

2020 year review



2020 will be remembered more for what did not happen than what actually did happen.

The Club started the year with a long list of events and initiatives for young and old, new and seasoned pros to get out on court playing tennis. During the new year holidays the club ran a mens singles closed competition which had over 20 entries and it was a great start to the year. Sadly things did not stay so great. The first event on the junior calendar was the Ulster Western u14 Regional Match plays hosted by the club. The Club had 12 players compete in this regional event. Also in February the Club coach and junior parents organised a training trip to the

indoor regional Tennis Centre at Castlebar. 20 of our most promising juniors aged 10-18 years were invited to attend a 2-day training and matchplay event with



their Connacht counterparts under the supervision of Dan Irimia and national Performance Director Garrett Barry. All this extra training was to be helpful for the extensive

programme of events planned for the junior section starting with our own national North West Junior open Tournament during the Easter holidays but sadly all competitions were postponed by St.Patricks Day. This included all boys and girls Secondary School tennis competitions, our successful St.Bernadettes/ TY students Programme and all Open competitions for Adults and Juniors. Fortunately, we were offered the opportunity to host our Junior Open event in late August and with restrictions and protocols in place, proved to be very successful with entries from all over the country. A total of 96

entries were received across all the age groups with over 30 of our own juniors taking part with some local success stories

The club in conjunction with Donegal Sports Partnership had







club secured through the National Capital Sports Grant initiative a few years ago. We would like to thank the Council for their help in getting to this stage. We would also like to thank the Club committee for their hard work in ensuring members stayed safe by following the guidelines and protocols as laid down by our governing body. A thought at this time for our hard pressed sponsors, we would like to thank most sincerely all of our sponsors for their continued support and in recognition of the difficult times they find themselves in the Club would like to urge all our members to shop and support local wherever possible. This year the Club will not be looking for any financial sponsorship from any sponsor in solidarity until these difficult economic times have improved for all.

And finally, to our members and Tennis friends, we hope you all stay safe and positive together until we get through to the other side and we look forward to the day we can get back on court with our dear friends and families.



organised Regional Junior academy classes once a month scheduled from March in collaboration with Ulster tennis coaches Steven Garvan and Carlos Miranda, but lockdown put an end to that. Hopefully we will get it up and running in 2021. One of the most pleasing features of this year saw the increase in family memberships. Tennis Ireland did a great job getting Tennis Clubs up and running after the initial lockdown with Tennis being recognised as a safe sport for Families to play together. The club set aside family time slots and the schedule was full each day. The Club also managed to run a number of successful Adult beginner classes during the year with a good number of memberships take ups afterwards. Another positive story this year is the progress being made on the development site next to the club which has been kindly given to the club by the Council. Work has finally begun on the construction of a 5th court and mini courts for the u10s. We hope to have these facilities available for play in the springtime and will form the surface for the next phase of the clubs plans for indoor court space. Much of this work has been made possible with the grant money that the





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