

THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION



GLOUCESTERSHIRE TENNIS

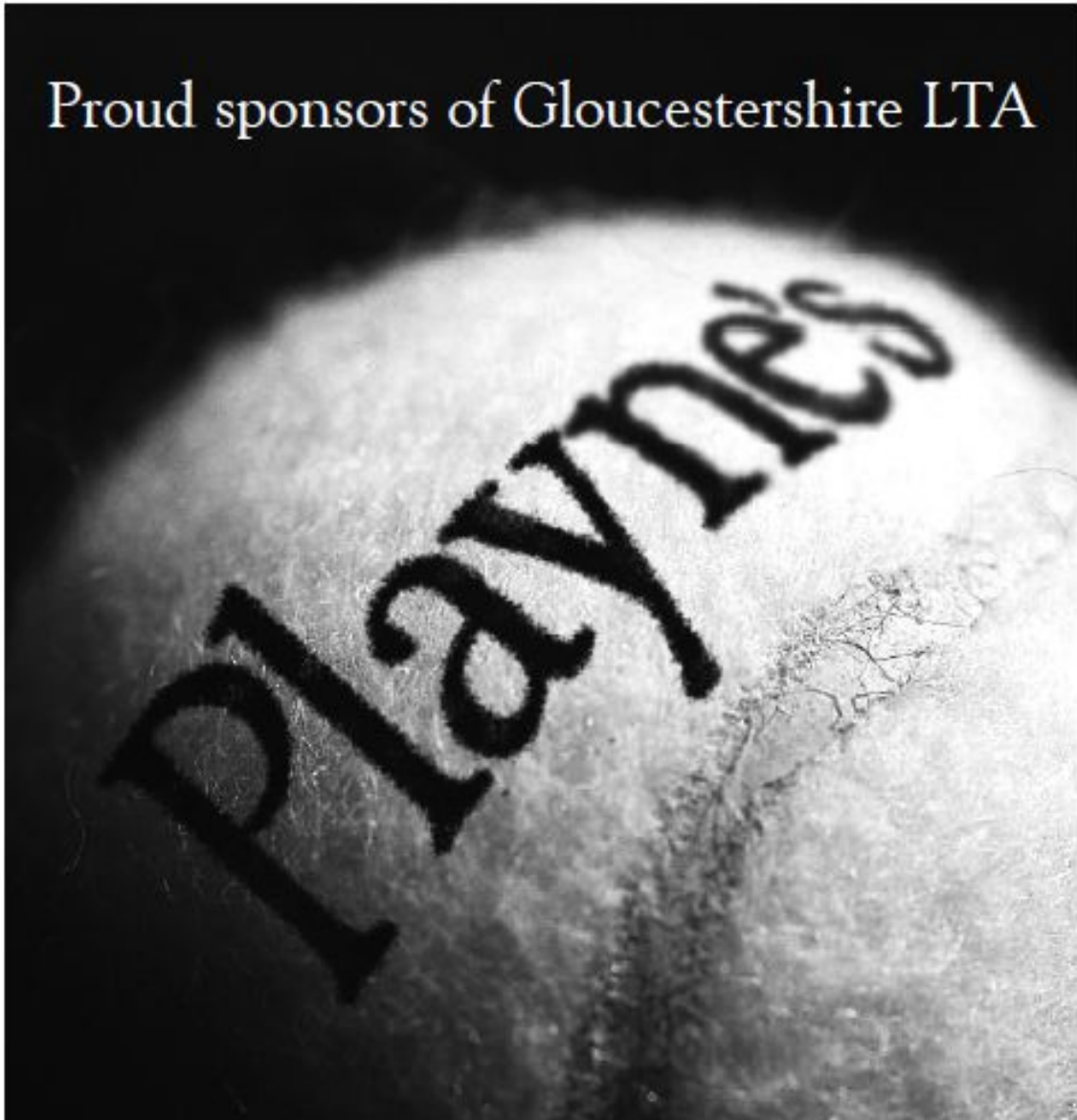
ANNUAL REPORT 2021



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GLOUCESTERSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To: *All members of the Association - clubs, community venues, individual patrons and our generous sponsors.*

It is my great pleasure in my capacity as President of the Gloucestershire Lawn Tennis Association (GLTA) to report, for the first time, on the wide range of activities and initiatives that have been undertaken in 2021.

Gloucestershire tennis has been able to return to play as pandemic restrictions were lifted. We continued to embrace the new guidelines and the report reflects the achievements of our players.

Gloucestershire Ladies were really excited to be competing in Group 3 of the Summer County Cup for the first time in over 20 years, under the leadership of Captain, Esther Curtis. The team got off to a strong start with a win over Norfolk. Despite the extraordinary hot weather their achievements secured them promotion, once again, for the fourth consecutive summer county cup. Next year the Gloucestershire Ladies will compete in Group 2, a remarkable achievement.

The Mens summer county cup week also started promisingly and the team had promotion in their sights. A strong team and pairings during the week saw the Gloucestershire Mens promoted to Group 6 under the captaincy of Ben Knapp.

The County Training programme has performed well during the year, and we were one of only a few counties that were able to run County Training through the pandemic as restrictions eased.

An Adult Wheelchair Matchplay session was arranged during County Championships and the doubles winner received the late, great, "Terry Parker Trophy". Several of our Junior and LD minicamp players also participated in tactical coaching, point play and fun games. More events for the county are being planned and hoped to be ready for the Cheltenham Open in April 2022.

It was great to see the Road to Wimbledon Competition back in action during July with a record number of venues entered. The Summer National League also took place without interruption and pleasing to see new venues entering and winning - well done Moreton Aces! Congratulations to all Team Tennis players.

Following a disappointing year last year of no play, it was good to see the seniors out and about playing. Well done to the Ladies Over 35s who secured promotion to Group 3 next year.

Our social media activity has continued to increase informing us of events, what's happening and announcing achievements. <https://gloucestershiretennis.co.uk/> Please continue to feedback any comments to Sarah Dorkings, our County Administrator.

The report includes the winners of the Gloucestershire Tennis Awards 2020/2021. Congratulations to all the volunteers, coaches and players who received an Award. Frampton Tennis Club received a number of awards for their players; Lydney Tennis Club won Club of the Year following the devastating flooding and being able to open their 4 courts for play. Performance Coach of the Year was won by Joe Waters from Frampton Tennis Club, and we were delighted to nominate Graham Baum from Redmarley Tennis Club for the LTA Presidents Award. The Awards were presented by LTA President, David Rawlinson, at an outside ceremony hosted at East Gloucestershire Club.

