

## AGM HEAD TENNIS COACH REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 24<sup>TH</sup> 2021

WHAT A GREAT YEAR OF TENNIS WE HAVE HAD DURING SOME VERY TOUGH AND STRANGE TIMES. WE HAVE SEEN VARIOUS LEVELS OF SUCCESS FROM BOTH TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL EFFORTS.

SOME OF THE MANY HIGHLIGHTS HAVE INCLUDED;

- SEVERAL OF OUR MEMBERS BEING SELECTED FOR THEIR FIRST TIME TO ATTEND SOME COUNTY TRAINING SQUADS.
  - SEVERAL MEMBERS QUALIFYING FOR THE JUNIOR NATIONAL FINALS.
    - MENS 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2<sup>ND</sup>, 3<sup>RD</sup> AND 5<sup>TH</sup> ALL ACHIEVING PROMOTION
- MEMBER INTERACTION WITH SOCIALS BACK ON AND THE AMERICAN DOUBLES TOURNAMENTS.
  - LADIES TEAM NARROWLY MISSING OUT IN THE CUP FINAL

*JUST A FEW HIGHLIGHTS TO MENTION!*

The overall objective of the last 12 months has been to provide a rounded, inclusive and welcoming Coaching and Competition structure for players who wish, while providing other playing opportunities and balance for more socially led players to continue playing as they wish also.

Goals set out for the last 12 months of the year;

1. Increase the Adult coaching programme to average numbers of 6 per session. There will be some offers for cardio tennis and beginner advertised externally and some offers for members of improver and advanced level. Outcome = 100 places booked each week for coaching over 13 sessions, averages 7.7 per session.
2. creating a bigger broader mini red and mini orange base, especially girls using the Miss-Hits to help boost the profile of the club. Several offers will be created to hit these specific age groups and advertised locally. Outcome = 2020 numbers for Red/Orange= 49, 2021 =113 places booked each week. However we didn't managed to get the Miss-Hits programme up and running due to not being able to use the inside facilities, however I'm happy to say this will be going ahead from January at Hillhead.
3. To create a competition structure at the club to help motivate and push both the junior and adult section. This will comprise of a minimum of 4 Mini red events, 4 Mini Orange Events, 4 mini Green Events and 4 Yellow events, Box Leagues for all round competition, Adults a calendar for social tournaments, and some team competitions. Outcome, not quite fully hit my target of the competitions, junior competitions were successful and Matchplay were well attended, the American doubles tournaments were a great success this year being average attendance of 25 people. Box leagues started well but fizzled out (partly due to the Ita changing its software), however I have a new box league software which will allow this to be done online through the Ita's profile which will launch for January. Several team competitions coming up in December so I hope for good weather and some Christmas spirit!!
4. IF possible, to start to link with the schools and go in to schools to provide some coaching for players and create a link between their school and our club allowing a crossover of all sports not just tennis. Outcome = had a successful meeting with the local school's coordinator

setup by Shona ross, we will be hopefully in several schools from January delivering some lunch time tennis clubs, possibly after school clubs with dates and times to be confirmed.

Goals for the coming year ahead;

1. Successfully deliver the Miss-Hits program and create a transition on to the general programme.
2. Create a bigger ladies pool of players and utilise this for team development. (46 players in total) Target 60 players.
3. Junior competition and Matchplay to be run every month at hillhead offering to all ages and abilities.
4. Junior social tennis – Get this up and running for the 11+ group every month.
5. Social Tennis and American doubles – To Maximise the numbers for each social tennis session and running 10 American Doubles Tournaments throughout the year.
6. Create off court days/nights to get member interaction (Quiz/Games Night)
7. Run both an awards night for both the summer and the winter.

### Coaching Program

We have seen continued success over the last 12 months across the program, managing to achieve a growth in every area of the pathway. The areas of the programme are broken down into Tots Tennis (3-5yrs), Red (5-8), Orange(8-10), Green (10-12), (Yellow ball 11-18) and the Adult section.

