

SOUTHPORT ARGYLE LAWN TENNIS CLUBwww.argyletennis.net**JUNIOR NEWSLETTER**

2009 proved to be another productive and successful year for our junior members. A full program of coaching, competition and social tennis was enjoyed by our younger and older members. Highlights of the year are detailed below.

We can now look forward to another full program throughout 2010, building on what is already recognised as one of Lancashire's best Club programmes. An outline of our extensive program for the whole year is included with this letter. This includes the Academy Squad Coaching, Match practices, Friday club nights, Camps, Tournaments, Special Party Events, and information on our School links program.

2009 HIGHLIGHTS and ACHIEVEMENTS

Over 100 children participated in the Argyle Junior Development Program.

71 of our juniors participated in playing competitions, tournaments and leagues.

Southport & District League Results

Argyle entered six teams into the Junior leagues, their final placings were:

- 10& Under A Team - **League winner**
- 10& Under B Team - **League runners up**
- 12& Under Team - **League runners up**
- 14& Under A Team - **League winner**
- 14& Under B Team - **League runners up**
- 16& Under Team - **3rd Place**



Nathan Thistlethwaite

Congratulations to all the players who participated in these teams, and a big thank you to the parent captains who looked after the players so successfully.

Southport & District Junior Tournament

Argyle hosted the Southport & District Junior tournament for the third consecutive year. With 18 events, over 100 competitors participated, and Argyle Juniors again imposed themselves, with representatives in 10 finals, winning 8 of the events.

National Junior Club Leagues

Argyle also entered teams into the Lancashire County National Junior Club Leagues. Their final standings were as follows:

- 10 & UNDER BOYS 2nd Place
- 12 & UNDER BOYS 3rd Place
- 14 & UNDER BOYS 2nd Place

ARGYLE JUNIOR TOURNAMENT

Once again competition was very strong throughout 2009.

The coaching team place a strong emphasis on the importance of Matchplay and Matchpractice, and look forward to all our juniors participating in these during 2010.

2009 Roll of Honour Tournament Winners

Mini Red:	Boys: Tom Lawson	Girls: Molly Riding
Mini Green:	Grace O'Malley	
10 & under:	Boys: Sam Chambers	
12 & under:	Boys: Callum Richardson	Girls: Victoria Stoker
14 & under:	Boys: Henry Billington	
16 & under:	Boys: Alex Ashby	

Doubles

10 & under doubles:	Sam Chambers & Nathaniel Ball
12 & under doubles:	Nathan Thistlethwaite & Callum Richardson
14 & under doubles:	Henry Billington & Edward Stoker
16 & under doubles:	Alex Ashby & Jason Kinch
Mixed Doubles:	TBA

2009 Achievement Awards

Girls Progress:	Grace O'Malley
Boys Progress:	Edward Stoker
Mini Progress:	New member: Daniel Doherty Girl: Melissa Kirkham Boy: Tom Preston
Girls Achievement:	Sarah Glover
Boys Achievement:	Sam Chambers
Team Achievement:	Lewis Hible & Jonathan Jones
Sportsperson of the year:	Jason Kinch



And now to 2010

Attached to this letter is your detailed Program Planner for 2010.

ACADEMY SQUADS

The dates for Spring, Summer and Autumn academy program are on the attached year planner. These Squads take place on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

Argyle development squads are designed for all our junior members to receive coaching at a reasonable cost. The Academy starts for those as young as 4 on mini red through to our older juniors aged 16. These squads also enable our juniors to play and compete with other members of a similar age and standard. Your invitation to participate on the Spring squads, commencing in February, is enclosed. Please return this promptly to secure your place.

Please note: Feedback forms for parents and players are pinned to the notice board. Please use these forms for constructive comments with regards to your experiences at the club in addition to the coaching. Your use of these forms will be greatly appreciated.

JUNIOR CLUB NIGHT

Argyle Club Night continues on Friday evenings throughout the year from 7pm to 9pm (8.30pm for U10). This evening is free to all members and is organised by the coaching team. Parents are welcome to stay and take advantage of the warm and comfortable bar facilities!