The provisional accounts show Gloucestershire LTA has made a small loss despite receiving a reduced grant from the LTA. The Council continues to manage the finances to ensure the best possible support is provided for all our activities and is most grateful to our main sponsors Courtstall Services Ltd, WSP Textiles Ltd and Dunlop International Europe Ltd. My personal thanks go to Gill Willoughby, Treasurer, as she continues to manage and guide us through these times.

In conclusion, in my first year of presidency, could I thank all those who have helped Gloucestershire Tennis along the way. Thanks also go to the GLTA Council Chairman, Enzo Mora for his leadership throughout the year; Gill Willoughby as mentioned above; Michelle Douse in her role as Honorary Secretary and Sarah Dorkings, County Administrator; to the League Committee; to the Coaches Committee for their continued work and support to players; colleagues not mentioned; and lastly to all the hard-working club volunteers. Also, Christine Rivers (Junior Committee Chair) who recently stepped down from this role but will continue her hard work on the Awards Committee.

I hope to see some of you via Zoom at our AGM on Monday 6 December.

I wish Gloucestershire Tennis continued success in the future.

Michael Angell

President

Gloucestershire LTA

Gloucestershire Mini, Junior, Senior, Padel and Disability County Championships 2021

A big thank you to East Glos Club and Oxstalls Sports Park for once again proving to be excellent venues for the County Championships. As the organisers we are very appreciative of the memberships, club officers and professional staff. The tournament provides a showcase of all the players from the different clubs across the county.

The 2021 event saw the introduction of new events to County Championships with Padel Tennis, Wheelchair, Learning Disability and 11U competitions all catered for as well as a focus on finals day and a presentation including BBQ. Entry numbers were virtually identical compared to 2019 (241 v 242). 2019 saw a trend upwards in participation. There was player representation from 21 Clubs within the County and the 2021 results were:

Event	Winner	Runner Up
Mens 50+ Singles	Tristan Gemmill	Paul Benbow
Mens 35+ Singles	Rathnam Sundaram	Andrew Bates
Open Mens Doubles	Alex Johnston & Mark Witten	Max Lacount & Jason Smart
Open Mens Singles	James Findlay	Alex Johnston
Adult Wheelchair – Terry Parker Trophy	Ed Barrett & Steve Binns	Paul Arnold & Rob Holliday
18U Boys Singles	Joseph McCoubrie	Ellison Minnaar
18U Boys Doubles	Sam Austin & Ellison Minnaar	Reece Ihle-Matthews & Joseph McCoubrie
16U Girls Singles	Hannah Watkins	Julia Ratuszna
16U Boys Singles	Ellison Minnaar	Evan Baker
16U Girls Doubles	Julia Ratuszna & Hannah Watkins	Serena Ihle-Matthews & Milly Ponting
16U Boys Doubles	Sam Austin & Ellison Minnaar	Evan Baker & Aidan Donnelly
14U Girls Singles	Milly Ponting	Esme Crompton
14U Boys Singles	Lewis Moore	Edward Bennett
14U Girls Doubles	Esme Crompton & Amelia Moore	Grace Vertrand & Eva Haynes
14U Boys Doubles	Aidan Donnelly & Ethan Stott	Edward Bennett & Harrison Vickery
12U Girls Singles	Eva Haynes	Lucy Perry
12U Boys Singles	Lewis Moore	Oliver Harmer

12U Girls Doubles	Lucy Perry & Rosey Townsend	Eva Haynes & Molly Hyde
12U Boys Doubles	Oliver Harmer & Lewis Moore	Cameron Greaves & Stanley Jones
11U Girls Singles	Eva Haynes	Lucy Perry
11U Boys Singles	Sebastian Heather	Sebastian Coventry
10U Girls Singles	Lily Bennett	Venai Minnaar
10U Boys Singles	Corin Floyd	Flynn Ponting
10U Boys Doubles	Corin Floyd & Cameron Stott	Jonty Lloyd & Flynn Ponting
10U Girls Doubles	Arunpat Kidhen & Venai Minnaar	Lily Bennett & Sophie Crompton
9U Girls Singles	Lily Bennett	Lilian Seale
9U Boys Singles	Benjamin Zheng	Jonah Harmer
8U Girls Singles	Lilian Seale	Emily Hyde
8U Boys Singles	Bertie Stotesbury	George Pitt

A trend in previous years has been low entries for Girls events. It was encouraging therefore that numbers for the 14U and 16U were all higher than in 2019.

Tournament headliners were Lily Bennett (9U and 10U Singles), Eva Haynes (11U and 12U Singles), Lewis Moore (12U Singles, 12U Doubles and 14U Singles) and Ellison Minnaar (16U Singles, 16U Doubles and 18U Doubles). Congratulations to all winners, runners up and everyone who competed throughout the week.

To continue developing the event we do need a sponsor to help support with the costs for the event and enable the tournament to continue to flourish, in return we can promote your business to all players and clubs in the County, as well as naming rights for the tournament.

We will continue to try to develop the Senior singles and doubles events targeting Club and League players with the message that the tournament is suitable for those of all standards and build on the inclusivity of the tournament. We will also try to develop new ideas for 2022 to include Padel events for 14U, 18U and Mixed Doubles. If anyone is interested in helping or supporting the event in any way, please don't hesitate to contact one of us.

Darren Morris, Simon Corbishley and Adam Toulson
 Gloucestershire County Championships Organising Committee

Gloucestershire Junior County Tennis 2020 – 2021 report

Being able to compete at County Cups again this year has been fantastic for the players. We were able to run County Training sessions during the first term and adhered to all covid rules and when the restrictions came in from January it meant we had to postpone all other sessions. We were one of only a few counties that were still able to run County Training during this time, so it is great that we were able to offer it to our players after such a difficult year. As soon as we came out of lockdown we ran some County Training camps during the Easter holidays. These sessions were 4 hours long and we ran them for every age group. The attendance was great as was the feedback from parents. On the second week we organised a friendly match against Wiltshire and it was great for players to be able to compete again after so long. It was also great to have an LTA representative attend the camp, and he said it was something he would like to see replicated in other counties.

While things have changed due to covid, our players have demonstrated such maturity and awareness when adhering to new guidelines that were not in place before, and they were excited to be training again.

This year, instead of organising a County sift for the youngest players we highlighted a number of important County events that were scheduled. We had County coaches attend to watch the players compete. From this we were able to select players for County Training (starting in September 2021) based on their performance and other factors. There has been a significant change in the County Training structure this year with County Training running on a weekly basis for U11s, U12s, U14s, U16s and U18s. This will enable county players to come together more frequently. It is always great to see our Junior players training together regularly and such an important element of what we do. This new structure has already started and we have had a really positive start and great attendance from players. County Training for U8s, U9s and U10s will remain on a monthly basis on a weekend.

