Chairman's Report
2019

Preamble: This report is a selective overview of what has been happening in our club since our AGM last November 2018. An overview of specific activities will be given by members of the management committee afterwards and a detailed version forms part of the Secretary's Report which will be made available on the website. Also, a number of Newsletters were sent to the members giving details of events as they happened during the year.

Report

After last year's AGM the new Management Committee had its first meeting on December 10th and so began another busy year. On January 9th the project team, tasked with responsibility for the construction of two new courts and installation of bathroom facilities at the cabin, had its first meeting in 2019. Some good news was emerging that progress was being made on the Deed of Charge for the land going into leasehold. After a 6 month delay a pathway to a resolution was opening up. Club member and solicitor Catriona Sharkey was of great assistance in progressing this matter.

Also in January a meeting was organised for parents regarding player development for junior members. Winter League also commenced with 3 ladies' teams and 2 men's teams entered. A notable feature was the inclusion of a number of Junior players playing on the Winter League teams.

In March a defibrillator was purchased and in April twelve members were trained in CPR and deployment of the defibrillator. Ann-Marie O'Brien was the lead organiser. Also in April an evening of interesting tennis talks took place on tennis racquets and stringing presented by James Colhoun, warm up and warm down exercises presented by Christine Jinks and nutrition for tennis players by Maria Hayes. Thanks to a lot of hard work by Siobhan Anderson all memberships are now renewed from April after we have gone through an adjustment period where some members renewed in June and some members in April.

The Junior committee organised a very successful Easter Camp and shortly afterwards in May the Summer League competition began. At our committee meeting in May it was minuted that we had received full grant approval to start work on construction on the new courts, Aimee Farrell was leading the project team and during the legal delay all sorts of work was carried out and all details of the construction contract finalised.

In June the construction works for the new courts and new cabin bathroom facilities commenced. On the 13th July the two new courts were open for play. A milestone achievement for the club and huge

thanks to the project team leader Aimee and her committee Amanda Bolton, Donald O'Keefe and Anna Kiernan. I had a minor role on the committee, but the aforementioned were the big players. The new courts aligned seamlessly with the existing four courts and it is a most impressive sight to come down to the club and see all 6 courts in play.

In July, we had two teams playing Mixed Doubles league, a bag pack fundraising weekend at Supervalu and myself, Ann Marie O'Brien and Deirdre Fennell formed a sub-committee to organise an official opening of the new courts and new cabin facilities. Several meetings tool place in August and September with representatives of the golf club to organise this event. A number of Summer camps for Juniors also took place in August.

After the summer, we had what can only be described as a Triple A-- an **A**bsolutely **A**wesome **A**utumn;

- Junior At Home and Finals on 14th September
- Senior Championships and At Home Day & Finals on September 21st
- Three Ladies teams and one Men's team playing in Senior Leagues
- Official opening of courts on October 5th
- Annual Table Quiz night on 19th October
- Captains' Night on November 2nd
- Diversity Group sessions at the courts e.g. Special Olympics group

All of these were major events and all were hugely successful due to the hard work from the lead organiser with a lot of help from members. Laurent Laforgue and Alison Hand being the lead organisers for the Senior League and Senior Championships. Kate O'Mahony for the Junior Championships and At Home and Eilis Kavanagh for the table quiz and Captains' night and John McFadden for organising the diversity/social inclusion groups.. A special word of thanks to Killian Feehan for being a great Quiz Master and also to his band DB Sound Collective for giving us a great night of music and dancing on September 21st.

Ann Marie, Deirdre and I would like to thank Hugh O'Loughlin and Stephen Murtagh for organising all the on court activities at Open Day and so many members who helped setting up the Gazebo, refreshments in the cabin and supervising courts. A special word of thanks to Aoife Fennel who set up the sound system which worked so well for the exhibition game and also to our brilliant ball boys Ronan, Aaron, Christopher and Euan. Despite the terrible weather we had a great day and everything went very smoothly at the reception in the club house after the on court activities. The catering for the reception was supplied by the newly appointed club caterer Max who has provided a consistently high

standard of food since his appointment and tennis club members are dining much more frequently in the clubhouse as a result. Also in September the Golf Club President Pauline Byrne very kindly invited my wife Ruth and I to attend the Annual Presidents Dinner.

On the eve of the tennis club AGM, I was kindly invited to attend Golf Club Captain Joe Rice's dinner. The Ladies got promoted to Class 3 in the floodlight league. The Management Committee agreed a contract for the Director of Coaching which was prepared by Aimee Farrell. This is due for signing by Hugh O'Loughlin who was previously Head Coach in the club.

I would like to thank the Management Committee and the sub-committee for giving so much of their time and energy in running and organising so many memorable activities and events this year. The Management Committee comprised of:

Ann-Marie O'Brien	**Secretary**
Áine Hand	**Treasurer**
Alison Hand	**Ladies Captain**
Laurent Laforgue	**Men's Captain**
Kate O'Mahony	**Junior Co-ordinator**
Aimee Farrell	**Club Development Co-ordinator**
Siobhan Anderson	**Membership Secretary**
Fiona Cottell	**Minutes Secretary**
Donald O'Keefe	**Facilities Co-ordinator**
Killian Feehan	**Marketing, Public Relations**
Carol Rankin	**Social Committee and Fundraising**
John McFadden	**Child Protection Officer**

Both the committee and members can look back with great pride on all that has been achieved since the last AGM in November 2018.

Looking to the future we need to consolidate our membership to the range of 500 to 600 members and then consider developing indoor facilities. Our vision remains to provide facilities and opportunities for players of all levels and all standards.

Robbie Harrold
Chairperson
November 2019