaching videos yet, now's the perfect time to step onto our virtual court. Refine your technique, elevate your strategy and start playing smarter from your very next serve. From serving and volleying to mastering your grip and perfecting your split step, you'll find a wealth of tips from our talented coaches **Paul** and **Ashley** to help take your game to the next level. Click the button to watch now.