

PADEL NEWS MAY 2022

Welcome to the May edition of Padel News, where we share padel updates from around the country. Please share this newsletter with venues in your County and encourage them to circulate amongst the rackets' community.

PADEL DASHBOARD

Next update 1 July 2022

How to find courts [near me](#)

SENIORS PADEL

This month our feature article tells the story of an exciting trip to Las Vegas for our Women Senior team. Team Captain Sally Fisher reports from the **FIP Senior World Padel Championship** 28 March – 2 April 2022.



The Senior Ladies GB team enjoyed a very successful Senior World Championships, finishing 8th out of the 16 nations that were competing in Las Vegas. The team members Front row from left: Karen Hazzard, Anthea Hunt, Sally Fisher (Captain), Libby Fletcher (Vice Captain), Maria Pyllass, Claire Smith, Back row from left: Elvira Campione, Ro Tott, Sarah Thomas. Steph Trill joined the team a little after.

The team of 10 ladies aged from 36 to 58 had a fantastic week of international padel winning their first three matches of the Championship, to beat Denmark 2-1, Germany 3-0 and Portugal 2-1 and so to finish top of their Group.



The success of the team was further compounded during the opening days of the Competition as two of the pairs also won their first-round matches in the National Pairs Competition. During a rare wintry spell, with driving wind, low temperatures and some rain, Sarah Thomas and Maria Pyllass played cleverly consistent padel to beat their Australian opponents. The following evening, in more balmy conditions, Libby Fletcher and Claire Smith won a hard-fought battle against an established Argentinian pair, thrilling the crowd with some fantastic padel under the floodlights.



With so many victories in the opening three days of the Competition, the team's confidence was riding high, even though GB's next opponents would be France - whose level of padel play is known to be outstanding. All players agreed that it was a fantastic experience to play against such consistent, skilled, and talented padel players, but the opposition proved too strong on the day for our GB team, who lost this round 0-3. Next up, the team faced a strong team from the USA. Our 35+ pair of Karen Hazzard and Claire Smith won a closely fought battle 3-6, 7-6, 10-6 (Championship tiebreak third set) demonstrating the strong partnership that they had quickly established during the tournament and their great skill and consistency on the court, being able to effectively move from defence to offence and close out the big points. Our 40+ pair of Sarah Thomas and Steph Trill, as well as our 45+ pair of Libby Fletcher and Elvira Campione played well and fought hard but were not able to bring home victories. GB lost to USA 1-2.

GB's final match of the tournament was a re-match against Denmark to play-off for places 7th and 8th. This was always going to be another close match and on the final day of the tournament, it was Denmark who this time won 2-1.



Six days of fantastic padel competition, every match hard-fought with the players showing courage, skill, patience, passion, and a commitment to performance excellence. Finishing 8th of the 16 nations is the strongest result yet for the GB Ladies Senior team and a truly great foundation to continue to build the strength of the team. This 8th placing guarantees automatic qualification to the next European and World Championships and is already acting as inspiration for the players to take their game to the next level. The GB Senior Ladies team was generously sponsored by Padel Shack, Addictive sports eyewear, Green & Purple and Adidas. The whole team are grateful for their sponsors' support.

So how did the GB Men get on? We hear from Tim Edwards.



A total of 17-players made up the GB Men's Senior team for the World Senior Padel Championships held in Las Vegas in March. They were accompanied by the GB Senior Men's Coach, John Leach who was ably assisted by Nikhil Mohindra. It was a fantastic event held at RRA Padel, an excellent club with 8 outdoor courts, and 16 male and 16 female teams attending. There was a superb atmosphere with many players able to renew old friendships from past events. The team had representatives from ten different UK clubs with the over 35 pairing of Rob West and Patrick Ogier from the island of Guernsey getting lots of pre-tournament media attention.

