

THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OLD BOYS' LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

President:	P. Jackson (Uppingham)	
Committee:	C.P. Boden (St. George's) Chairman C.P. Billington (Bradfield) A.J. Blackman (Reeds) J. Booth (King Edward's) G.B. Brown (UCS) R. Cake (Millfield)	J.R. Cooper (Colston's) N. Cummings (Lancing) C.M. King (Stowe) J.B.M. Seddon (St. Paul's) H.B. Weatherill (Malvern) J. Yuill (Wellingborough)
Hon. Treasurer:	Hon. Secretary:	Hon. Match Secretary:
B. Rusling (Malvern)	A.J.K. Tatum (KCS Wimbledon)	J.R. Cooper (Colston's)

ANNUAL REPORT 2006

The Committee has pleasure in presenting its annual report for the year ended 30 November 2006.

2006 AGM & Annual Dinner

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at The Queen's Club on 28th March 2006. Messrs Jackson, Tatum & Rusling were re-elected as President, Hon. Secretary & Hon. Treasurer respectively. Mrs B. Gabriel was re-elected as Hon. Auditor.

Messrs Brown, Cooper, Cummings, Seddon and Weatherill were all re-elected to the Committee, and Mr. Yuill was elected to the Committee for the first time. At the meeting of the Committee, immediately following the AGM, Mr Boden was elected as the Chairman of the Committee for the fifth year. The Committee's Report and the Accounts of the Association for the year ended 30 November 2005 were presented at the AGM and unanimously adopted.

The AGM was followed by the annual dinner, which was also held at The Queen's Club. At the time of asking, Roger Draper, our guest speaker, had been Chief Executive of Sport England. However, by the time of the dinner, Roger had accepted his new job as Chief Executive of the Lawn Tennis Association. We were therefore fortunate to be amongst the first to have the opportunity of hearing Roger's thoughts on the challenge ahead and pose him a few questions ourselves. Altogether it was a great evening.

Match Results - Jonathan Cooper (Hon. Match Secretary) writes:

Another season completed and I am very pleased to be able to report that it was another very successful one for the Pubs. Just one match shy of the record 26 matches completed in 2005, however a higher win/loss ratio enables us to claim an improved performance! 25 matches were played with 12 wins, 5 draws and 8 losses.

The first match of the season saw the Pubs pitted against a strong ISTA team in the Ivory Shield, but the cunning match-play of the Pubs enabled experience to overcome youth and snatch a slim 2½ -1½ victory by virtue of winning the final three sets of the match.

Encouraged by securing the first piece of silverware of the season, the next match saw Ashley Tatum captain his first Pubs team in the Fitzwilliam match. Rights to the Courtney Salver were successfully retained with a 6-3 victory on court. However, a certain amount of confusion during the post-match celebrations accidentally resulted in the Fitzwilliam team taking the salver back to Dublin! Fortunately, Robert Dolman kindly retrieved it from Dublin in time for us to show it off at our annual dinner.

Thanks to a fine summer, very few matches were cancelled due to the weather and notable victories included those against Reeds School, Kings College School, Eton College and Edgbaston Priory. The International Club fixture took place on the grass courts in the grand surroundings of Stoke Park Club and after an extremely exciting final last round, the Pubs narrowly won 5-4.

We were also very lucky to be invited back to Stoke Park Club later in the summer when the Pubs took on the home side in an extremely enjoyable and closely fought match which ended quite appropriately as a draw. The match was then followed by excellent dinner. The Association's very grateful thanks go to the King family for all the hospitality they have shown the Pubs at Stoke Park Club this year.

The match against the All England Club saw a tricky division of loyalties for our Hon. Secretary, where he found himself representing the opposition. A shrewd tactical move as it turned out, as the All England overcame the Pubs team 5-4 in a closely fought match involving no less than four deciding set tie-breaks.

My thanks go to the new members who made their debuts during the season, Adam Dolman, Paul Davey, Steve Debenham, Will Douglas Nic Gorey and Hugo Llewelyn. We hope they, and all other new members, enjoy playing in fixtures in 2007.

Another notable achievement for 2007 was that a record of 47 players represented the Pubs over the course of the season – a great indication of the Association's good health. Special mention should go to Brad Keenes, (Keenes by name, even Keener by nature) who participated in 17 of the 25 matches played and in doing so travelled a staggering 2,800 miles! However, just as he was about to draft his acceptance speech for "most miles travelled", Harry Kinahan ruined it all by appearing in the match against St George's Hill having popped back from his home in Sidney, Australia for a week in the UK!

As always, many thanks go to all the match managers for their efforts in arranging teams.

2007 Fixtures

The 2007 Fixture Card is enclosed with this report. As always there are fixtures for every standard. If you would like to play in any of the fixtures listed, please contact the relevant Match Manager directly, or via our web site (www.psoblta.co.uk) – they will be delighted to hear from you!

Note: It is expected that Members who have agreed to represent the Association in a fixture and later find they are unable to play, will find a suitable replacement for themselves and notify the relevant Match Manager.

