



# STANDARD ATHLETIC CLUB

## TENNIS NEWS – JULY 2020



### HELLO TENNIS SECTION!

Our daily lives, work and activities including our favourite sports like tennis were put on hold these past months due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We know how important it is for people to be active and the role tennis can have on the physical and general well-being of our Club members so we are happy to say that we are starting to see the light at the end of the tunnel with the opening of restaurants, gyms, returning to work, school, and with the easing up of travel restrictions by the government authorities.

We are all eager to get back into the swing of things and excited to be back playing tennis again, *but we need to follow the rules and respect the physical distancing measures.*

*Let's enjoy our wonderful club and stay healthy!*

### DID YOU KNOW?

Monks played the French game of *paume* on a court. Rather than a racquet, the ball was struck with the hand. *Paume* eventually evolved into *jeu de paume* "game of the palm" in which racquets were used. By the year 1500, racquets constructed of wood frames and gut strings had been developed, as well as balls made of cork and leather.

**Scoring** was invented to match the face of a clock with the score given in quarter-hours: 15, 30, 45 (shortened to the French for 40 *quarante*, rather than the longer *quarante-cinq* for 45). The use of 60 wasn't necessary because reaching the hour meant the game was over anyway, unless it was tied at "deuce." That term may have derived from the French *deux*, or "two," indicating that from then on, two points were required to win the match. Some say the term

"love" comes from the French word *l'oeuf*, or "egg," a symbol for "nothing," like a goose egg.

### A WORD FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Dear Tennis members,

Since coming on board, my priority has been to reactivate our section by taking care of what is dearest to us -making tennis fun and safe for everyone! In addition to helping the management committee, my efforts have gone into re-viewing our tennis policies, facilities and budget, in order to make your tennis experience at our club the best possible all year around, and to making our tennis school one to be proud of.

On this note, your section recently met with the technical experts of the FFT diagnostic evaluation of our clay courts. Three surveys were conducted to test the permeability of our courts. Results showed that contrary to popular belief, our courts are in relatively good shape. The results of this study will need to be verified in winter after the first freeze. Below are preliminary conclusions:

- The works done this year were well executed and the courts have a good drainage profile.
- Our courts drain well, so there is probably no need to redo all the drainage layers, this will be verified in winter. The complete refection of the clay courts would cost around 180 000€, we will still have to spend some money but probably a lot less.
- We will still need to resurface the top layer, as the red clay and the cran layers have become mixed and generally too thick.

My next challenge is to find funds to redo court 3 as well as create another all-weather court. We will be starting repair works on the fences as many are no longer structurally sound, but some will have to be replaced.

I hope that you have enjoyed reading our first newsletter! Do send us any comments, ideas and photos that you would like to share.

***Enjoy your summer holidays!!!***

Caroline Ritoux



## WHAT CAN WE DO TO MAINTAIN OUR TENNIS COURTS?

- The courts need to be watered a lot during the day, especially outside of the main road playing surface, behind the service line and in the corners.
- Please remember to aim the hosepipe upwards to create a softer spray.
- When dragging the court it is important to do it well.
- Leave the metal part on the ground, drag the net over the previous path to overlap the sweep.
- Lift the net at the end, shake out the gravel and debris and turn it around in the air.
- If you have a bit of time you can sweep the excess 'red' off the gutter and back onto the court.

To improve the sweeping, we will be making some modifications to the drag nets.

It is up to all of us together to keep up the maintenance every time we play.

## PROPER DRESS IS REQUIRED

Players are expected to wear proper tennis outfits, with a white shirt or blouse and white socks. Players must wear a proper flat sole tennis shoes on clay courts.



## TENNIS SCHOOL :

### CHILDREN & ADULTS

During the holidays, tennis camps will be run by our coach Carole Dacheux

Choose programmes from: Baby & Mini tennis 3/6 yo, Galaxy School 7/8 yo, Galaxy School 9/12 yo.

Children's programmes Registration link: [http: https://cutt.ly/jy1qjxp](https://cutt.ly/jy1qjxp)

**Adult programmes** are also available.

**Private lessons** can be organized during the week or on weekend mornings when the clay courts are open. Members should reserve their court for this.

Carole Dacheux : Tel 07.60.24.24.58,  
[caroledacheux.pro@gmail.com](mailto:caroledacheux.pro@gmail.com)

## TOURNAMENTS

The good news is that **Roland Garros** will held from **21 September to 4 October 2020**, providing that the conditions related to the health crisis remain stable and allow it to go ahead. The tournament will be held over a period of three weeks. The qualifying rounds will be played from 21 to 25 September. The main draw will be from 27 September to 11 October  
:<https://www.rolandgarros.com/en-us/>

As many of you FFT licence holders know, ticket sales were open to FFT tennis licence holders on 9 July. The next round of ticket sales opened from 16 July. If you have noticed that tickets to attend Roland Garros this year are more limited and more expensive, you are correct. This could be due to the fact that physical safety measures are being followed so there is a limited number of spectators inside the stadium as a ratio of the overall stadium capacity, so there are less seats available in the main courts.

Sadly, the (AELTC) All England Lawn Tennis Club announced the cancellation of **WIMBLEDON** this year, originally due to take place from 9 to 15 August 2020, due to the health and safety concerns of the pandemic.

## SAC TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The SAC Tennis Tournament has been postponed due to the lack of entries. It will be rescheduled for later this year so this is a great opportunity to get out and practice over the holiday break and sign up later to play in the tournament!