



THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OLD BOYS' LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Officers and Committee Members

President

- H.B. Weatherill (Malvern College)

Hon. Secretary

- C.M. Jenkins (St. Paul's School)

Hon. Treasurer

- P. Siviter (Bromsgrove School)

Committee

- A.J.K. Tatum (Chairman) (King's College School, Wimbledon)
- J.H. Barr (Stewart's Melville College)
- J. Basell (Royal Grammar School Worcester)
- C.P. Billington (Bradfield College)
- A.J. Blackman (Reed's School)
- C.P. Boden (St. George's College)
- E.A. Cooper (Bristol Grammar School)
- J.R. Cooper (Colston's School)
- B. Gordon-Smith (Bromsgrove School)
- B. Keenes (Bloxham School)
- C.M. King (Stowe School)
- J. Muirhead (Repton School)

Contact Details

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Annual Report 2022

The Committee has pleasure in presenting its annual report for the year ended 30th November 2022.

New Members

We were delighted to welcome the following members to the Association during the year:

Life Membership

- George Medd-Tacon (Radley College)
- Hugo Medd-Tacon (Radley College)
- Paddy Watts (King's School, Bruton)
- Mark Whitehouse (City of London Freemen's School)
- Dudley Radford (Oundle School)
- Nathan Rudder (Cranleigh School)
- Paul Cowie (Bromsgrove School)
- Nick Nugent (Hampton School)
- James Feneley (Reigate Grammar School)
- Thomas Creighton (Bradfield College)
- Robert Muir (Reed's School)
- Alex Butt (Warwick School)

Annual Membership

- Alex Flory (Rugby School)

2022 AGM

Following the Association's first virtual Annual General Meeting in 2021 due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, it was a relief to hold the 2022 Annual General Meeting at The All England Lawn Tennis Club on 25th April 2022.

Messrs Weatherill, Jenkins and Siviter were elected as President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer respectively. Mrs. B. Gabriel was re-elected as Hon. Independent Examiner.

Messrs E. Cooper, J. Cooper, Gordon-Smith, Keenes, Muirhead and Tatum were all re-elected to the Committee. The Committee's Report and the Accounts of the Association for the year ended 30th November 2021 were presented at the AGM and unanimously adopted.

At the meeting of the Committee immediately following the AGM, Mr. Tatum was re-elected as the Chairman of the Committee.

As Mr. Tatum has since indicated that he will not be seeking re-election as Chairman of the Committee this coming year, the Committee would like to place on record its huge thanks for all his considerable efforts and achievements during his ten years as Chairman.

Under Mr. Tatum's direction, the Association has, amongst other things, added new fixtures, recruited nearly 200 new members, and celebrated its 85th and 90th birthdays in style.

We are extremely pleased that Mr. Tatum has consented to remain as a member of the Committee in order that we may continue to benefit from his guidance and encouragement.

The Committee will elect his successor at their meeting immediately following

the AGM on 13th April. Mr. Jonathan Cooper has been nominated for the position.

2022 Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner followed the AGM where over 65 members and guests enjoyed a thoroughly enjoyable evening at The Courtside at The All England Lawn Tennis Club.

Our 2022 Annual Dinner speaker was Scott Lloyd, CEO of the Lawn Tennis Association. Scott gave a very informative talk about his time at the helm of the LTA along with tackling challenging questions around the sport, given the political climate around the world.



Scott Lloyd at the Annual Dinner

Once again, it was a fantastic evening, and our thanks go to The All England Lawn Tennis Club for the excellent food and service.

Fixtures Report 2022

I am very pleased to report that in 2022, PUBS tennis fixtures returned to their rightful place as the high point in the summer sports calendar, alongside Wimbledon, the women's euros and the six nations...

Regardless of the two year hiatus of matches for some (and despite the occasional uncharacteristically missed volley), it felt like we had never been away.

A total of 20 fixtures took place between March and November with the PUBS taking away a total of 10 wins, 5 draws and 5 losses. A result haul not seen since the halcyon days of 2016.

Some said the 50% win record of the 2021 season and the famed 'almost invincibles' could not soon be repeated, but the PUBS didn't hear the doubters in 2022.

Out of the blocks, and...

The Courtney Salver match kicked off the season in March as we played host to Fitzwilliam LTC at Reed's.



PUBS vs Fitzwilliam LTC

After two rounds of matches, the PUBS team of Jono Gomez, Chris Jenkins, Davor Pavlovic, Rory Pullinger, Ben Rogers and Ben Zuckerman looked neck and neck at 3-3, however an injury and some clutch tennis from Fitzwilliam saw the silverware snatched from our grasp 6-3.