As always, myself and the other coaches will continue to assess the players and invite them to County Training if appropriate.

A huge thank you to all of the coaches involved in the training – Pete Russell, Jason Poole, Kristian Newman, Mark Lunn, Esther Curtis, Matt Yemm, Laura Eales, Pete Webb and Joe Waters – for all their hard work and Sarah Dorkings for all her support.

Nick Edwards

County Admin Report 2021

Time was called on Covid and as restrictions started to lift, play slowly resumed.

The Road to Wimbledon Competition was back in action in July. Record number of venues entered the preliminary stages, these were hosted in venues in a format to suit the individual venues. The winners were invited to take part in the county finals, which took place at Oxstalls Sports Park.

The overall winners, Ed Bennett and Milly Ponting successfully went through to the National Road to Wimbledon Finals which took part at Wimbledon.



Winter National League had a bumpy ride, lockdowns stopped it from running as the league we know; however, it did give venues the extra opportunity to play against neighbouring clubs, which was well received given the lack of competition throughout the year.



The Summer National League was played without interruption, the 8U was hosted at Oxstalls Sports Park as a one-day event with 6 teams taking part. It was great to see new venues entering teams and thus going onto win the title! Well done to newbies Moreton Aces!

All other age groups from 9U – 18U were organised and hosted within the venues. Thank you to all team captains and parents for being great competition organisers! Winners of league which took place are:

9U Division 1 David Lloyd Zverev
9U Division 2 Painswick
10U Division 1 Beckford & David Lloyd Murray
11U Boys East Gos
11U Girls East Gos
U12 Boys Division 1 East Gos
U12 Boys Division 2 Beckford
U14 Boys East Gos
U14 Girls East Gos
U16 Boys East Gos
U18 Boys Lechlade

The Year 8 & 10 Team Tennis Schools Competition started in earnest, however there was a lot of nervousness within schools and no fixtures were played.

Sarah Dorkings

Gloucestershire Coaches Committee

The last year has been a very challenging one for coaches and clubs across Gloucestershire. The Covid restrictions have impacted heavily on our industry, but we are beginning to get back on track with the reopening of clubs since the end of March this year.

The coaches committee have explored different ways of providing support and guidance for the workforce across the county including social media posts introducing the new committee, giving coaches the opportunity to feedback on areas of interest and continually updating on events, etc. We organised quiz opportunities during the lockdown period and in February, helped facilitate an online coaches networking event including guest speakers and breakout rooms providing coaches with a chance to discuss and feedback relevant topics in a collaborative manor.

The committee will continue to explore ways of bringing the coaches across the county together and with restrictions easing, plan to implement face to face workshops later in the year including guest presenters.

Steve Worsley

Disability Committee

I'm pleased to say for the first time (I believe) we had disability tennis events running alongside the County Championships. We ran an Adult Wheelchair Matchplay session with the doubles winners receiving the late, great "Terry Parker Trophy". Terry Parker was an instrumental figure in the creation and implementation of disability tennis within the county and he is sorely missed. To be able to hold an event with a trophy in his name (with the blessing of his family) is very fitting and ensures his legacy continues.



We also ran a Junior Wheelchair and LD Mini Camp which included tactical coaching, point play and fun games. 7 players participated and had a great time. Thanks to committee volunteer and specialist coach Adam Toulson for organising with Simon Corbishley and to coaches Georgie Barnes and Ethan Cowley for coaching at the events.

Sarah Dorkings has taken on the role of "Open Court Lead" for the county and we plan to work closely together for the rest of 2021 and into 2022 to expand the provision. A small pot of funding is available if you/your club is interested in running a session/open day etc. We are looking at scheduling some "open your doors" courses hopefully in person and to run some more events alongside the Cheltenham Open in April 2022. Hopefully off the back of the Paralympics and some British successes we will get more players showing an interest.

We are still actively looking for more volunteers for the disability tennis committee, if you or your club/venue are interested please get in touch.

Steve Wigg

Men's County Cup Report July 2021, Hunstanton, Norfolk – Group 7

County Team – Rhodri Atkinson, James Findlay, Ben Knapp (Captain), Chris Morrow, Matthew Morrow, Jasper Richardson, Zach Webb, Henry West.



Gloucestershire promoted to Group 6, 2nd in the group – well done team.

With no County Cup in 2020 the team was very much looking forward to the week playing on the grass courts on the Norfolk coast. Practice prior to the event had been somewhat hampered by COVID and the team duly followed the COVID guidelines during the week.

New rule changes meant that 3rd sets were replaced by Championship Tie breaks and Team Captains were allowed to come on court at the end of each set to speak to their players.

The team started the week (the hottest of the year) with positive intentions to get promoted. Despite the Gloucestershire team making a promising start by winning the first round of matches 2-1 against Sussex, the team were disappointed to lose 6-3. Each of the three pairs (Chris Morrow/Rhodri Atkinson, Jasper Richardson/Matt Morrow and James Findlay/Zach Webb) won a rubber each.

At the time it appeared that Sussex might be the strongest team in the Group. As it turned out they were with their first pair winning all 15 of their rubbers and Sussex beating every other team.

Tuesday proved a more successful day starting with an unchanged team against South of Scotland, winning 9-0. In the final round Henry West made his Men's debut playing with Ben Knapp.

Wednesday saw the team play Cornwall, one of the stronger teams in the group. After Tuesday's win the starting pairs remained the same. In a competitive match Gloucestershire prevailed 6-3. Chris Morrow and Rhodri Atkinson won all three of their rubbers and the other pairs both won a deciding Champions tie break.

By Thursday it became clear that if Gloucestershire could beat Northumberland then the team stood a high chance of gaining promotion. Again the Gloucestershire pairings were unchanged.

In another successful but long day the team beat a highly competitive Northumberland 6-3. The team started off by winning all three of the first round of rubbers including a great straight sets win over the Northumberland 1st pair by Matt Morrow and Jasper Richardson. Chris Morrow and Rhodri Morgan won all three of their matches including a very tense 10-8 win in the Champions Tie break over the Northumberland first pair. Zach Webb and James Findlay also beat their third pair counterparts from Northumberland.

On Friday the Gloucestershire team beat Bedfordshire 8-1 thereby securing promotion due to achieving second place and promoted to Group 6 (Bedfordshire conceded the last 3 rubbers).

The day was not without incident as unfortunately Rhodri Atkinson, at the beginning of the second set against Bedfordshire's 1st pair, severely impacted his left shoulder as he ran into a post in the back netting whilst chasing a lob. After an injury time out, and with Chris Morrow's assistance, they completed a straight sets victory. We hope that Rhodri's shoulder fully recovers.

