

## Winter League Competition

The Winter Tennis League will start the week beginning October 8th. For those of you who need reminding or wish to join in for the first time it works as follows:

- Monday nights – Any member up to and including Mens' 7<sup>th</sup> team standard and up to and including Womens 3<sup>rd</sup> team standard. (All players must be consistently seeded at or below the men's 7<sup>th</sup> team players)
- Tuesday nights - Mens 7<sup>th</sup> team and higher and Womens 3<sup>rd</sup> Team and higher. Although **all** players (other than Women's 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> Team) must be consistently seeded above the women's 3<sup>rd</sup> team players.
- Thursday nights - any member is welcome.

If you are unsure whether you should join Tuesday night speak to or email Richard Rogers who will be able to advise (contact details below).

The Winter Tennis League is a doubles competition (that runs for 20 weeks) over the winter months. During the evening you will play 4 (short) sets of doubles, each set with a different partner. Sets are played "first to 5 games" (tie break played at 4 all). You accrue points over the winter period and play for the ultimate prize - 'Champion of the Winter League' !! However it isn't necessary to play every week; it's just that your chance of winning reduces if you only play a few evenings (as points are also awarded for turning up). That aside you should get a good evening's tennis whenever you turn up as everyone is given a ranking and your evening's playing partnerships are based on pairing couples so that you end up playing against a similarly skilled playing couple. That assumes we get your ranking right! If you played last year then you will start with last year's ranking; however if you are joining for the first time this year then we will try and assess where you might fit in the playing group. Rankings are revised weekly and everyone moves up or down the ranks each week according to how well - or otherwise - they play.

Play starts promptly at 7pm; you need to arrive by 6.50pm so that the organisers can sort out the playing partnerships and order of play. (If you are going to be later than 6:50 you **MUST** phone the club (020 8340 6534) to say you are on your way). If you turn up late without phoning and the playing order has already been drawn up then you will be too late to play. Play usually finishes by around 10pm, although we have been known to play in the driving snow up until 11pm.

Sign up sheets go up one week in advance – at that point in time you can only sign up for one evening's play for that week (we want to give as many members as possible the opportunity to sign up). However if you are keen to play on more than one evening, then providing there are still spaces 3 days before your chosen additional evening, you are welcome to sign up for a second evening (we would also like all evenings to be as full as possible).

It costs £5 per person per night (£2.50 for juniors) to cover lights and tennis ball costs.

The first sign-up sheets will go up in the week beginning 1st October.

Organisers for the respective evenings are:

Monday - John Fudge (07949 115 205) [johnfudge@connectfree.co.uk](mailto:johnfudge@connectfree.co.uk)

Tuesday - Richard Rogers (07818 076 570) [richard.rogers@dsl.pipex.com](mailto:richard.rogers@dsl.pipex.com)

Thursday - Richard Tusting (07985 550 019) [rich\\_tea99@hotmail.com](mailto:rich_tea99@hotmail.com)