The loss, as I'm sure you can imagine, necessitated a rehabilitative glass of wine with the Fitzwilliam team while watching the 6 nations rugby match at the Queen's Club the next day. Despite our best efforts cheering at the TV however, here too, the Brits came up short. Perhaps the Guinness is the missing secret ingredient... One way to find out I suppose...

The medicine must have worked as wins against Reed's and the Leys School followed in quick succession in April.



PUBS vs Roehampton

By the halfway point at the end of June the tally stood at 6 wins, 3 losses and 1 draw after strong wins against Roehampton, Kings College School, Felsted and the Armed Forces, a draw with Bromsgrove, but bruising losses against impressive Eton College and Cambridge Blues sides.

Onto the home straight...

The PUBS vs IC of GB match, always one of the highlights of the calendar took place on the pristine Grass courts at the All England Club community ground in July with the PUBS sneaking a closely fought 6-3 victory.



PUBS vs IC of GB

The home advantage showed at St George's Hill and there were gentlemen's draws at Cumberland, Ealing, Surbiton, and Edgbaston.

The final two wins of the season came in impressive fashion, with a 4-0 win vs Westside, and in one of the most popular matches of the season, a 6-0 win vs the All England! Well done to Ben Rogers, Jamie Whiteford, Nicholas Nugent, Kristian Hunter, Paul Martin and Jamie Muirhead for regaining the Peter Jackson Cup and for battling through in high quality matches and close-fought tie breaks, against formidable opposition.



PUBS vs AELTC

Since pride comes before a fall, it was perhaps inevitable that Campden Hill would put an end to our winning streak and closed out the 2022 season in November with a 4-0 loss.

Jolly good show!

Overall, 58 different PUBS players took part across the 20 matches in the 2022 season, with the PUBS winning a total of 67 rubbers. Well done to Ben Rogers for earning the most caps, with an impressive 9 appearances!

Thanks to our fantastic match managers for making the games happen, and as always, we are extremely grateful to all of our generous hosts and worthy sparring partners for providing us with your hospitality, rivalry and camaraderie. Fingers crossed; we look forward to seeing you all again in 2023.

The 2023 calendar is currently taking shape and should be published on the website shortly - watch this space. We strongly encourage anyone interested in playing to get in contact with the captains as soon as possible - new members and new players are always welcome to the teams, and it would be great to have as many of you on the court as possible.

Fixture lists, match reports and further photos can be found at www.psoblta.co.uk.

D'Abernon Cup

After a two year break due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we appreciated the return of the D'Abernon Cup for 2022.

Qualifying again welcomed some familiar faces, and qualifying events were held at Reed's School and St George's College in April.



Qualifying - at St George's College

The Old Wellingtonians, Old Bradfieldians and Old Shirburnians qualified from the pool held at Reed's School, and Old Bromsgrovians, Old Westminster and Old Stoics qualified from the St George's College event.

Quarter finals were held in June, with strong showings from our reigning champions, Old Reptonians, and the Old Reardonians on opposite sides of the draw. A walkover was awarded to Old Bromsgrovians, and there was a very tight match between Old Wellingtonians and Old Westminster, with the Old Wellingtonians winning on a countback of 39 games to 34 after being all square on matches and sets!

It was unfortunate to see two walkovers at the Semi-final stage - unfortunately due to last minute drop-outs from both Old Reardonians and the Old Wellingtonians.

The Final - 4th September 2022

Defending champions Old Reptonians took on the Old Bromsgrovians in the final of the 2022 D'Abernon Cup. Hosted by the AELTC and played on the beautiful grass courts of Aorangi the day started in good spirits with a splendid breakfast. After the requisite photoshoot the tennis commenced with both teams looking sharp.



Finalists - Old Reptonians and Old Bromsgrovians

The first round played in some unexpected sunshine was hotly contested and ended with the advantage going to Repton, leading 2-1.

The second round saw a similar pattern with Repton winning the first 2 matches, so it was left to their No.1 pair to complete the win. However, the Old Bromsgrovian 2nd pair fought well and forced a 3rd set championship tie-break. After some excellent tennis and fantastic rallies, Repton managed to secure victory with a 10-6 win. Score 5-1 to Old Reptonians!

After a very welcome lunch the third round was played out as single pro sets, with Old Reptonians manage to win all 3.

Final score 8-1.



D'Abernon Cup 2022 winners - Old Reptonians

Completion of the day's events included a delicious match tea for the players and their guests and many thanks to the AELTC for hosting the match and for looking after us all so well.

Congratulations to the Old Reptonians for their victory!

The completed draw sheet for this year's tournament is overleaf, and we are looking forward to a slightly rejuvenated knockout format for the 2023 tournament (more details to follow soon!).