Zach Webb and James Findlay beat Bedfordshire's 2nd pair on a Champions Tie break.

My thanks go to the team for their commitment, enthusiasm and their will to win. This latter attribute was demonstrated by the team's Champions Tie breaks record, winning 5 out of 7 played in the week, a 71% success rate.

Overall, it was a great team effort with Chris & Rhodri being undefeated over the last four days of the week. Jasper & Matt delivering some crucial wins at second pair and Zach and James winning approximately two thirds of their matches.

The team was also grateful for the support of the various parents who made the long journey to support the team.

Ben Knapp

Gloucestershire Men's County Captain

Gloucestershire Ladies Annual Report 2021



Left to right:
Olivia Rook
Lissey Barnett
Sophie Brazell
Esther Curtis (Captain)
Charlotte Russell
Laura Eales (Vice Captain)
Eleanor Findlay
Regi Ristic-North
(Not pictured; Elisha Hande)

After a long wait following Winter County Cup at the end of 2019, Gloucestershire Ladies were raring to get back on court for Summer County Cup this year where we competed in Group 3 for the first time in over 20 years at that level.

We were fortunate to be able to field one of the strongest teams in the history of my captaincy, and we got off to a fantastic start with a win over Norfolk. In the searing heat, the wins kept coming and we went on to beat Buckinghamshire, Cheshire and Derbyshire; winning 27 rubbers and losing just 9 by the end of day four.

This incredible feat meant that we went into the last day having already secured promotion. What a luxurious, and unexpected, position to be in! This marked the 4th Summer County Cup promotion in consecutive years.

Next year we will compete in the dizzy heights of Group 2. Another first for the Gloucestershire Ladies in my time as Captain and something, I've been told, you'd need to scroll back through the history books to find the last occurrence of.

I am so proud of my team's achievements and feel very lucky to have their commitment to representing Gloucestershire, and their dedication to the success of the Gloucestershire Ladies team. Thank you all!

Winter County Cup 2021 is scheduled to go ahead in December where we will face Norfolk, West of Scotland and Wiltshire in Group 4b in Norwich. Once again, we hope to take a strong team and are looking forward to taking on the challenge.

Esther Curtis

Gloucestershire Ladies Captain

Gloucestershire Seniors 2020/2021

The Seniors seasons have all been local fixtures on a “friendly” basis this year with no promotion or relegation, with the emphasis on playing matches after Covid completely stopped the season last year.

Ladies over 35 team

It was lovely to watch a new team of youngsters take to the prestigious grass courts at Eastbourne this year and they did brilliantly. We had lots of tight matches and it went down to the wire, with a win in the last rubber giving us promotion to group 3 next year. Kent loss 1-2, Lincolnshire win 4-1, Northants win 4-1. Well played everyone



Team l-r: Hannah Lormor, Marie Bell, Esther Curtis, Ellie Buescher, Clare Bell

Ladies 50 team



The Ladies 50 team managed to play 3 out of our 4 matches. We won two very easily but the third against Hampshire was hard and we lost by a few points. Lorraine and Liz battled away on the tennis Court for 4 hours to win on a championship tiebreak in both matches. Nice tea, we were totally exhausted. Sandy and Maeve had a good couple of close matches as well. Well done everyone and thank you for playing! Looking forward to next year where the matches count!

Team: Liz Cowan, Lorraine Ristic, Sandy chambers, Maeve o’Rorke, Rita Remfry,

Ladies 55 team

The first match vs Cornwall was played on 16 July 2021. An incredibly hot day and a delay of nearly three hours whilst they waited for their opponents to arrive. Players were Chantal Ball, Kerry Alcock, Jacqui Moore and Jacqui Matthews. A win for us 3-1. Next was Cardiff to play South Wales on 1 August 2021. Players were Chantal Ball, Kerry Alcock, Sally Pendry and Jacqui Matthews. South Wales fielded a very strong team and elected to play singles as well. We lost 5-0. The matches against Avon and Wiltshire were postponed due to rain and hoped to be played in October.

Ladies 60 team

4 matches played with 2 wins and 2 losses but some very close rubbers in all matches. A great team spirit and a good time was had by all.

Team: Denise Kilgannon, Vanessa Francis, Liz Sim, Fiona Smith, Jane Hancock, Jill Chittock.

Ladies 65 team

With a very small squad and a few injuries, this has been a bit of an up and down season, and we still have one match to play. Tiebreaks were our undoing in our first match, at home to Buckinghamshire, with two losses turning what was a 6-2 defeat into what might have been a 4-4 draw. Our second match was away to a very strong Hertfordshire team - an 8-0 defeat, with one rubber lost almost the moment it started when one of our players pulled a calf muscle and had to stop. Next up was a home match to Warwickshire, played in searing heat. Our team fought valiantly and won magnificently 8-0. Our final match is away to Shropshire and will be played on 30 September.

Team: Lousie Dalglish, Jane Muncer, Dee Clayton, Sally Grindley, Odette Sykes, Renate Calvert, Sue Wood.

Ladies 70 team

The over 70's ladies struggled to get a team together this season due to injuries and worries about travelling to other clubs. However, those that played bonded well and had a great team spirit. We played South Wales at Abergavenny club and lost 1-3 in a tight match. We hosted Dorset and Somerset at home playing on the grass which was a treat - winning both 2-2 but winning tie break, and 4-0 respectively. Unfortunately, we were unable to fulfil the match against Devon at Exeter Golf and Country Club due to venue and player availability. All in all, it was a very enjoyable season, with some good tennis played and lots of congeniality.

Team: Sheila Coutts, Sandra Spackman, Liz Wakefield Smith, Philippa James, Pauline Lonsdale - all EG, Maggie Fillingham - South Cerney & Cirencester.

Mens 35 team

Promotion was our target at the start of the weekend but a narrow 3-2 lose to Cambridgeshire on day one meant we went into day two needing a win to avoid the chance of relegation and leave a small chance of promotion possible. A 4-1 win against Nottinghamshire on day two set up an interesting tie against North Wales on the final day who



Team: Jason Boon, Moritz Buescher, Ben Knapp, Guy Sellek and Thomas Unwin

also lost narrowly 3-2 to Cambridgeshire. This meant we were playing for 2nd and 3rd as Cambridgeshire were the run-away winners with 3 wins from 3. As rain hit the last day it meant the match was postponed evenly posed at 2-1 to North Wales. Ben Knapp was the player of the county cup for us winning all 5 of his matches.