Where were we before and after the 12 months?

The numbers from the previous year are as follows; and 2021 will be in red

- Mini Tennis program (Tots/red/orange/green) = 75 grown to 141
- Junior yellow ball programme = 47 grow to 48
- Adult section = 46 grown to 100

Total = 168 to 289 places every week being booked on to the coaching, this is brilliant to see the continued growth of the program, the challenge will be to see that the players can get a smooth transition the pathway and not be left out, having options for sessions.

We will be looking to expand the girl's tennis classes (Miss-Hits) to try and engage more players and hopefully members into our club and sport.

The focus of the year will be able to maintain and deliver quality tennis coaching sessions to every player to help accelerate their learning of the game.

### Coaching Team

I would like to thank all the coaches for their hard efforts and perseverance through all the challenging weather throughout the year (thunder storms, ice, Gail force winds, snow and sunshine). They have been the reason why the club program has been so successful over the last 12 months, keeping patient and engaged with all the members.

We have managed to successfully run a few coach education days over the last year whether that's through zoom or on court. In the coming year ahead, we will be looking at creating more education opportunities for the coaching team by helping to fund specific courses in certain areas or qualifications.

The team will also be provided with some team kit, TBC with Kitlocker.

Currently we have the following AMAZING coaches working on a weekly basis;

Jotie Jaidka, Sena akpo-Young, Ewan McGill, Innes Ross, Murray Ross, Shona Ross and Aaron Purba.

Volunteers and Assistants that have helped throughout the year;

Summer McDonald, Adam Sefcik, Antonia Celis, Linsey Campbell-Morrison, Maria Power, Josh and Jack Panikkou and Alexander Gillan

Carole Wilson, sadly left the coaching team after she did a tremendous job at getting the adult coaching up and running for which, I am eternally grateful. However, she has returned to beat us all on the court now after her ventures, for which I can't wait 😊

## **Tournaments**

To keep the members and players at the club engaged, we will be looking to offer more competition at the club from across all levels by setting up some tournaments, Matchplay events for all different levels to get involved with more regularly. This will be accompanied by the tennis box leagues and the coaching team encouraging the members to get out there and compete in local tournaments.

The club championships, great to see so many players getting involved in the draws across the field. For the following year. Congratulations to all champions for this year.

Improvements for next year, setup a Hillhead results email where all results must be sent to and that myself and several members of the committee can access. This will hopefully ease the wait time for the round before.

## **Junior Winter League standings;**

U8 = 8<sup>th</sup> place, U9 = 2<sup>nd</sup> Place (game in hand to go top), u10's = no league this year, boys u14's champions, girls u14's = 2<sup>nd</sup> place, boy's u18's = champions, Girls u18's Champions.

I just wanted to thank all the members for their continued support they have shown me and the team over the past 12 months, throughout all the various challenges and we hope that we can keep offering the great service you all deserve!

## **Junior Player Initiative**

Excited to announce a new player support initiative to assist in the development of promising Junior players in the coming years. Working closely with the Coaching team, the Committee are aiming to

identify an existing, Junior, Hillhead Team player who shows exceptional potential, and may benefit from some additional support to help achieve that potential. This may be in the form of additional coaching and mentoring, support with equipment, assistance in entering and playing tournaments or other support as deemed appropriate.

We are very excited about this initiative which aims to align with the core values of Hillhead Sports Club and Hillhead Tennis Club to provide inclusive opportunities for all members of the community to realise their sporting potential.

**Finally,**

Special thanks to the committee members who have been helping and suggesting various ways we can develop the tennis section together, and grow the sport we love.

It has been great to see the club busy, members interacting with new and old faces. I can't wait to see what lies ahead for the coming year; I know the members are up for another Ace year at Hillhead.

Please feel free to get in contact with myself or the Committee if you have any suggestions on how we can improve our club or the Coaching programme!!

Kind Regards

Ashley Webster

Head Tennis Coach

November 2021