Please note: A list of safety regulations for junior club night is displayed on the notice board. These rules are for the safety of all our juniors and for the benefit of enjoying Club Night. These are as follows:

ARGYLE JUNIOR CLUB NIGHT - SAFETY REGULATIONS

1. All juniors must report to Terry & Jo on arrival. No junior is allowed to leave the Club premises, without informing Terry or Jo (or volunteer adults, in their absence). This is very important, so that we know each child has been collected by their parent/guardian.
2. Between 7pm and 8pm, only Tennis matches and Tennis related games, organised by Terry and Jo, will be played.
3. Between 8pm and 9pm, less formal Tennis and use of the clubhouse will be allowed
4. Football, Tig and other such games are not permitted. Running around the steps and patio is not permitted.
5. All players must remain within the Tennis courts, Clubhouse, Patio or front lawn area. Players must not go behind the clubhouse or back fencing at Brocklebank Road end.
6. Players are responsible for their own litter and drinks. Unattended cans and bottles will be removed into bins.
7. Any Accidents or injuries MUST be reported to Terry or Jo immediately, and an accident/incident form completed.
8. Friends and relatives of the children are permitted to attend, but must sign the visitors book and register. A charge of £3 will be made.

THESE RULES ARE FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL OUR JUNIORS AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF ENJOYING JUNIOR FRIDAY CLUB NIGHT

TOURNAMENTS

The coaching team will encourage all juniors to participate in playing matches with other players within the club, in addition to playing tournaments within our locality and throughout Lancashire. Information on this is available from Terry and Jo. Further information on tournaments throughout Lancashire can be downloaded from the County Tennis website: www.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/lancashire

Once again we will be placing a big emphasis on competition this year, and will be organising matches at all levels during club night, squads, holiday periods and team matches against other clubs, in addition to encouraging our players to enter tournaments.

Please refer to your year planner for the dates for matchpractices, Southport & District Leagues and Tournaments, and our own Club Tournament & competitions.

Please note: All juniors must have a British Tennis Membership Number to participate in matches. British Tennis membership is FREE to all juniors. If you have not already signed up to this you can do so at www.lta.org.uk/britishtennismembership and follow the links for British Tennis Membership, or contact Terry who will assist you with this.

TENNIS CAMPS

The year Planner indicates the weeks when these take place. Jo and Terry will distribute application forms and further information nearer to the dates. This information will also appear on the Junior notice board, as to the days and times that the Camps will be held during school holidays.

PARTY EVENTS

Dates for these are on your year planner. Prior to each event a notice will be put up which will require you to sign if you wish to participate. This is important to enable us to cater for the correct numbers. E mail information will also be sent to those that have given me their addresses.

SCHOOLS PROGRAM

As in previous years Argyle has close links with many of our local Primary Schools.

Our coaches deliver coaching within these schools and encourage those interested to experience the facilities of our Club.

Each year a number of young school children join our club from this program, and commence the journey that many of our older members have experienced.

Finally, I take this opportunity to wish everyone an enjoyable and successful 2010 at Argyle, and thank all the adults and parents who have volunteered their help to the juniors.

Our Social Committee, Jonathan & Jean Stoker, Nicola, Tracey, Sue and of course the Team Captains for all their support. Thank you.

Playing matches & Tournaments Code of practice for parents and guardians

Encourage your child to learn the rules of tennis and play within them.

Discourage unfair play and arguing with officials.

Help your child to recognise good performance, not just results.

Never force your child to take part in sport.

Set a good example by recognising fair play and applauding the good performances of all.

Never punish or belittle a child for losing or making mistakes.

Publicly accept judgements made by officials.

Support your child's involvement and help them to enjoy their sport.

Use correct and proper language at all times.

Allow your child to play in the Mini Tennis colour stage that is appropriate to them. This will ensure they enjoy playing the game, develop their skills and gain confidence.

Purchase balls and rackets that match the stage your child is in.

Be patient. Steady progression is unusual in children; peaks and plateaus are common.

Your first question following any match should be: "Did you enjoy it?" not "Did you win?"

At no stage should you communicate with your child or interfere with the on-court helpers and referees during a match – just enjoy the game and let officials take care of the rules!