Mens 50 team

The season has been very successful to date with 3 wins in a row. The fixtures have been a mixture of singles and doubles and doubles only, but Avon and Somerset were comfortably beaten 4-0 and 4-1 but the match in Poole vs Dorset came down to a championship tiebreak in the last doubles in which Guy and Neil emerged as victors, so a 3-2 win. A strong team performance this season which looks good for next year.

Team: Shane Horsell, Neil Howitt, Roger Bell, Guy Sellek, Ben Knapp, Tony Smith and Paul Harris

Mens 60 team v the weather!

Our first match against Berkshire was a rain interrupted affair which we eventually won. Next up was Hampshire and the IOW. This was during the 'short heatwave period' and resulted in us being just too hot for the opposition. One match even conceded as opponent couldn't cope with the heat. Third up was Oxfordshire, played in torrential rain on hard courts. This match ended abruptly when a player took a spectacular fall and could not continue. Our final match against Hampshire was cancelled due to flooding in Bournemouth and has not been rescheduled. So, our season can be best summed up as - Showers, heatwave, torrential rain and floods.

Mens 65 team

There was some Covid nervousness at the start of the summer window, but at writing we've managed to play 3 of 4 matches, and pleasingly won them all. The first match on a sunny day on the grass vs Warwickshire, 2 doubles 4-0 Glos, the second match indoors vs Bucks, singles and doubles a 5-0 victory, the 3rd match postponed twice because of bad weather but again with a singles/doubles format a 3-2 win. Remaining match vs Berkshire, to be arranged, will decide the group champions. It was heartening that we were able to field a full team each match, albeit complicated by injuries sometimes - with short-notice, able, substitutes. Thank you to everyone for your efforts. This year we had a strong squad of seven players, many of which will form the core for next year when hopefully the leagues will restart and maybe a challenge for promotion. Fingers crossed.

Team: Mike Lewis, Steve Evans, Dave Barham, Martin Szymkowiak, Wilf Gonzales, Steve Clayton, Lindsay Ferguson

Mens 70 team

So far so good for the over 70 mens 2 excellent wins against Avon 4-0 and Somerset 3-1 with one tight loss 1-3 against a strong South Wales team.

Team: Peter Collins, Graeme Adams, Henry Marshall, Tony Hickling and John Marshall.



Mens 75 team

In general, the team has struggled with all the fixtures - with two players out of action – and then Covid causing havoc with one fixture but the remaining four have given "their best" to date. 2 losses and 2 matches still to be played, it has been a difficult season.

Team: Graeme Adams, Brian Bullingham, Alec Davidson (all E.G), Philip Howard (Delta Swindon)

Gloucestershire Seniors ITF Performances

Gloucestershire seniors' players returned to action this summer after a long absence from ITF events. East Glos Club had a strong contingent at ITF 400 grass court seniors tournament in Frinton in early July. Five players flew the flag and all five reached the semi-finals beaten only by top or second seeds. Lindsay Ferguson ousted two players to reach the semi-finals of the mens over 65s, losing to second seed Tony King who had previously beaten Steve Evans 10-7 in a match tie break. Tony Smith beat the third seed in the over 60s and played a competitive semi-final before losing to top seed Rajiv Batra. In the over 75s, Henry Marshall reached the semi-final and played superbly before losing 6-4 6-4 to world number 11 Chris Ornstein. Steve Evans and Jacqui Matthews ousted a seeded pair in their quarter final before losing to the top seeds in the semi-final. Henry teamed with partner Peter Pharo in the semis of the over 70s doubles, losing a third set match tie break to the second seeds.

Lindsay and Tony soared more than 1000 places in the world rankings and Jacqui flew into the mixed world rankings at 174. At the Gerrards Cross ITF 200, Guy Sellek won the over 50s singles and Steve Evans and Tony Smith won the over 60s mens doubles. Lindsay Ferguson scored his first success in the ITF 100 Welsh Open winning the over 65s singles.

Players have been in action in other major ITF events including grass court nationals at Wimbledon and indoor nationals at Wrexham.

Marie Bell & Jacqueline Matthews

British Tennis Awards and Gloucestershire Tennis Awards 2020

A Great Year for Gloucestershire, congratulations to all our County & Regional Winners. We were delighted to welcome David Rawlinson, LTA President who presented the Awards at East Gloucestershire Club at an outside ceremony on 3 June 2021.

Gloucestershire Winners	Achievements
Club of the Year: Lydney TC	2020 was a year of horrors for Lydney with severe flooding from Storm Bella in February that laid the courts under a thick layer of mud & destroyed the club house. Within weeks, with an army of willing club volunteers 2 courts were ready for play to be suffered another deluge. All this in Covid restrictions and they yet had to suffer another flood at the end of the year. Throughout the dark days they remained upbeat and positive. The Committee worked hard under chair, Nikki Slater to set up funding and obtain grants including an LTA Quick Loan and by this April they had all 4 courts opened again with a new club house imminent. A wonderful achievement from a strong committee and dedicated membership
Development Coach of the Year: Rachael Winters, Lydney TC	This coach played a key role in keeping players and members upbeat through Covid by doing online fitness and tennis lessons. She set up an online community and cheered more isolated members by providing bingo, art classes and more. She even had time in the flood crisis to organise the clearing up campaign. A dedicated Coach well appreciated by members who sent in 9 nominations!!

Gloucestershire Winners	Achievements
<p>Performance Coach of the Year: Joe Waters Frampton TC</p>	<p>At the young age of 23 Joe leads Frampton's team of 3 coaches. His objective for the club was to attract and retain a mix of young male and female players and has successfully developed a strong enthusiastic squad of 6 girls and 5 boys. This squad includes 14 year old Charlie Denton who he also coached to win the U18 National deaf championships in 2020. Throughout lockdown Joe worked with his juniors via Facebook promoting tennis with videos, anecdotes and challenges which produced hilarious responses and fierce competition. Post lockdown Joe offered discounted members rates and built children's confidence, fitness and mental health.</p>
<p>Competition of the Year: East Gloucestershire Club Steve Worsley</p> <p>County Regional & National runner-up</p>	<p>Post lockdown everyone was ready for the return of competition tennis but with a different look with signs, floor markers and chalk, hand sanitising stations, coaching hoops for safe photography and volunteers and staff briefed on COVID safety to keep all 420 entrants in their 32 events safe. Umpires made the event professional and finals weekend provided a great spectacle of tennis and the 'trophy station' meant the presentations could be viewed by more people in a safe manner. This event taking place was remarkable but after a lockdown without tennis this was truly a breath of fresh air.</p>