D'Abernon Cup

Once again, the D'Abernon Cup first round grouped teams into two pools, with all matches in each pool held at an indoor venue (St. George's College) on a set day. As pool winners and runners-up, Old Wellingtonians, Old Rugbeains, UCS Old Boys & Old Etonians, then joined the previous year's competing semi-finalists in the quarter-final draw. The quarter-finals saw KCS Old Boys, Old Carthusians, Old Wellingtonians & Old Paulines victorious. In the semi-finals, Old Paulines advanced past Old Wellingtonians and KCS Old Boys won through against the Old Carthusians. This meant that the same two teams as in the past five years contested the final at the All England Club. KCS Old Boys were able to repeat the result from last year and retain the cup. Our grateful thanks go to both St. George's College and The All England Club for their generous support of the Association through hosting these events.

Quarter Finals	Semi Finals	Final	Winners
KCS Old Boys (1)	} KCS Old Boys	} Old Paulines (3½ - ½)	} KCS Old Boys (7½ - 1½)
Old Rugbeains			
UCS Old Boys	} Old Carthusians (2-2; 32-29 on games)	} KCS Old Boys (4-0)	
Old Carthusians (3)			
Old Reendonians (3)	} Old Wellingtonians	} KCS Old Boys (4-0)	
Old Wellingtonians			
Old Etonians	} Old Paulines (2½-1½)	} KCS Old Boys (4-0)	
KCS Old Boys (2)			

Last year's Team Captains will have already received entry forms for the 2007 competition. The qualifying round robin days will take place on Saturday, 24th March (Stoke Park Club) & Saturday 14th April (St. George's College, Weybridge).

New Members

Last year your Committee stated that a major objective for 2006 was to recruit more members. We are delighted to report that this has paid off in a very big way with more new members than in any year since the 1970s - an astounding 28 new members. This compares with our recent average of 8 per year since 1990.

The following were elected members of the Association during the year:

Life Members:

Mr. Jamie Allday	Stowe	Mr. Jamie Gibbor	St. Paul's
Mr. Marc Baghdadi	Westminster	Mr. Mark Gibbor	St. Paul's
Mr. Malcolm Booth	King's Macclesfield	Mr. Nic Gorey	Stowe
Mr. Michael Bray	KCS, Wimbledon	Mr. Charlie Linfield	Kent College
Mr. Chris Clark	KCS, Wimbledon	Mr. Hugo Llewelyn	Harrow
Mr. Adam Dolman	Charterhouse	Mr. Stephen Morris	KCS, Wimbledon
Mr. William Douglas	Oundle	Mr. Freddie Neave	Eton
Mr. Peter Dowdeswell	KCS, Wimbledon	Mr. Andrew Nowell	Nottingham High
Mr. Jonathan East	Hampton	Mr. Richard Parton	King Edward's
Mr. Victor Feinstein	Hampton	Mr. Clive Scrivener	St. George's College

Annual Members:

Mr. Stephen Debenham	Haberdasher Askes	Mr. Paul Davey	Millfield
Mr. Simon Hill	Sherborne		

In addition, by virtue of being selected to represent the Independent Schools v. The All England Club, the Association was delighted to offer a 5 Year free membership to the following:

Mr. Robert Blythe	Hampton	Mr. Avinash Murthy	John Lyons
Mr. Alistair Felton	Millfield	Mr. Joe Wood	Millfield
Mr. Tom Liddell	Epsom College		

Recruitment

2006 proved to us that if we inform all of the people we play against about the Association, the result is a serious number of new members. We will be continuing this successful approach in 2007, keeping our focus on getting application forms to as many potential members as possible, ensuring that we utilise key opportunities such as the D'Abernon Cup, matches against schools, ISTA matches and the Youll Cup.

As ever all members are encouraged to be as active as possible in seeking new recruits for the Association. Application forms are printable from the website or available from the Hon. Secretary.

www.PSOBLTA.co.uk

The Pubs website continues to be the place to visit to catch up on the latest results and gossip during the season. We registered over 400 "hits" for the second year running. Now eight years young, the website is proving a great resource for volunteering to play in matches, checking results and even getting maps & directions to our fixtures.

The site is updated at the start of every month & includes:

- Fixture lists
- Facility to register to play in matches
- Latest results & match reports
- Aims of the association
- D'Abernon Cup draw & results
- Membership application forms (downloadable)

Association Merchandise

The following Association merchandise is available from the Hon. Secretary. Visit the website to view a picture:

- Association Ties (Silk).....@ £15
- White Pubs Tennis Shirt with Coloured Collar.....@ £20 *(New Design for 2007!)*

Nominations

The following nominations have been received for the offices of President, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Auditor:

President:	Mr. P. Jackson	Hon. Treasurer:	Mr. B. Rusling
Hon. Secretary:	Mr. A.J.K. Tatum	Hon. Auditor:	Mrs. Barbara Gabriel

The following members of the Committee retire by rotation in accordance with Rule 8 and being eligible offer themselves for re-election: Messrs Blackman, Boden, Booth, Billington, Cake & King.

Mr. Cummings has retired from the Committee after 11 years of service to the Association. The Committee would like to place on record its sincere thanks for all of his considerable efforts in aiding the running of the Association over many years.

The Committee propose Mr. Paul Siviter (Bromsgrove) for election to the Committee for the first time to fill this vacancy. Being eligible, Mr. Siviter offers himself for election.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (29th March 2007): AGENDA

1. To approve the Minutes of the AGM on the 28th March 2006 & consider any matters arising.
2. To receive the report of the Committee and Accounts for the year ended 30th November 2006.
3. To elect the Officers, Committee and Auditor for the year 2007.
4. Any other business