



KINGSTON BAGPUIZE WITH SOUTHMOOR TENNIS CLUB

LTA AWARDS NOMINATION



Tonight, Tennis Oxfordshire are hosting their annual regional LTA awards! We are proud to announce that our Chairman, Duncan Smith has been nominated for 'Volunteer of the Year' for all the work he has done for the Club over his time as Chairman, particularly the hours he put into making the new courts a reality.

Tennis Oxfordshire released this statement along with the nomination:

"Firstly, Duncan has worked tirelessly over the past 4 years on the new court building project at our tennis club that will increase the club's capacity from 2 to 4 tennis courts. He secured funding from the LTA to be able to provide pay-and-play at the club to further give back to the community in which the club is located. It goes without saying that our club has been extremely fortunate to have as chairman someone with a background of financial management at a high level. This has finally come into fruition this year with the planning permission officially in place and a date set for the commencement of the courts being built. He has worked incredibly hard on expanding the club's offering at the beginning of the year and, when Covid-19 posed problems, he was incredibly responsive ensuring that the safety of club members came first."

The Awards and the Tennis Oxfordshire AGM are TONIGHT (22/1) on Zoom. If you wish to attend, register your interest at tennis@tennisoxfordshire.co.uk.

MEET THE COMMITTEE

Here are two more committee members for you to meet this week!

ALUN OWEN



Favourite Player: Roger Federer, followed by Stan Wawrinka...and Swiss chocolate

Favourite Shot: Forehand

One (or two) thing that not many people know about me: I played with Ryan Giggs for Wales U18s, played against the famous Man Utd “five” and chatted with Oscar De La Hoya when flying over the Atlantic.

"Born a Welshman and son of a top-level rugby player in the 1970s/80s, it was assumed I would go down the route of the Welsh fly half assembly line (and drink a few bevvies while at it) but I chose football as my main sport (to the dismay of all my secondary school teachers). This left little time for a perceived privileged sport like tennis, where you wore all whites. Thus, my tennis background is self-taught, playing occasionally as a teenager at the local council courts (albeit in between sitting around with my mates feasting on mars bars and coca-cola...not the staple diet of a future footballer. I did not pick up a racket for another 15 years and then, when in my early thirties in Florida I decided to try to play a little bit, and started to fall in love with the game (apart from playing Oscar – an experienced Colombian on clay!). However, as often happens with me, I fell off the wagon and stopped playing on my return to the UK, wasting another 10 years of not playing. Finally, I moved into the village with my wife, four kids, and cat, making a pact with myself that I would play again...and continue to play. Therefore, I thought it would be a good idea to volunteer for the committee to keep me engaged. It has proved a good decision as everyone has made me feel so welcome and I am thoroughly enjoying my time at the club."



SARAH LLOYD WELFARE OFFICER



Favourite Player: "Arantxa"
Sánchez Vicario
Favourite Shot: Anything that
gets over the net!

"One thing not many people know about me: I was a very competitive ballroom dancer in my youth.

"I'd like to think I'm quite laid back about tennis. I've enjoyed playing socially with a great group of people at the club for many years. Then the game starts and out comes my competitive streak!"

The Welfare Officer's role is to ensure that the club has an effective child protection and welfare policy in place. Sarah is Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checked and has LTA Safeguarding & Protection in Tennis certification

NEW COURT UPDATE

At the courts, work has been going on full steam ahead! The base and surface tarmac coats should be finished this week. The fencing is still to go up but the pathway is finished. Our brand new digital gate, that will allow pay-and-play bookings and can be controlled online, is due to be installed on Wednesday! Discussions regarding the planting scheme, due to take place in Autumn, have been taking place too.

Check out our social media for more photos and updates!

