### **PADEL NEWS AUGUST 2022**

Welcome to the August 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 wider rackets' community.

#### PADEL DASHBOARD

Next update coming 1st October 2022

Court booking providers <u>Matchi</u> and <u>Play Tomic</u> have both recently launched detailed padel reports that highlight the growth of the sport.

How to find courts near me.

#### PADEL PUBLICATIONS

As padel gains momentum in the UK, so have the communications supporting the game. Recently launched by journalist Emma Kimber and beautifully produced is <a href="https://www.thebandeja.com">www.thebandeja.com</a>

You can also read the latest edition here

Another source of great padel news is the Padel Paper www.thepadelpaper.com

#### **NEW VENUES**



#### Padel4all arrives in Bristol

Padel4all is bringing padel to Bristol, with the largest padel centre in the South West of England. The four state-of-the-art outdoor, covered courts are located at the Lockleaze Sports Centre, close the University of West of England and the Bristol Business Park.Padel4all Lockleaze will provide full and extensive coaching programmes, introductory courses for beginners and community outreach initiatives. Padel4all aim to make the game inclusive to all ages and abilities, ideal for families, offering both 'Pay and Play' packages, as well as its membership offer. PadelPlus membership brings many additional benefits, including discounted court fees and 14-day priority booking period. There is also a café and shop, which will provide refreshments and rackets and balls for hire and sale as well as a range of Padel4all branded apparel.



Padel4all has already successfully built and is operating sites in Southend and Swindon and has plans to open at least four more multi-court padel centres across the UK within the next 12 months.



LTA Chairman David Rawlinson on a recent visit to Southend Padel4all

Padel4all Founder Christopher Wilkinson explains:

"Padel is a highly enjoyable sport for all. It is really easy to learn, ideal for all abilities and ages (from 7 to 75) and is social and fun as well as great for fitness and wellbeing. We are excited to be opening a centre in Bristol, which has a thriving sporting heritage and a cosmopolitan community keen to try new and interesting things. We're seeing huge excitement and enthusiasm ahead of the opening of the centre."

Tony Wright, CEO of Lockleaze Sports Centre comments:

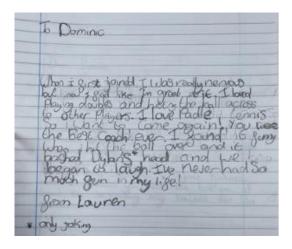
"We are delighted to be the home of what will be Bristol's only Padel centre. It is great to be in partnership with Padel4all, which has been involved in the creation of our 4 courts. We are receiving a lot of daily interest in this innovative addition to sport in Bristol, both from the local Lockleaze community and from across the city."

#### **VENUE NEWS**

It's all good news from the Channel Islands, Gerald Hough has shared an update of their fantastic padel progress.

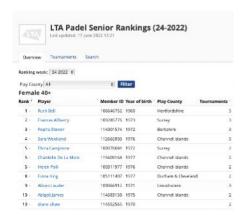
As the summer term draws to a close, we can reflect on a highly successful schools programme which has seen over 430 court hours of padel delivered this school year with 6 out of the 7 secondary schools on the island participating in the scheme. The programme has generated over £13,000 for the Guernsey Padel Club in court hire fees. The success of the scheme has made it one of the most popular sessions offered to secondary schools on the island, as confirmed by Lauren in her letter!





Following on from the success of Patrick Ogier and Rob West being selected to compete for Team GB in Las Vegas, the status of Guernsey players in the UK padel scene is continuing to improve. At the time of writing this report, Guernsey can boast having

- •6 female players in the top 50 of the LTA Open Ladies' Rankings
- •6 female players in the top 20 of the LTA Over 40's Ladies' Rankings
- •2 male players in the top 100 of the LTA Open Men's Rankings
- •7 male players in top 50 of the LTA Over 40's Men's Rankings
- •5 male players in the top 50 of the LTA Over 50's Men's Rankings



Additionally, Lauren Barker has been invited to train with the Great Britain Ladies' Team. The Sub-Committee is supporting her on her journey to potentially play for the National Ladies Team at the World Championships in October and is discussing opportunities for raising sponsorship to cover her travel and expenses to the UK for training and then to be able to fund her participation at international level events.

Boxing legend, Sugar Ray Leonard recently visited Guernsey as part of a book tour and to raise funds for Guernsey Mind and the Sugar Ray Leonard Foundation.





A keen racket sport player, who plays tennis most days, Ray was invited down to the Padel Club to try padel tennis with a few of our members. This resulted in some good exposure for Padel, both on local radio and during his evening appearance where he referred to playing padel on several occasions.