If you would like to enter a team for the 2023 D'Abernon Cup please contact Chris Jenkins for an entry form (psoblta@live.co.uk).



THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OLD BOYS' LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

D'ABERNON CUP 2022

Round robin

Pool A
David Lloyd Raynes Park
Venue not used

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Pool B
Reed's School
03/04/2022 18:00

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Old Wellingtonians | Q1 |
| Old Bradfieldians | Q2 |
| Old Shirburnians | Q3 |
| Old Caterhamians | |
| Old Oundelians | |
| | |

Pool C
St George's College
09/04/2022 09:00

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Old Bromsgrovians | Q1 |
| Old Westminster | Q2 |
| Old Stoics | Q3 |
| Old Salopians | |
| Old Rugbeians | |
| | |

Knockout

| Quarter-final 19/06/2022 (Rain date - 26 June) | Semi-final 24/07/2022 (Rain date - 31 July) | Final 04/09/2022 at AELTC | Winner |
|--|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Old Reptonians (1) Old Shirburnians (H) | Old Reptonians (H) (3-1) | Old Reptonians (H) (w/o) | Old Reptonians (8-1) |
| Old Westminster Old Wellingtonians (H) | Old Wellingtonians (2-2, 39-34 Games) | | |
| Old Bromsgrovians (H) Old Bradfieldians | Old Bromsgrovians (H) (w/o) | Old Bromsgrovians (H) (w/o) | |
| Old Stoics (H) Old Reptonians (2) | Old Reptonians (4-0) | | |

Notes:

Winners in qualifying are drawn by lot

Runners-up cannot face group winners until final (i.e. group winner is placed in draw position 4, the runner-up of that respective group will be placed in position 7)

Recruitment

In recent years, we have had a good number of new members, both life members and a growing number which have taken advantage of the five-year free trial membership for recent school leavers.

The aim of our five-year trial membership is to provide us the opportunity to introduce many more school leavers to the Association, a significant number of which we hope will chose to apply for Life Membership before their fixed term is completed.

As we grow our fixture list each year, we are keen to continue to grow our membership in parallel so we have more members playing more matches and enjoying what the Association can offer. Please be as active as possible in recruiting members. Application forms can be obtained from the website (www.psoblta.co.uk) or are available directly from the Hon. Secretary.

Website and Social Media

The PSOBLTA website (www.psoblta.co.uk) is the place to find all the latest news from the Association including any new fixtures added during the year, D'Abernon Cup draws and match results.

I am pleased to announce the Association's first official Social Media Manager, Jamie Boden (St George's College). He has subsequently set up our Instagram account, which is being constantly updated.

We have already hit 100 followers, so if you haven't yet followed us, then please do (www.instagram.com/psoblta).

The Association continues to publish news updates via Twitter ([@PSOBLTA](https://twitter.com/PSOBLTA)), so please do join our followers to read the latest news and comments.

We are always looking to add more photos and match reports, so please feel free to send Chris Jenkins anything you would like published.

PSOBLTA Merchandise

A reminder that PSOBLTA merchandise is available including a tie, Nike branded tennis shirts and caps. Merchandise can be purchased by contacting the Hon. Secretary (psoblta@live.co.uk).

Given the excellent value, we encourage all members to wear a PSOBLTA tennis shirt when representing the Association and the Pubs' tie whenever possible!

The following Association merchandise is available:

- Association ties (silk) £15.00
- PSOBLTA Nike Dri-Fit Tennis Shirt £38.95
- PSOBLTA cap £15.00



Finances

The Committee is pleased to report that the Association is in good financial health. The Association's balance sheet at 30th November 2022 reported net assets of £14,839 (30th November 2021: £14,378).

A full set of accounts will be presented at the 2023 AGM.

Nominations

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ President | Mr. H.B. Weatherill |
| ▪ Hon. Secretary | Mr. C.M. Jenkins |
| ▪ Hon. Treasurer | Mr. P. Siviter |
| ▪ Hon. Independent Examiner | Mrs. B. Gabriel |

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

In accordance with Rule 9, Mr. Jamie Boden (St George's College) is proposed for election to the Committee for the first time, thus filling the vacancy created due to Mr. E. Cooper's retirement from the Committee. The Committee would like to thank Mr. E. Cooper for his time on the Committee.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

to be held at The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club, Wimbledon

in The Courtside, at 18.45 on Thursday 13th April 2023

AGENDA

1. To approve the Minutes of the AGM of 25th April 2022 and consider any matters arising.
2. To receive the report of the Committee and Accounts for the year ended 30th November 2022.
3. To elect the Officers, Committee and Independent Examiner for the upcoming year.
4. Any other business.