

A message from Heather Bottomley – Norfolk LTA President



Happy New Year to everyone!

While the New Year has not started in the way we would have liked, with another lockdown, I hope everyone has been keeping safe and well and managed to have as good a time as conditions would allow over Christmas.

Last year proved how resourceful and resilient our tennis community is and I'm sure everyone will be busy planning for better days ahead when we can play again. Within the County we are busy planning for the restart and the development of Norfolk Tennis for the next few years, in line with the strategic plan developed last year. There are a few role changes as we start 2021 which I would like to tell you about....

As part of our efforts to develop a county wide pathway for all junior players from grass roots level onwards, to fulfil their potential, we have created a new role of 'Norfolk Performance Officer'. This is an expansion of the previous Junior Team Manager role, with the objective of establishing more, connections and support across the County, as well as running County Training and County Teams for juniors. The role will interact significantly with the Tennis Development strand. Following a very competitive resourcing process Chris Stocker was appointed. We would like to thank Neil Plaskett for his excellent work in the previous role over the past five years. Chris can be contacted on norfolkperformance@norfolktennis.org and he is likely to be in contact with many of you if he hasn't already.

"I am honoured to have the opportunity to lead the development of Norfolk Junior Tennis. With the vision that the management committee have developed, combined with my own ideas and energy, I am looking forward to working with everyone to help drive the resurgence of tennis in our county" – Chris Stocker

Administration scope for the County has been expanded and following another competitive recruitment process the Easton Tennis Centre have been appointed to take over all the Norfolk Tennis administration work. The team, primarily based at the centre, were able to offer a virtual 7 days a week coverage. From now on please address all tennis queries to the team at Easton, email admin@norfolktennis.org or call on 01603 731302.

Stu Silvester has been appointed as Norfolk Marketing and Communications Officer, following a recruitment process. This is a slightly enhanced role from his previous position of Comms Officer (news@norfolktennis.org). Stu will also continue to lead the county school's programme.

Within the voluntary positions of the Association there will be a few further changes after the AGM on 17th February. These will be advised once they have been ratified, together with proper recognition of our thanks to those standing down.

With best wishes,

Heather