#### **SAVE THE DATE**



The National Tennis Centre in Roehampton, London will be hosting the FIP Rise London Padel Open on 4 – 7th August 2022.

You'll have the opportunity to watch the top GB men and women, together with leading players from across Europe, as they battle it out across 4 jam-packed days of competition and a total prize pot of £8,000.

The inaugural event will be free for spectators to attend and will include a mini commercial village where you can see the latest equipment and offers from our partners.

If you can't make the event but still want to see all the action, we will be live streaming the semifinals and finals of both the men and women's draw on the LTA YouTube channel.

https://www.padelfip.com/fip-rise-london-padel-open/



#### **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 <a href="here">here</a>.

#### **COMPETITION**

This year's competition calendar is available <u>here</u>.

**National Teams:** World Championships (Men's & Women) will take place Oct/Nov 2022 in either Spain, Italy, or Qatar (TBC)

- GB will have to Qualify (July/Aug/Sep exact dates TBC)
- Several training camps are taking place over next few months (supporting transparent selection)
- Additional training camps are running for other categories (Juniors & Seniors) at venues around the country to support overall pathway.

#### Bronze in the Maccabiah Games 2022 in Tel Aviv

Paul Gladstone, Martin Norden, Sam Jones, Sean Meyer, Andrew Cheytow and Mark Rubbins claimed bronze in the team event in Tel Aviv. Sam Jones and Sean Meyer took bronze in the open event. It's the first time padel has featured in what is known as the 'Jewish Olympics' as it is open to Jewish athletes around the world; the 2022 Games is the largest to date with more than 10,000 participants.



Sam and Sean in action and claiming their bronze



#### **SENIORS PADEL**



## THE DAWN OF 50+ PADEL COMPETITION FOR WOMEN AT THE SUCCESSFUL ROCKS LANE GRADE 1 SENIORS TOURNAMENT

The Grade 1 LTA Padel tournament at Rocks Lane, Chiswick held a fantastic Seniors and Open tournament over the penultimate weekend of July. By all accounts it was the largest padel tournament ever held in the UK, with 150 entries for 6 events held over 4 days. There was a record 56 entries for women's pairs and it was great to see so much excellent seniors women's padel enjoying centre stage on the first two days of the tournament.

The 50+ category kicked off the tournament on Thursday, and was played as a round robin, with every pair enjoying 4 hard-fought matches. The top two pairs then qualified for the 50+ final which was held on Saturday. Many congratulations to Sally Fisher and Anthea Hunt who won the WD50+ finals, beating runners-up Justine Jenkins and Maria Pylas 6-4, 6-3.

The success and popularity of the 50+ tournament helps establish this as a viable category for competition and we are hoping that the LTA will now establish a women's 50+ ranking to go alongside the long-established men's 50+ rankings. It is also huge encouragement to other venues to include 50+ categories in their own LTA tournaments, knowing that it will be well supported by the many senior women keen to compete and improve their games.

There was a great atmosphere throughout the Rocks Lane tournament, and with 16 players in the women's 40+ category on the Friday and Saturday, there were some great matches to enjoy and excellent padel playing showcased. Many congratulations to Helen Crook and Jo Ward who beat runners-up Kerry White and Kate Hands 6-2, 7-5 in the closely fought WD 40+ final.

The men's seniors tournament also enjoyed some excellent padel play and a great atmosphere. Many congratulations to Chris and Andrew Warren who beat Paul Thomas and Minter Dial 6-2, 6-0 in the final of the MD 50+ and to Craig de Silva and Nick Yates who best Diego Sterpetti and Andrew Warren 3-6, 6-4, 6-2 in the MD40+ final.





left to right Anthea Hunt and Sally Fisher winners 50+



Right to left: Helen Ward & Jo Crook WD40+ winners with Kerry White and Kate Hands runners up



Left to right: Andrew Warren and Chris Warren winners MD50+





Left to Right: Craig de Silva and Nick Yates winners MD40+

#### THE PROFESSIONAL GAME

The LTA's Tom Murray and Scott Lloyd and the national coach John Leach all attended the recent Greenweez Paris Premier Padel Major at historic Roland Garros in Paris earlier in July. It was won by Ale Galan and his partner Juan Lebron in front of a record padel crowd on the world-famous Phillip Chatrier court. Nearly 2.5m viewers tuned into the coverage on the Premier Padel YouTube channel during the tournament with more than 25,000 spectators at Roland Garros.



Scott Lloyd and Tom Murray on Philip Chatrier

# **FIP** www.padelfip.com



#### **WORLD PADEL TOUR – 2022 CALENDAR**



#### **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.

#### **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 <a href="here">here</a>.

#### 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 katherinemontague22@gmail.com or stephtrill@gmail.com

