

Tennis Year 2019



Over the new year break the club held a senior/junior singles tournament. Great weather and fun was had between the older and not so old warriors and we ended up with two juniors in the final with Conal winning against Bruce in a high standard final. A great start to the year.

Woodlands National school paid us a visit in February as part of our schools outreach programme and over 100 5-7 year olds had a fun morning trying out tennis and enjoying the exercise.

We started an Adult Beginners/rusty returners class in March with over 30 participating and a large number deciding to join the club after the 8-week programme.

Thanks to North west Sporting Pathways for their kind sponsorship of this initiative.

The club hosted the Northwest junior League Finals in April for all the clubs in the region including Letterkenny Derry Coleraine Butthall Ramelton Limavady. Letterkenny were fortunate enough to win the u14 and u18 events and congratulations to all involved.

April saw the return of the popular St.Bernadettes Tennis Programme with the Transition year students from Loreto St.Eunans and Colaiste Ailigh. This is a great inclusion and School/community programme where the Transition year students buddy up with special needs children from all across the county. This year



saw the awarding of Certificates endorsed by tennis Ireland and Donegal sports partnership to the 60 participating students.

April saw the Club running the North West Junior Open for a second year in a row. This is a tennis Ireland event and the club had 40 juniors participating, many



playing competition for the 1st time. There were winners among each grade and the week was a tremendous success. A special mention for our first u10's competition that was played in April which was a great fun event for our future champions.

John McGahon of Macx Academy and Paul Casey provided a great weekend of elite academy coaching





for Juniors and adults over the May Bank Holiday weekend. John who is the current Irish Federation cup team captain and Paul have a proven track



record in producing national winners and professionals and it was a great coup for the club to get this team to Donegal.



Thanks to North West Sporting Pathways for helping sponsor this innovative programme. 60 juniors and 20 adults benefited from these guys expertise and knowledge over the 2 days in glorious sunshine.



Following on the beginners 8-week programme in March the group did a further 8 weeks culminating in a beginners fun tournament organised by the energetic and enthusiastic Sheila O'Donnell.



The local secondary Schools continue to support Tennis with 6 school teams in the Ulster schools cups. Special mention to Colaiste Ailigh boys senior team who made it to the semi-finals of the u18 competition.



The club also organised the now annual junior tournament trip to Castlebar with 30 juniors from u12 to u18 staying for the week and enjoying the team building in a very singular sport. Thanks to the parents gave their time and acted as chaperones/housekeepers for the week!

The club also ran the Parks Summer Camp for children u16 throughout the month of July with 80+ children getting the opportunity to try tennis for the 4 weeks.





The social event of the year was the club open day and members Barbecue. In glorious sunshine the club hosted a large number of interested adults and children who were visiting the club for the first time to try out tennis fun and games. Later in the day members and guests enjoyed food and drink at the Barbecue late into the night . A great club event.



There was a strong representation at the Fermanagh junior open at Irvinestown and the Limavady Junior Open in August with over 30 juniors playing with some winners. Thanks to the parents for sharing the driving rota which is essential to the success of our junior competition participation.



Congratulations to our juniors Sean Alex and Julia on being selected for the County Senior team for the quadrangular competition in September.



A massive Congratulations to our long-standing member Mary Barry for her fantastic performances representing Ireland at Senior Level this year and ending the season as National Senior Champion. A great role model for our Juniors.



We had 16 juniors representing themselves and the club in the end of year regional matchplay finals with 9 qualifying for the Provincial finals in Belfast later in the month. Congratulations to all our juniors on a great effort throughout the year.

The club continues to go from strength to strength with a full programme of activities for both adults and juniors throughout the year. Club teams compete in the Northwest Leagues with grades A B C catered for in mens and ladies categories.

To find out more or for the latest news updates and what the club has to offer please follow us on our website letterkennytennisclub.com, Facebook or Instagram: [tenniskc](https://www.instagram.com/tenniskc) or subscribe to our youtube channel.

2020 promises to be an exciting year with the development of the land site into u10s mini courts and a possible 5th court with the grant we were awarded in 2018. As we head towards the end of the year we are awaiting news on our existing grant application to see if we can do further development.

Thanks to all the committee, our sponsors and hard pressed parents for all your work and help throughout the year.

