

Blackburn Northern

BLACKBURN NORTHERN

Member Update

Date: 16th September 2024



Tennis Section Critical Development

- Completely refurbish Court 1 & 2
- Refurnish all the netting round Court 1 & 2
- Management committee approached Platts tennis courts (positive credentials)
- Two site visits end 2022 and early 2023.
- Quote obtained March 2023



Tennis Section Critical Development

- Platts Tennis Courts quoted £55,000 plus VAT
- Management approved the quote and we agreed to refurbish the courts in October 2024, once the playing season was over.
- Management were going to use reserves of £46,500 and then look at raising the balance.

NOW HOLD THIS THOUGHT



- Dome Constructed in 2004
- Official opening 2005
- Initial cost approx. £500,000
- Dome operational all year round
- Dome machinery runs 24 hours 365 days of the year
- Valuable asset for BBN due to revenue generated.
- Difficult to sustain BBN without the dome income.
- Blackburn Northern only club in East Lancs that has an indoor facility



- Annual Service through Bridome
- Guarantees reliability
- Service costs £2700 per annum
- Every November.
- Bridome have effectively kept the dome going for 22 years.



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- November 23 Service
- Bridome found that the heating chamber that includes the inflation machinery need to be completely replaced.
- The heating chamber cannot be replaced without the whole inflation unit being replaced.
- Initial cost quoted was nearly a six figure sum.
- NM spoke to Bridome and re negotiated this lower,
- Costs can be shared with any member who is interested.



- Management Committee have looked at all options.
- Various people have surveyed the site.
- Unfortunately, all avenues lead us back to Bridome



- Matches played in the dome include
- Lancs Vets
- Winter League
- Lancashire County Seniors 5 age groups.
- Primary School partnership for tennis competitions.
- County U12's boys train
- Senior Interclub Competition.



- Other uses for the dome include
- VI group on Tuesdays
- Local bookings
- Members block bookings
- Large coaching programme based at the club.



Outcome

- Management unanimously voted that we need to complete the dome work in winter 24.
- This results in court 1 & 2 refurbishment unfortunately having to be delayed.
- However we will continue to maintain the courts in the excellent way AF has maintained them.
- Hopefully have funds to fully refurbish court 1 & 2 in the next couple of years, or as soon as financially possible.
- We will also improve the patio area outside Court 1.



Financials

- £46,500 from the club reserves.
- £16,000 (8 x £2000 life time membership)
- £15,000 loan applied from tennis Lancashire repaid at £2000 per annum.
- But we still need more to finish the project and refurbish court 1 & 2.



Action

- We have let Platts know to delay the works on court 1 & 2.
- The dome takes priority.



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Help from Club Members

- We need support to raise funds for the club and the dome.
- Please speak to a committee member re the life membership.
- Please speak to a committee member if you would like to make a donation or offer support.
- We need support to refurbish court 1 & 2.
- Management are reaching out to potential sponsors for all courts ie. Padel Court could be the Audi/VW court.
- A complete promotional package has been created for sponsors and SL is approaching interested parties.
- August 113,000 hits on our website.



Questions

- If any member would like to take up the life member offer
- Or make a donation
- Or sponsor the club in some way
- Then please contact Nindi or any member of the committee.
- treasurer@blackburnnorthern.co.uk