Gloucestershire Winners	Achievements
Education School Award: Cheltenham Ladies College	As a boarding school it was business as usual during Covid lockdown and extra tennis was created to support the wellbeing of pupils via year group and boarding house bubbles plus Cardio Tennis. Coaches were helped with zoom chats and advice on grants and self-help programmes. Praise for the Coach, Vicky Hodgetts, her team of 12 coaches and the school who rallied to provide tennis to help pupils and families wellbeing during the Covid crisis.
Lifetime Achievement Award: Chris Rivers	Chris has supported Gloucestershire tennis and worked tirelessly to promote and facilitate tennis within the county for over 30 years. She has worked in both official and more latterly volunteer roles. In whatever role she works she remains passionate about players, coaches, venues and volunteers always having equal opportunities to reach their tennis potential, raise the county tennis profile and increase participation. Chris was the driving force behind the GLTA awards which continue to go from strength to strength. There doesn't appear to be an area of Gloucestershire tennis she doesn't understand or hasn't been involved with and with her kind, approachable and friendly manner she is always a great person to help in any situation
Official of the Year: Simon Corbishley County & Regional Winner	Approachable, organised, efficient, polite and welcoming are all used to describe Simon in his role. Every child is treated with respect and made welcome and worthy to compete. He has followed all COVID rules and regulations to allow his tournaments to take place and despite restrictions communicated effectively throughout.

Gloucestershire Winners	Achievements
<p>Volunteer of the Year: Bob Roberts Frampton TC</p>	<p>Despite numerous other community commitments, when Frampton tennis club had no other volunteers to take on the chairman's role despite having completed 4 years already Bob stepped up for a 5th. Bob helped to increase links with the village school and championed a COVID membership for the local community. Bob is a humorous, intelligent, hardworking and considerate chair who can also be found mowing the grass around the courts He is the glue which has held the club together over this difficult year and helped to facilitate its continuing success.</p>
<p>Young Person of the Year: Charlie Denton Frampton TC</p>	<p>14 year old Charlie was born with hearing loss but at primary school he soon developed a passion for tennis and became an enthusiastic club member at Frampton on Severn tennis club. At the age of 9 he was selected to speak at the House of Commons at the power of speech event and Charlie chose to speak about Frampton tennis club and the important role it plays in his life. September 2019 saw Charlie win the U18 boys singles final at the UK national deaf championship. Charlie also competes and trains with Frampton's 16U squad and still finds time to be a team leader who is a positive role model and gains much respect from all players and members.</p>

Gloucestershire Winners	Achievements
<p>Mary Eyre Boy Player of the Year: Charlie Denton Frampton TC</p>	<p>Charlie is passionate about Tennis ever since his potentiality was spotted by the Frampton head coach at his primary school. Now a fully fledged and active member of the Club he is a positive and motivated player. He worked especially hard on all aspects of his game before the National UK Deaf Championships and to his great delight was crowned U18 Champion in 2019. He is an inspiration to all youngsters who play tennis.</p>
<p>Mary Eyre Girl Player of the Year: Eva Haynes East Gloucestershire Club</p>	<p>Described as a determined young lady by her coach Eva's attitude saw her overcoming difficulties in lock down by asking for help to improve her game. Always smiling never moaning about wet weather or lack of indoor facilities Eva gets on with it, achieving a high national ranking of 17 - in 10U and now taking on the challenges of 11U age group. Her sportsman like and dignified behaviour on court helps inspire junior members of the club</p>
<p>Gloucestershire Special Achievement Award: Graham Baum Redmarley TC</p> <p>Also nominated for the LTA's president Award</p>	<p>Having retired from coaching and most club duties, Graham, as an Octogenarian did not anticipate the call to arms! As a true volunteer Graham stepped in to breach the sudden coaching gap overseeing the junior programme, growing the membership, boosting club finances and it seems attracting a bevy of lady beginners and returners! All this with the added pressure of Covid regulations. Graham typically commented, <i>"I think rather than rescuing the club, it has done me the world of good, as I have really enjoyed doing it"</i>.</p>

Well done Frampton TC who received four Awards. Charlie, as Young Person of the Year and Junior Player of the Year with Joe, Performance Coach of the Year and Bob as Volunteer of the Year.



Steve Worsley from East Gloucestershire Club receiving congratulations from David Rawlinson, LTA President as National Runner-up for Competition of the Year.



Report for the 73rd Season (2020/21) of the Gloucestershire Tennis League

Over the various league competitions during the course of the year over 870 matches were scheduled. Unfortunately, many of these matches had to be cancelled because of covid restrictions and lockdowns. However, captains and players should be congratulated in their determination to play tennis and to ensure the integrity of these leagues.

Seniors' League 2020/21

The Over 60s League runs from October to April each year. The 2020/2021 League commenced in October 2020 with 12 county clubs signed up to play. Unfortunately, all play was suspended in January 2021. Clubs and players will hopefully be able to enjoy an uninterrupted 2021/2022 season.

Winter Floodlit League 2020/21

The mixed doubles, in its 23rd season, commenced in September with 45 team entries from 19 clubs. Regrettably the season was curtailed in early January 2021 due to covid lockdown and remained unfinished for the season.

Mens and Ladies' Summer Leagues 2021

33 county clubs were represented in the Summer League. Congratulations to David Lloyd Gloucester A team who won the Men's Championship, defeating East Glos B team by 12 points, and to East Glos A team who won the Ladies' Championship, defeating Minchinhampton A team by 5 points.

In the men's league, three divisional trophies were won by David Lloyd (premier, division 4B, and division 6), and by Painswick (division 1A, 2A and 5A). In the ladies' league two divisional trophies were won by East Glos (premier and division 3A), Cheltenham Civil Service (divisions 1A and 3B), and Lydney (divisions 5A and 5B).

Accounts

The League's aim is to be self-financing, making a welcome contribution to the GLTA funds. The accounts for the year ended 30 September 2021 show there was income of £2,920 and expenses of £880 making a surplus of £2,040. The team fees will remain at £10 next year.

League Committee

The committee is currently comprised of nine members and seven participating clubs are represented. It met four times during the year, with some of the meetings held via Zoom, but unfortunately the Annual meeting

in March 2021 was impacted, as it was in 2020, by the pandemic and was not held.

Awards Presentations

Regrettably due to the lockdown restrictions there was neither a trophy nor an awards presentation for the league during 2020.

Gloucestershire Tennis Website

All the information and resources required for participation in the Dunlop Glos Leagues, including downloadable team entry forms, team fees forms, nomination forms and score sheets are available from the Gloucestershire Tennis website at <https://gloucestershiretennis.co.uk/>. The Dunlop Adult Leagues section is found under the Competitions tab on the home page. League Committee details are also published here.

