

# WEALD JUNIORS

ISSUE 2 - AUTUMN 2019

## Do you know Petra and Joey - the ladies' and men's first team captains?

We asked them to tell us a bit more about themselves...

### How did you get into tennis?

When I was 12 my parents introduced me to tennis. I started playing with them and my older brother, eventually joining the local tennis club.

### What other hobbies do you have?

Most of my hobbies are sports related. I enjoy snowboarding and ice skating in the winter and then also golf and any beach sports.

### Tell us one thing about yourself that others may not know about you.

I am Czech and in the Czech Republic every name is assigned a special name day on a certain date of the year. My name date 'Petra' is on 17th August. In the Czech Republic it is as important as your birthday 😊!



Petra winning the Ladies' Weald Open



Can you guess which one of these two ice-skating girls is Petra? (Answer on the back page)

### Who's your favourite tennis player and why?

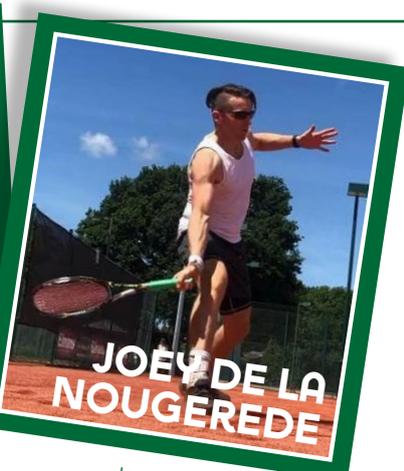
Growing up playing tennis, my idol was Steffi Graf. Nowadays I'm a huge fan of Roger and Rafa.

### What advice do you have for junior members to help them enjoy and improve their tennis?

Tennis can be very enjoyable but also a very difficult and frustrating game. It teaches you to push yourself to the limits. There are bad days and good days. Don't lose heart, as if you work hard you will be successful. After all, it is a game where you need to be mentally strong.



Joey as a school boy



Joey playing at the Weald

### How did you get into tennis?

Like most people I was inspired by watching Wimbledon on TV. I found my dad's old racket and started whacking things around the garden pretending to be Boris Becker! I pestered my dad to take me to my local park's courts and eventually we joined Seaford tennis club, which is where I grew up.

### What other hobbies do you have?

I write poetry and I have a Facebook page for it!

[www.facebook.com/Joeyspoetry](http://www.facebook.com/Joeyspoetry) I also like painting (water colours) and relaxing with my wife and family.

### Tell us one thing about yourself that others may not know about you.

My wife and I are expecting our first child (a girl) in January and I would love her to take up tennis!

### Who's your favourite tennis player and why?

That's easy! Roger! The GOAT 🐐! Perfect tennis player! Perfect man! A living God!

### What advice do you have for junior members to help them enjoy and improve their tennis?

Tennis is a very, very difficult sport and to get to the top is quite rare, but the journey of self-improvement is more fun than the end result. The skills you develop as a tennis player will transfer to other areas of your life as you learn to win and learn to lose. Tennis is a very social sport (some of my best friends I have met through tennis) and it is a sport for life; you can play when you are 3 and 103! Don't compare yourself to anyone else, just try to get a bit better every day and be your best self.

## Have you met our new junior members?



Mylie (6) has loved tennis from a very young age as her dad is a keen tennis player. She can't wait to start lessons at the Weald.



Florence (7) enjoys playing tennis, netball, gymnastics and ballet. Her other hobbies include beavers, singing and cuddling cats.

Her brother Franklin (5) enjoys playing tennis,

football, swimming and running. He also likes computer games and playing Top Trumps and Uno.



James (7) has just started year 2 at Hassocks Infants school. He has been having lessons with Jarryd for two years. He has become a member at the Weald so that he can play together

with his family. He loves playing tennis, swimming and cricket.



## LTA (Lawn Tennis Association) changes 2019/2020

From 1 April 2020, competition age groups for junior players will be based on a calendar year e.g. a player's age on 31 December. A new U11 age group will be introduced at all levels of competition to support players with their transition from Green to Yellow ball.

In the Autumn 2019 the LTA will be introducing a new LTA National League Winter team competition to provide more opportunities for players to have fun competing as part of a team. The new league will provide players of all ages from 8U – 18U with regular league matches, against similar standard players throughout the winter months.

The method for determining acceptance into Grade 5 events (local club or county level events) will be changing. From September 2019 players will be accepted into Grade 5 events on a 'First Come, First Served basis'. Entries will be accepted in date and time order until the draw is full. Any players not accepted will be placed on the reserve list. If a player withdraws from an event the player at the top of the reserve list will be selected to replace them.

