



AVON TENNIS

Avon Tennis

May 2025

Newsletter

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This Newsletter is sent to the Club Main Contact of Avon Tennis Clubs.

Please ensure this is distributed across your tennis club community. If you can't see images, please right click if asked to do so in the pop up box. We hope the new email system is working and this newsletter reaches you.

A NOTE FROM

Kathy Curling - Chair of Avon Tennis Board of Trustees

Avon Tennis is a registered charity and, as such, is obliged to have both a Management Committee (the Exec Committee, Chaired by Carol Weeks) and a Board of Trustees, which I Chair. Trustees do not generally get involved in day-to-day management. They are more strategic, with an oversight responsibility for finance and governance, as well as other functions.

I previously Chaired the Exec Committee for 3 years from 2018, during that interesting Covid lockdown period. What an extraordinary time of growth that was for tennis!

Having started playing tennis at age 10yrs at a club in Belfast, I then played throughout school and university, both socially and competitively. Although I have enjoyed many sports at different stages of my life – hockey, badminton, athletics, cycling, skiing and mountaineering – I am rather a 'jack of all trades and master of none'!

I have been a member of Knowle Lawn Tennis Club for so long, that I have now been awarded Life Membership! At KLTC I was a committee member for several years and then became Chair for 6 years until 2009.

During my 18 years as Parish Councillor for Pensford with Publow, I was aware of the lack of sporting facilities, especially for girls, in our local villages. I was a founder member of Pensford Tennis Club



assisting with raising finance, obtaining planning and other consents, and providing advice to the new committee, who had no previous experience of running a tennis club.

My professional life was as a Town and Planning Consultant. On retirement, I wanted to become more involved in Tennis off the court. To volunteer for Avon Tennis is to join a brilliant team of fun highly motivated people. I am proud to be an ambassador for the Association and delighted to have been given the opportunity to support its work.

EVENTS/COMPETITIONS

60+ Ladies Secure Win

The team enjoyed a brilliant result on Wednesday 14th May with a strong win against Hertfordshire.

Ann Underwood and Sue Locke both delivered confident performances in their singles matches, securing comfortable wins. But the real drama unfolded in the doubles!

Carol Smith and Jo Francis-Pope kicked things off with a tight but composed victory in their first rubber, winning 6-3, 7-6. In their second rubber, they showed incredible resilience—coming back from 3-7 down in the championship tie-break to triumph 10-7.

Jo Cox then stepped in to partner with Ann Underwood for the final doubles match. Once again, nerves of steel were required as they fought back from 4-8 down in the championship tie-break to clinch a thrilling 11-9 win.

Hertfordshire were a pleasure to play—gracious, fair, and complimentary. A great match played in excellent spirit!


Well done, Team Avon!

CLUBS & VENUES

Want to Stay in the Loop with Avon Tennis?

Are you — or someone at your club — keen to get more involved, share ideas, or pick up tips from others across the county?

Then why not join our friendly Avon Tennis Club & Venue Network WhatsApp group! It's a great place to stay connected, swap experiences, and find out what's happening.

➡  Click the link below and join! - we'd love to have you on board!

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/GLQ7Xk9VJJi6CLWbzLh1fj>



Need Help Growing Your Club or Venue?

Did you know our website is full of useful info, ideas, and resources to support your club or venue? From funding and grants to event promotion and bursaries — it's all just a click away! 

👉 [Avon Tennis Website Clubs & Community](#)

👉 [Promoting your club event](#)

What are you planning for Volunteers week?

*If the link doesn't work for you email the office and we can get you added.

👏 Let's celebrate the amazing volunteers who are the **heart of our clubs!** ❤️

📸 Got someone who goes above and beyond?

📷 Send your shout-outs and photos to the office, and we'll share the love on our socials!

🌟 Let's give our volunteers the spotlight they deserve! 🌟 #ThankYouVolunteers

COACHES

Avon Coach **Zoom** Networking Event



LTA
COACH
ACCREDITATION

Wednesday 11th June
10am – 12pm

2 CPD points*
*Via Independent Learning

'Changing the Game'
With **Chris Marshall**
1st Coach to Francesca Jones
LTA UK Park Provider of the Year 2022
Founder of the charity 'Young Champs'

FREE

How to build an inclusive programme by creating revenue streams & pathways for ALL children to thrive:

1. Raise funds to support outreach programmes via crowd funding & local businesses
2. Get players on court AND keep them playing with a subsidised follow on
3. Integrate children from Low Socio Economic Groups within your existing programme
4. Facilitate the pathway for players from LEP from beginner to county level
5. Get support via the 'A Chance for Everyone' campaign supported by Jack Draper

Followed by County & LTA updates – a chance to join with other coaches in Avon to feedback & have your questions answered

AVON TENNIS

Accessible to ALL Avon Coaches!
✓ County & LTA Updates
✓ Funded By Avon Tennis
✓ Aligned with our EDI plan
✓ FREE to ALL Avon Coaches!