Gloucestershire Tennis League Handbook

Following the cancellation of the 2020 League AGM, the League Handbook was not updated and published. It is hoped to publish the next Handbook after the 2022 March League Annual Meeting. The 2019 Handbook is available online on the Gloucestershire Tennis Website under the Dunlop Leagues section.

Summer League 2022

All clubs wishing to enter the 2022 Summer League should complete the online application form by 15 February 2022.

Thank you to GLTA for its continued support and to the League Committee, club contacts and team captains for their hard work in making these leagues successful. Thanks also to all the players who compete within them, without whom the league would cease to exist.

Sue Watts

League Hon Secretary
September 2021



Safeguarding Report

The purpose of “safeguarding”, is to ensure that all children, young people and vulnerable adults are protected from abuse and have an enjoyable tennis experience.

The GLTA Safeguarding officer is council member Dr Andrea Butland, a retired Consultant Physician with safeguarding experience both in the Health Service and as a school governor. Contact details and information on how to report a concern are displayed on the GLTA website.

Each registered club has a Welfare officer, whose contact details are displayed on both the club noticeboard and its website. All club welfare officers are trained and regularly updated. All coaches, (LTA level 2 and above) who coach at registered clubs are LTA accredited and trained in safeguarding. The LTA has a national safeguarding team and a regional officer. They provide training, advice and support and investigate all complaints and concerns.

Like many sports, tennis has had some safeguarding problems in the past, a few of which have made headlines. Fortunately, none of these have been in Gloucestershire. The county was formally assessed against national safeguarding standards in May this year and was satisfactory in all aspects.

Andrea Butland

GLTA Safeguarding Officer

Treasurer's Report for the Year ended 30 September 2021

Provisional accounts to 30 September 2021 show that the GLTA has made a loss of £2,315, despite receiving a reduced grant from the LTA of £8,166. Although income was comparable with 2020 there were major events which did not take place due to Covid, being the U18 Junior County Cup and the Men's and Ladies Winter Senior County Cup. The Dunlop League made a valuable £2,040 contribution to the accounts.

The Council remains most grateful to main sponsors, Courtstall Services Ltd and WSP Textiles Ltd, for their continuing valuable support. Thanks also to Dunlop International Europe Ltd for sponsoring the 6 Gloucestershire leagues, helping to keep team entry fees low and to provide tennis balls for prizes.

Due to Covid and therefore the lack of exposure the Council agreed that all of the above would suspend their sponsorships for one year.

Meanwhile the Council would like to thank The Mortgage Brain for sponsoring the visit from the LTA President together with the prize giving at East Glos Club in the summer. The Council would welcome any sponsorship however small to support any specific tournament or sector.

The Council would welcome any sponsorship however small to support a specific tournament or sector.

Detailed audited accounts will be emailed to Club secretaries and Council members.

Gill Willoughby
Hon Treasurer

GLOUCESTERSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT

30/09/2021

30/09/2020

	£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS				
Debtors & Prepayments		3,850.00		2,500.00
Current Bank Accounts		21,006.43		9,634.59
Deposit Bank Accounts		<u>152,107.44</u>		<u>165,990.36</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>176,963.87</u>		<u>178,124.95</u>

CURRENT LIABILITIES

ITI Loan	34,000.00		38,000.00	
CT Funds donated for Website *	871.00		771.00	
Glos Schools Tennis Fund *	474.91		474.91	
Disability Tennis Fund *	915.00		915.00	
Creditors	9,446.77		8,730.13	
Junior Income received in advance	10,584.71		6,040.00	
League fees received in advance	820.00		960.00	
Corporation Tax	<u>195.27</u>		<u>262.35</u>	
Total Current Liabilities		<u>57,307.66</u>		<u>56,153.39</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u><u>119,656.21</u></u>		<u><u>121,971.56</u></u>

CAPITAL AND RESERVES

Reserves b/f		(3,028.44)		(5,669.25)
Loss / Profit for the year		<u>(2,315.35)</u>		<u>2,640.81</u>
Reserves c/f		(5,343.79)		(3,028.44)
Committed & Loan Reserves		<u>125,000.00</u>		<u>125,000.00</u>
TOTAL CAPITAL AND RESERVES		<u><u>119,656.21</u></u>		<u><u>121,971.56</u></u>

* denotes ring fenced

INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL REPORT

I have made an independent inspection of the above financial statements. In common with organisations of a similar size the Association's accounts are under the control of its Committee and are subject to few internal checks to ensure completeness.

Therefore it is only possible to carry out my inspection on items appearing in the accounting records, together with explanations from the Committee.

Subject to the foregoing, in my opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Association's affairs as at 30 September 2021.

.....
J Wamer

.....
Date

The financial statements were approved by the Gloucestershire LTA on
and were signed on its behalf by:

.....
V L Mora (Chairman)

.....
G S Willoughby (Hon Treasurer)

**GLOUCESTERSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION
PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

	30/09/2021		30/09/2020	
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Club Registration Fees		17,350.00		15,338.00
LTA General Grant		8,166.00		9,676.00
LTA Open Court Funding Grant		720.00		-
Sponsorships:				
WSP Textiles Ltd		-		4,500.00
Courtstall Services Ltd	1,850.00			-
Dunlop International Ltd - league	750.00			-
The Mortgage Brain - awards event	<u>339.85</u>	2,939.85		-
Wimbledon Ticket Sales		4,860.00		-
Dunlop League Fees		2,170.00		820.00
JUNIOR PERFORMANCE				
Junior Squad Training	<u>13,911.50</u>		<u>11,715.00</u>	
	<u>13,911.50</u>		<u>11,715.00</u>	
JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT				
National League (net)	740.21		(23.81)	
Road to Wimbledon (net)	211.23		(108.00)	
Inter County Friendlies (net)	85.42		-	
Junior Camps	<u>674.50</u>		-	
	<u>1,711.36</u>		<u>(131.81)</u>	
LTA Junior Grant	<u>5,000.00</u>		<u>5,000.00</u>	
TOTAL JUNIOR INCOME		20,622.86		16,583.19
Awards dinner		-		3,126.10
Tracksuits and Clothing		422.00		1,725.00
Bank Interest - gross		17.08		370.78
Patrons		-		50.00
TOTAL INCOME		<u>57,267.79</u>		<u>52,189.07</u>
EXPENDITURE				
JUNIOR PERFORMANCE				
Junior County Squad Training	12,790.53		10,573.35	
U18 Junior County Cup	-		5,736.45	
U14 Junior County Cup	798.38		10.00	
U12 Junior County Cup	650.00		10.00	
U11 Junior County Cup	1,736.73		-	
U10 Junior County Cup	377.55		10.00	
U9 Junior County Cup	610.65		10.00	
U8 Junior County Cup	<u>150.00</u>		<u>120.00</u>	
	<u>17,113.84</u>		<u>16,469.80</u>	

JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT		
Other Tennis Coaching	7,000.00	7,444.00
Mini /Junior County Closed	-	689.10
U8 & U9 Development Coach	108.00	-
Junior Winter County Tournament	-	63.00
	<u>7,108.00</u>	<u>8,196.10</u>
TOTAL JUNIOR EXPENDITURE	24,221.84	24,665.90
SENIOR EXPENDITURE		
Summer Senior County Cup	5,904.20	-
Winter Senior County Cup	-	3,544.42
	5,904.20	3,544.42
VETERANS EXPENDITURE		
Veterans - Eastbourne	2,957.20	-
Veterans - not Eastbourne	1,834.20	-
	4,791.40	-
ADMINISTRATION		
Administrator Payments	9,000.00	9,000.00
Open Court Administration	600.00	-
Honoraria	3,650.00	2,880.00
Registration Fees	200.00	-
Printing, Postage and Stationery	347.94	408.72
Telephone	284.56	293.14
IT Costs and Expenses	190.79	516.33
Committee and General Expenses	105.62	295.89
AGM and Awards Event	394.70	3,110.53
	14,773.61	16,504.61
Wimbledon Tickets	4,860.00	-
Dunlop League Expenses	879.87	1,345.64
Tracksuits and Clothing	2,359.00	1,799.24
Accountant's Examination Fee	320.00	320.00
Club and Coach Forum	120.00	-
Club and Coach Awards	1,350.00	800.00
Donations	-	500.00
Corporation Tax	3.22	68.45
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>59,583.14</u>	<u>49,548.26</u>
(LOSS) / PROFIT FOR YEAR	<u>(2,315.35)</u>	<u>2,640.81</u>

GLOUCESTERSHIRE LTA

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 7 December 2020 Via Zoom

Present: Clubs Represented – 12
Members – 20 (including 10 GLTA Councillors)

Apologies: Lesley Angell; Marie Bell; Elaine Holwell (Cirencester);
Richard & Angela Fraser (Patron); Joan Griffiths

1.	Welcome The Chairman, Michael Angell, opened the meeting, welcoming everyone to the 118 th Annual General Meeting of the Association. The Chairman noted the President Adrian Montague-Smith's apologies who would be standing down as President after 35 years he has served as our representative at the Lawn Tennis Association, amount of time and service given as Treasurer and setting up the good fund of money that has helped develop and look after clubs and tennis in Gloucestershire. It was with great delight Council had agreed to create a Honorary Life Vice-President role for Adrian Montague-Smith to recognise his commitment over the years.
2.	Apologies As noted above.
3.	Minutes of the 2019 AGM Proposed by Gill Willoughby and seconded by Andrea Butland, the minutes were accepted as a true record of the proceedings.
4.	Matters Arising There were no matters arising.
5.	Annual Report and Accounts The Annual Report had been circulated to all member clubs and patrons. The audited accounts for the year ending 30 September 2020 had been distributed to the member clubs. The following points were highlighted: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The GLTA made a surplus of £2,640 due to two factors; 1) the LTA agreed that our reserves were becoming depleted such that the Association qualified for a grant of £9,676; 2) Covid-19 pandemic restricted many activities.▪ Junior income has increased helped by a £5,000 junior LTA grant.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Dunlop League has continued to make a contribution to the funds. ▪ My sincere thanks to everyone in each section of Glos LTA who has worked so hard this year to try and minimise costs. ▪ Finally, the Council would welcome anyone who is interested in sponsoring any part of Gloucestershire Tennis. <p>As there were no further questions, proposed by Helen Rivers and seconded by Chris Rivers the Annual Report and Accounts were unanimously accepted. Thanks were given to Gill Willoughby for the work she has undertaken throughout the year.</p>
6.	<p>Appointment of Auditors Jim Warner was proposed by Sarah Dorkings and seconded by Darren Morris as auditor for the forthcoming year and unanimously accepted.</p>
7.	<p>Election of Officers The Chairman, Michael Angell will be standing down. Council had nominated Michael Angell as the President following the retirement of Adrian Montague-Smith. The Chairman requested that the meeting approve en bloc the appointments of the President, Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer. David Padfield proposed (Glos Wootton) and seconded Rene Cason (Minchinhampton) Michael Angell (President), Michelle Douse (Hon Secretary) and Gill Willoughby (Hon Treasurer) and all were unanimously agreed. All members of the council were duly re-elected.</p>
8.	<p>AOB Chairman Thanks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Chairman of Gloucestershire LTC thanked all members of Council. The Chairman highlighted the work surrounding safeguarding procedures and that of our Safeguarding Officer. ▪ Michael Angell has now stepped down as LTA representative. Ben Knapp, Mens Team Captain is now the LTA representative for Gloucestershire. ▪ Thank you to Sharon Heeley and the South West Region, which continues to support. ▪ The League is the jewel in the crown for Gloucestershire. They have played in the summer, winter, senior and junior leagues with thanks to Joan Griffiths and the League Committee. ▪ Thank you for taking the time to join the AGM. Michael Angell reminded attendees of the hard-work all clubs and tennis have gone through in 2020. Entering a new and hopeful phase for 2021.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Here's to a very successful and improved 2021 on the courts. ▪ Chris Rivers thanked Michael Angell most sincerely for his long years of service, 35 years on Council with 20 years as Chair. Grateful for his leadership and support, and pleased he will still be involved with Gloucestershire Tennis in his new role as President.
	<p>With there being no further business, the AGM closed at 8.00pm.</p>

<p>Clubs attending:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fairford 2. East Glos 3. Gloucester Wootton 4. Cirencester 5. David Lloyd 6. Cheltenham Civil Service 7. Twyning 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Minchinhampton 9. Oxstalls 10. Bourton Vale 11. Taynton & Tibberton 12. Frampton-upon-Severn
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Michelle Douse
Hon Secretary

7 December 2020

..... (Chairman)

..... 2020

Date of the next meeting at 6.30pm on Monday 18 January. Enzo Mora has been unanimously co-opted to Council and it was proposed that Enzo Mora be Chairman and seconded by Andrea Butland.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Annual General Meeting

Monday 6 December 2021, 7.30pm

Zoom

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Minutes of the 2020 AGM**
- 4. Matters Arising**
- 5. Annual Report and Accounts**
- 6. Appointment of Auditors**
- 7. Election of Officers and Members of the Council**
- 8. Any Other Business (notified in advance)**

Michelle Douse
Honorary Secretary

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