You can read more about these changes by accessing this link: [www.lta.org.uk/play-compete/competing/competition-changes-20192020/](http://www.lta.org.uk/play-compete/competing/competition-changes-20192020/)

## Have you signed up for LTA membership?

As mentioned in the previous issue all Weald junior members can become an LTA member for free. If you have not yet signed up please follow these steps:

Access this website [www.lta.org.uk/member/benefits/?product=child](http://www.lta.org.uk/member/benefits/?product=child), click on "Join today" and enter your details. You will be asked to enter an LTA registered venue which is the Weald. Once you have registered you will be assigned a BTM (British Tennis Membership) number which will enable us to record results of the matches that you played at the Weald and any external competition results will be entered for you as well.

# OUR JUNIORS TAKING PART IN COMPETITIONS



On 18th August I entered an 8U tournament which took place at the Weald. It was a great day, with lots of matches played. I had been practising my serve over the summer holidays, so with my dog Ace watching as my good luck charm, I was really pleased to get some Aces! I made it to the final, but

unfortunately on this occasion I was runner up. It was all great practice for the Sussex Championships where I came 6th.



Oliver entered many tournaments playing both singles and doubles over the last few months. Here is just a summary of some of his successes. Reedham Park singles match play: winner, South East Summer County Tour 14U: winner, Sussex County Championships (3 categories): 14U boys doubles

runners up, 16U doubles quarter finals and 14U singles quarter finals and West Worthing 18U doubles: consolidation draw winners.



I played in an 8U tournament in the Withdean Sports Complex which is only about a 10-minute drive from the Weald. I enjoyed playing many different players and won the tournament. The best thing about the tournament was that as a winner you hand out certificates to all the other

players, shake their hands and say well played.



Finn was the runner up in the Bracknell Open tournament. The Bracknell Open is a Grade 4 all-age tournament that was blessed by brilliant weather this year. This was Finn's second tournament since he has risen from 12U to 14U even though he was still 12 until late June. As such, not much was

expected in terms of going deep in draws at present, so to reach the final was a definite bonus! Two very impressive wins and a withdrawal saw him pitched against Jacques, a 14 year old two rating points above him from Berkshire. The difference was in the 'final ball' consistency as they traded excellent rally shots with Jacques 'staying' for longer! Finn's serve was 'on-fire' throughout the tournament and this is clearly going to be a great asset as he develops.

## Summer Team Tennis success for two Weald Teams

Congratulations to our 8U and 12U teams who won their groups in Team Tennis this summer: The players competing for 8U were Tom Huard, Gabe Yolland, Luca Landivar and Connor Prestwich. The 12U group was represented by Lewis Williams, Sammy Edwards, Henry Olby, Louis Buckland and Adam Huard.

## Junior County Squad

The Weald would like to congratulate our young guns of Oliver Hilton, Josh Buckland and Molly Browne for all being selected to take part in the Tennis Sussex County Programme. This is a fantastic opportunity and will give them a chance to train with the best players in the county for their age groups. The coaches are excited to see how they all get on and aim to get more junior players into these training programmes over the coming years.



TENNIS  
SUSSEX



# NEW MINI TENNIS COURTS AT THE WEALD!

Many of you will have seen that we have a fabulous new set of four courts for mini tennis now. Earlier in the year the Tennis Committee decided that the old court one, that wasn't great to play on with all its confusing lines for different games, should be turned into courts purely for junior mini tennis.

Firstly, the old surface had to be dug up to get rid of some tree roots and then huge holes had to be dug for the new net posts. Then we had the great new colours added along with all new doors and fencing for the whole area. Finally, the nets and lines were added and we were ready for play. We hope that all of you will have great fun learning and practising your tennis on these courts.

**Did you guess which one of the two young girls is Petra?**

She is the one on the right in the red dress.

## Junior Club Championships

The Junior Club Championships will be hosted by the coaches on the 10th November. There will be a sign up sheet on the noticeboard. It will be £3 an entry for each event. It will be ranging from 8U to 18U age groups. Let's make it a big event this year and get as many of you signed up and playing. Look forward to seeing as many junior members competing as possible.

**Happy hitting!**

**Could you share your achievements with us?**

**We would really like to know about your successes, awards, medals and other achievements outside of the tennis club. If you are happy to share these with us, please email them to us at [lucie\\_huard2004@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:lucie_huard2004@yahoo.co.uk)**

## Dates for your diary

### Events at the Weald

16U Grade 4 Tournament

OCTOBER  
**13**  
SUNDAY

10U Grade 5 Boys Tournament

OCTOBER  
**20**  
SUNDAY

October half term camp -  
week commencing:

OCTOBER  
**28**

Junior Club Championships

NOVEMBER  
**10**  
SUNDAY

Coaches Christmas Tournament

DECEMBER  
**15**  
SUNDAY