We're inviting all **venue volunteers** as well as **coaches** to our next **Avon Coach Network Event** which will be held on Zoom on Wednesday 11th June from 10am-12pm in line with our Equity, Diversity & Inclusivity county objectives.

It's free to attend and here is the link to sign up - [Book here](#)

Chris Marshall will be presenting "Changing the Game" explaining how to fund an inclusive coaching programme by creating revenue streams & a pathway for ALL children to thrive.

OPEN COURT/EDI

There are multiple activities going on across the county to support inclusion.

**Deaf Awareness Week
Tournament – Lansdown
Club, Bath**
Date: Saturday 10th May 2025
Venue: Lansdown Club, Bath

To mark **Deaf Awareness Week**, Lansdown Club hosted a special tennis tournament celebrating inclusivity and raising awareness for deaf and SEND players. The event was supported by the **Blue Sky Tennis Foundation**, which offers year-round opportunities for players of all ages and abilities in the Bath area.

**Walking Tennis Tournament –
Saltford Tennis Club**
Date: April 17, 2025
Host: Andy Gray

Saltford Tennis Club welcomed 12 players for a fun and competitive walking tennis tournament. Played over two hours, the format featured rotating doubles matches—each to 4 games—ensuring everyone served and played with a variety of partners.

Game wins were tracked individually, adding a bit of friendly strategy to the day.

**Pride in Sport Month –
Celebrating Inclusion in
Tennis**
Date: June 2025
Initiative: Pride in Tennis

June marks **Pride in Sport Month**, and since 2022, the **LTA's Pride in Tennis** network has been championing LGBTQ+ inclusion in the game. It's a time to celebrate diversity, support the LGBTQ+ community, and recognise their contributions to tennis.

Here in Bristol, **Bristol Breakers**, the local LGBTQ+ tennis group, runs **weekly**

To learn more about the foundation's work and upcoming sessions click [here](#).

Congratulations to **Jan Marsh**, who came out on top with the most games won!


A brilliant mix of fitness, fun, and camaraderie—thanks to all who took part.

Next event: Thursday 29th May, 11am–1pm – come join us!



social tennis sessions open to all.

If your club or venue is looking to become more inclusive and welcoming, **Pride in Tennis** can provide helpful guidance and resources. Plus, the Avon Tennis office has one **free Pride in Tennis pack** available – including flags, wristbands, and dampeners.

 **Email the office** to request a pack and show your support!

SAFEGUARDING

On Saturday the 4th October 2025, in support of the NSPCC CPSU Keeping Your Child Safe in Sport Week, the LTA will be running its Safe to Play Annual Safeguarding Conference. More details in coming months but you can already secure your spot.

Book your place [here](#)

AVON LEAGUES



Current league standings after 2 weeks

Division	Mens	Division	Womens
1	Bath 1	1	Central 1
2A	Cotham Park 1	2A	Clifton 2
2B	Cotham Park 2	2B	Almondsbury 1
3A	Cleeve Hill 2	3A	Somer Valley 2
3B	DL Westbury 2	3B	Kings 1
4A	Sodbury 3	4A	Bishop Sutton 1
4B	Thornbury	4B	Almondsbury 2
5A	Congresbury 1	5A	Clevedon
5B	Kings 2	5B	Bishop Sutton 3
6A	Sodbury 5	6A	Cotham Park 2
6B	Bath 3	6B	Henleaze 2
7A	Downend & Frenchay 4		
7B	DL Westbury 5		
8A	Central 5		
8B	Cotham Park 6		
8C	Saltford 2		
8D	Henleaze 2		
9A	Sodbury 9		
9B	Bath 4		



Keep up with all the latest results, updates, and highlights from your clubs, teams, and players in the Avon Men's and Women's Summer Leagues – click below to follow the action!

Men's

Women's

UPCOMING DATES

- * 2 - 8 June - National Volunteers Week [Volunteers week](#)
- * 7 - 8 June - 10U Girls and Boys County Cup Finals
- * 1 - 30 June - Pride in Sport Month

AND FINALLY!

QUIZ TIME FOR THE KIDS

It's nearly the Grass Court season in the UK and before we know it Wimbledon will be back on our screens, but how much do our young people know about the Championships?

Test their knowledge with this BBC Bitesize quiz. Please send in your child's results (name and age) and we will publish a leader board next month.

TAKE THE QUIZ

🎾 Just like in tennis... we've got some *house rules*! 🧠💥

🚫 No helping the children (they're smarter than you think!)

🏆 First attempts only – trust your instincts!

🔍 No Googling – we're watching you! 😊

🎉 Most importantly... **have fun!** 😄

Avon Tennis

Coombe Dingle Sports Centre, Bristol
United Kingdom



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[Sorry to see you go.](#)