The team had an extremely tough draw in the group stage playing Spain (the eventual Champions), France and Chile but all the matches were great experience for the players. The standard of padel was exceptional and the European teams of Sweden, Italy and France had improved immensely from the last World Championships in 2018. Following closer matches against the USA and Germany, Great Britain eventually triumphed over Denmark to avoid the wooden spoon. In the Open Pairs event there were wins for the pairings of Paul Lansley/Michael Gradon and Will Wells/Paul Coeulle.



As the number of courts and players in Britain grows and as the overall playing level continues to improve, the teams will be as competitive as many other European countries in the next few years. The team's kit was kindly sponsored by Green and Purple (<https://www.greenandpurple.com>) together with PadelShack.



The team consisted of; John Leach (GB Senior Coach), Mike Tolman, Patrick Ogier, Rob West, Ben Gudzelak, Paul Jepson, Ahmad Butt, Victor Perez, Paul Coeulle, Drew Warren, Chris Warren, Tim Webb, Will Wells, Peter Vann, Paul Lansley, Gary Zucconi, Michael Gradon and Tim Edwards. Assistant Coach, Nikhil Mohindra.



Anyone wishing to be considered for our Senior's squads, should contact Sally Fisher sallyfisher@me.com or Peter Vann peter.vann@padelgb.org.

VENUE NEWS

Skipton Tennis Centre in North Yorkshire opens its first padel court this month. More information and to make a booking, please visit their website [here](#)



COUNTY NEWS



Cheshire does not currently have any padel courts and the nearest padel venue is currently 43 miles away in Huddersfield LTC. CCLTA felt it would be beneficial to gain knowledge and understanding of an existing, successful padel venue. Nick Holloway, padel coach and Peter Emsell, Chairman at Huddersfield, provided a warm and hospitable Yorkshire welcome on a chilly day along with a great insight into their padel journey so far. HLTCs understanding of the game and its development in the UK has given CCLTA a good insight into how a successful model works within an existing tennis club.

Tennis clubs interested in finding out more about padel are recommended to set up similar research outings to [their nearest courts](#).

PADEL TASTER SESSIONS

For rackets venues considering padel, remember you can book the National Tennis Centre padel courts on a pay-and-play basis. Find out more details [here](#).

GB PERFORMANCE PLAYERS COMPETING AROUND THE WORLD



This month we meet Christian Murphy, British Number 1 and member of the National GB Team. Christian takes up his position on the left as a backhand side player. Sponsored by Dunlop, Christian plays with the Dunlop Aero Star Pro. Christian featured in the recent Miami World Padel Tour and intends to participate in the professional circuit after pre-season training in Murcia. He is also sponsored by Padel Shack.

COMPETITION

The first stage of this year's competition calendar is now available [here](#). Teams can now enter the LTA Padel National League [here](#)

THE PROFESSIONAL GAME

At the top end for the game, the season has kicked off in style with both the World Padel Tour and FIP offering events all over the world – With such a global platform the sport is quickly living up to its reputation to being the fastest-growing-sport-in-the-world.

FIP

www.padelfip.com

WORLD PADEL TOUR – 2022 CALENDAR

[illegible]

COACHING UPDATE

Existing racket sport coaches, who would like to sign up for LTA Introduction to Padel Coaching CPD can now do so via the LTA website.

The LTA Coach Development & Support team has produced the new Padel Coaching Qualifications, the first 4-day Padel Instructor qualification launched at the end of March; anyone interested can register their interest [here](#).

OFFICIATING NEWS

Remember existing tennis referees can do the free one-hour LTA Padel Referee Conversion Course. If you are an LTA Licensed Official and would like to upskill yourself and learn more about Padel Officiating, you can complete the LTA Padel Referee Conversion Course [here](#).

Call to action!

Similarly, to the LTA website please make sure you have a padel page on your County Website and promote the opportunities padel can offer to venues.

For more information or if you have any padel news, please share with katherinemontaque22@gmail.com or stephtrill@gmail.com