

# Ulster Schools Tennis AGM 2024

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> June 13:00

## Present:

1. Cathy Moreland – MCB
2. Sophie Chambers – GC
3. Caroline Adams – FSL
4. Bethan Crawford – STR
5. Lynn Gray – RBAI
6. Oran Kearney – CPC
7. Josh Pentland – DHS
8. Dawie Hollie – BGS
9. Jonathan Rea – LGS
10. Pat Stewart – VCB
11. Derek Wilson – BHS
12. Will Boyd – Ulster Tennis

## Review of the year:

- Everyone was happy how the year ran. There were no major issues, and everyone enjoyed plenty of tennis. It was noted that it was great to see new schools participate in the competitions and to get to a final of their competition. It showed that the new third level competition allowed different schools to participate at their level and win a trophy. We are always aiming to improve the participation levels.

## Proposed changes for 2025 season:

- S Chambers proposed that we look at the dates for Junior Finals Days as it clashes with Carrick Mines tournament which some of the players will be playing in. We will look at the dates in the new year.
- CNM proposed that we look at alternative venues for Junior Finals Day. Whilst Bangor is lovely, it is not accessible to all or cheap. We will review it in the new year.
- Rule change: No sets in the Inter or Senior competitions and will run the same as a league match:

Intermediate knock out (girls and boys) will be first to 8 (tie-break at 7-7)

Senior girls knock out will be first to 8 (tie-break 7-7)

Senior boys knock out will be first to 10 (tie break 9-9)

- We would like to emphasise the 'spirit of tennis' when playing matches, especially where teams are having to travel. Providing some juice / biscuits / tea / coffee would be in keeping with the spirit of playing a tennis match.

- CA proposed that we have an actual physical Shield for the Minors & Juniors that can be engraved every year and kept at the school. Committee will price that in the new year.
- The school data base needs updated as there is staff not included or have old contact details
- Will Boyd is happy to continue uploading the draws online
- Sophie Chambers will be our 'social media manager' for Ulster Schools Tennis. Contact details will be sent out with the team sheets / information packs.

#### Closing comments

- CNM wish to thank all the secretaries for their continued hard work and support throughout the season. Without them, the competitions would not happen.
- CNM thanks the staff at Ulster Tennis for their continued help and support. Special mention to Anna McCartan and Will Boyd who help organise and promote our sport within schools.
- CNM thanks the B&D Leagues for their continued financial support.
- Thanks to Bangot TC for hosting the Junior Finals Day and also Boat Club for their use of the hall for our presentation.

#### New office bearers for 2025

		Boys
Secretary	Cathy Moreland	Jonathan Rea
Senior Secretary	Pat Stewart	Dowie Hollie
Intermediate Secretary	Sophie Chambers	Lynn Gray
Junior Secretary	Cathy Moreland	Derek Wilson
Minor Secretary	Bethan Crawford	Josh Pentland

### **Girl's Winners 2024**

Senior Cup	MCB beat Strathearn
Senior Plate	Sullivan beat Belfast HS
Intermediate Cup	VCB Beat Sullivan
Intermediate Plate	Strathearn beat MCB
Junior Cup	Glenlola beat VCB
Junior Plate	MCB beat Carrick GS
Junior Shield	Rockport beat Ballymena Academy
Minor Cup	Strathearn beat MCB
Minor Plate	VCB beat Enniskillen
Minor Shield	Wallace beat Banbridge Academy

### **Boy's Winners 2024**

Senior Cup	Friends School beat Campbell College
Senior Plate	Belfast HS beat Larne GS
Intermediate Cup	Bangor GS beat Regent House
Intermediate Plate	RBAI beat Enniskillen Royal
Junior Cup	Methody beat Sullivan Upper
Junior Plate	Campbell College beat Ballymena Academy
Junior Shield	Rockport beat Regent House
Minor Cup	Methody and Sullivan share the cup
Minor Plate	Cross & Passion College beat Down HS
Minor Shield	RBAI beat Killicommaine JHS

### **Review of the year:**

Everyone was in agreement that the year was successful and ran very smoothly. All matches were completed on time and the Final's Days were a success. It was noted that it was good to see new schools progressing

### **Proposed changes:**

- S Chambers proposed Finals Days to be played the Monday / Tuesday of the week to allow some pupils to play Carrickmines tournament.
- AMcC is looking at other venues for Final's Day as Bangor LTC's location does not always suit all the travelling teams - just looking at options to consider.
- It was proposed to look at QF / SF Day as well as the final – just to help get them played. If it works regionally and all schools agree, there should be no issue, but it will be left to the schools concerned to organise.
- Change the school rules so no sets in the Inter / Senior final – Amended to the following:
  - Minor & Junior group stages: first to 6 games, tie break at 6-6
  - Knockout stages:
    - Minor & Junior: first to 8 games, tie break at 7-7
    - Intermediate: first to 8 games, tie break at 7-7
    - Senior Girls: first to 8 games, tie break at 7-7
    - Senior Boys: first to 10 games, tie break 9-9
- Will Boyd is happy to keep updating the website but secretaries have to be more proactive in sending results

### **Closing comments**

- CNM wishes to thank all the secretaries for their hard work again this year, without them the tournaments would not happen.
- CNM thanks the staff at Ulster tennis for being involved again this year, especially Anna McCartan for all the administration work behind the scenes.