

To members of Corstorphine LTC:

BOX LEAGUES

In 2017, we experimented with box leagues in the form of a Mixed Singles competition to complement the social tennis doubles sessions and the teams in the East of Scotland leagues. Unfortunately, communication difficulties developed with the provider of the software used to administer the box leagues and it wasn't possible to continue that league. However, the format was popular with a significant number of members and we propose to re-instate it using a different software provider if there is sufficient interest.

Not everyone will be familiar with the concept so, without being prescriptive of rules and scoring, here is a summary of what's involved:

- A box league gives players of all abilities an opportunity to play in a singles competition, and to get to know others at the club that they might not usually play. Enthusiasm rather than ability is the key to participation and enjoyment! The system works on-line, from the publication of new box leagues through a facility to email opponents, to the posting of results by players.
- All the players who wish to participate are assigned to "boxes" of, say, 5 players each; so, if there are 30 players, there would be 6 boxes. Numbers don't have to be a multiple of 5, the sizes of the boxes can be varied.
- Each box league is active for a set duration. This can be variable in length - so, for example, it could be longer in mid-winter, to take account of holiday periods and the likelihood of poor weather.
- In each box players play each other once so, if the box has 5 players, each player has 4 matches to play in the time allowed. Players arrange their own matches, book their own courts, and input their results into the system which will then give each player a score based on the outcome of the match.
- At the end of each active period the administrator takes the box league off-line and the system tallies up the scores for all players and carries out a promotion and demotion process. The rules for scoring and promotion/demotion can be tailored according to what we think will work best in our club.
- Players can be added and withdrawn at the end of each period, and new players can challenge an existing participant if they don't want to be assigned to the bottom box. These challenges are separate from the box league matches.
- Once the promotion/demotion has been carried out, players are notified that the new box league has been published with the next "play by" date, and the whole process begins again.

For more information contact Alec Stevenson (alec.stevenson1@btinternet.com).

If you would like to take part, please confirm this in an email to Alec. Once the system is ready to go live he will send you a log-in name and further instructions.