

Saxmundham Sports Tennis Club

Chairman's report to AGM February 2022

The past year has been another successful one for the Club, despite the travails of Covid. We have managed to keep playing when permitted by LTA guidelines, and our membership has actually increased this year.

Social tennis continues to be well supported, and our men's, ladies and mixed teams have performed well in both the Ipswich and Lowestoft leagues. Full reports on membership and team results can be found on the website.

After seven years as Chairman, I am reluctantly stepping down from the post as my playing days are over as a consequence of slowly deteriorating eyesight, and as a result I am losing touch with the membership.

In the last seven years, we have purchased two REBO hitting walls, one fixed (on court one) and one portable (for use in schools), a new ball machine, and most importantly we have resurfaced all three courts.

This expenditure has been possible courtesy of a healthy membership and prudent financial management by the club, especially thanks to our Treasurer David Lewis. There are further financial challenges to come, with the need at some stage to replace our floodlights with more energy efficient LED units, and the need to refurbish or replace the Greencourt Pavillion. These matters will be the responsibility of the Committee and our new Chairman.

I am also proud to report that over my period in office the Club has won two Suffolk LTA awards, Community Venue of the year 2016 and Club of the year 2019. In addition, our long-serving Secretary Fiona was awarded a Suffolk LTA personal contribution award in 2018.

The progress of our Junior Tennis both within the club and also local schools, has also been outstanding over the past few years, and a major reason we have won these awards. This is entirely due to the efforts of our coach Matt, supported by the Committee and Club as a whole.

It is all these factors and strong teamwork from all the Officers that combine to make Sax Tennis so successful. Long may it continue, and I wish you all well in the future!

Chris Poupard
Chairman

