

# THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OLD BOYS' LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

<b>President:</b>	P. Jackson CBE (Uppingham)	
<b>Committee:</b>	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) C.M. King (Stowe) P. Siviter (Bromsgrove) J.B.M. Seddon (St. Paul's) H.B. Weatherill (Malvern) J. Yuill (Wellingborough)
<b>Hon. Treasurer:</b>	<b>Hon. Secretary:</b>	<b>Hon. Match Secretary:</b>
B. Rusling (Malvern)	A.J.K. Tatum (KCS Wimbledon)	J.R. Cooper (Colston's)

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2008

The Committee has pleasure in presenting its annual report for the year ended 30 November 2008.

### **2008 AGM & Annual Dinner**

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at The Queen's Club on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2008. 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, Seddon, Siviter, Weatherill and Yuill were all re-elected to the Committee. At the meeting of the Committee, immediately following the AGM, Mr Boden was elected as the Chairman of the Committee for the sixth year. The Committee's Report and the Accounts of the Association for the year ended 30 November 2007 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. Our guest speaker was Mr. Charlie Wijeratna, the Commercial Negotiations Director for the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games & Paralympic Games in 2012. Members were treated to a most interesting update both on how the Olympics were won for London and most importantly what progress is being made in preparation for 2012.

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

The 2008 season completed despite the showering of rain last summer and I am very pleased to report it was a successful one. 23 matches played of which 15 were wins, 3 draws and only 5 losses. And the stat for this year is that the number of wins obtained was the highest recorded for a season.

The season started with our friends from the Fitzwilliam Club, Dublin coming over to play the PSOBLTA at the All England Club. After the 9-0 thrashing of the Pubs in 2007, we were hoping for a kinder result. The match was highly entertaining and closely fought and after seven rubbers the match was poised at 4-3 to Fitzwilliam. The remaining two matches were in a deciding champions' tie-break. The first match to finish went the way of the Pubs, the score standing at 4-4. One match left to finish, 8-8 in the tie-break and two points later the rubber and match were decided, which, I am very pleased to report, went the way of the Pubs, 5-4 the overall score. Captain Ashley Tatum played a fine role as skipper and as if it were a Hollywood script played in the deciding & winning rubber! The Courtney Salver returned to England and at the annual dinner you will be able to see whether it has been retained for 2009.

Other notable wins in the year included the Civil Service, Kings College School, St Georges Hill, Queens Club and Edgbaston Priory (which was played on the 27 December 2008!) Unfortunately, the ISTA team were too strong for the PSOBLTA and deposed of us 4-0. We are already planning our revenge for 2009!

Another notable match in the year was to celebrate the centenary of Stoke Park Club, which saw Stoke Park Club pit its wits against a combined team of the PSOBLTA, All England and International Club. A thoroughly enjoyable day was had in the impressive surroundings of Stoke Park and despite Lee Childs representing Stoke

Park Club; the combined team gained a victory. Our thanks go to the King family for their continuous support of the PSOBLTA.

Many thanks to all 32 players who represented the Pubs in the season and once again a special mention should be made to Brad Keenes, who was once again the most capped player with 16 appearances. Will there be a new contender for his title in 2009...?

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

## 2009 Fixtures

The 2009 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](http://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.*

## 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Tournament and Barbeque

Your Committee have given considerable thought as to what we should do to celebrate the Association's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. We concluded we should focus on what we do best – play tennis and have fun! Therefore, on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> August, we shall be holding a members' doubles tournament at Stoke Park Club. This will be followed by a barbeque for competitors, supporters and any other members who would like to attend. The finer details of the format are yet to be confirmed, but will involve each participant playing with as many partners as possible. If you are interested in playing or supporting, please register by emailing the Hon. Secretary at [Ashley.Tatum@btinternet.com](mailto:Ashley.Tatum@btinternet.com).

## 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 or Stoke Park Club) on a set day. As pool winners and runners-up, Old Reedonians, Old Westminster, Old Paulines, and Old Radleians, then joined the previous year's competing semi-finalists in the quarter-final draw.

In the quarter-finals, KCS Old Boys, Old Reedonians and UCS Old Boys were decisive winners whilst the Old Carthusians edged through after a games countback. In the semi-finals, both KCS Old Boys and Old Reedonians advanced without the loss of a single rubber, the latter against last year's runners up, UCS Old Boys. The final at the All England Club was played on the grass courts in beautiful sunshine. In a competitive match Old Reedonians, beat the holders, KCS Old Boys, by a margin of 7-2 to win the cup for the first time. Our grateful thanks go to Stoke Park Club, 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 (2.5-0.5)	} KCS Old Boys (4-0)	} Old Reedonians (7-2)
Old Westminster			
Old Paulines	} Old Carthusians (2-2)	} Old Reedonians (4-0)	
Old Carthusians (3)			
Old Bromsgrovians (3)	} Old Reedonians (w/o)	} Old Reedonians (4-0)	
Old Reedonians			
Old Radleians	} UCS Old Boys (4-0)		
UCS Old Boys (2)			

This year's competition is already underway. The qualifying round robin days will take place on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> April (St. George's College, Weybridge) & Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> April (Stoke Park Club).

## New Members

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

### Life Membership:

Mr. Tim Barkey	KCS, Wimbledon	Mr. Michael Hart	St. Edmund's
Mr. Edward Bohling	Felsted	Mr. Blake Hutchins	KCS, Wimbledon
Mr. James Compton-Dando	Framlingham	Mr. Fergus Martin	Tonbridge
Mr. Roly Denman	Eton	Mr. Jan Quant	St. George's College
Mr. Richard Garrett	KCS, Wimbledon		

### Annual Membership:

Mr. Kristian Hunter                      Bradfield

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. Edward Jones	Millfield	Mr. George Hudson	Repton
Mr. Richard Gabb	Millfield	Mr. Joe Salisbury	KCS, Wimbledon
Mr. Andrew Brigham	Repton		

(Mr. Dan Shiner (Cheltenham) was the sixth player in the team, but had already been granted a five year free membership when he represented ISTA the previous year in the same fixture).

## Recruitment

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.

## British Tennis Membership

By virtue of our affiliation to Surrey LTA, all PSOBLTA members are entitled to free British Tennis Membership (guaranteed until at least the end of 2012). Follow the link at [www.PSOBLTA.co.uk](http://www.PSOBLTA.co.uk) to take advantage of this offer. It would greatly assist the Association if Members who have already joined, could log into the British Tennis Website and ensure that they have listed the PSOBLTA as one of their clubs. This may increase the Association's allocation of Wimbledon tickets (currently standing at one pair per year), which in turn can be allocated to Association members who are also British Tennis Members.

### **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 fourth year running. 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 & latest results
- Facility to register to play in matches
- Directions to matches
- 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 pictures:

- Association Ties (Silk).....@ £15
- White Pubs Tennis Shirt with Coloured Collar.....@ £20

## **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.

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## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (25<sup>th</sup> April 2009): AGENDA**

1. To approve the Minutes of the AGM on the 29<sup>th</sup> April 2008 & consider any matters arising.
2. To receive the report of the Committee and Accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008.
3. To elect the Officers, Committee and Auditor for the year 2009.
4. Any other business