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Telford Park win the Millennium Cup for the fifth time in ten years

Telford Park Lawn Tennis Club won the Millennium Cup for the fifth time in the competition's ten-year history when its team defeated Wigmore Lawn Tennis Club on Saturday 17 September by six points to three.



On a difficult day in terms of playing conditions, the conclusion of the 2011 inter-club contest went down to the wire and was decided just as the rain arrived at Wigmore, the host of this year's final.

The Millennium Cup is a pretty unique event in that it was conceived to provide a friendly, competitive environment between members of the five local clubs of Streatham, south London.

The idea is to encourage new members into match play under friendly conditions and more experienced players who already compete in the Surrey league are discouraged from playing under a Standard of Play criteria devised by the Organising Committee on which representatives from each club serve.

"It has proven to be a popular and successful format involving all ages," said Barbara Wancke, the Millennium Cup Tournament Director and Chair of the Organising Committee.

"This year's edition proved to be closely contested in the league stage and the final could have gone either way when the teams were tied at 3 all."

The first point of the day went Wigmore's way when Pierre Galez impressively overcame Guy Tillson in the tricky wind, 6-2 6-1, in the Boys Under 16 Singles.



Playing alongside was the Men's Open Singles between Telford's Mathieu Lacour and Wigmore's Claudio Soares, which was destined to go the full distance, as were the two pairs in Women's Doubles.

Both matches lasted a good two hours and were closely fought.

Wigmore's Cary Alder and Caroline Strachan eventually outran Telford's Sara Clarke and Brigid Clarke, 4-6 6-3 8-6, in a match that was played in a wonderful spirit, putting the hosts up 2 points in the tie.

The men were locked in a fine battle that saw Soares take the first set on a tiebreak, only to be

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levelled by Lacourx who forced the decider in which the Frenchman romped home to victory, 6-7 6-3 6-0.

"Last time I played him I won in three sets in over three hours so when I saw him today, I thought: Oh no!" confessed Lacourx, whose win put Telford Park on the board.. "Today it was shorter because his back hurt him"

"I've been off for 8 weeks and just came back last week," said a disappointed Soares. "I was okay for a while but then I felt my back and it just got worse as the match went on. I couldn't really play at the last."

Meanwhile the Women's Open Singles contestants had been on court for a while, and both found the conditions difficult. It took Telford's Melissa Canavan a set and a half to get used to the artificial clay court and her consistent opponent, Wigmore's Marelene Russell, whose ability to scoop the ball back into court was quite remarkable.

Canavan began to find her range and came back from a first set deficit to win the next two and garner Telford a valuable second point, 4-6 6-4 6-2.

"I've never played on this type of clay before and she got everything back," Canavan said. "But I'm glad to have been able to pull it out in the end!"

With the points balanced at 2-all, the Girls Singles got under way, closely followed by the Men's Doubles.

Nathasha Cox's left-handed forehand proved the decisive weapon in the girls' contest, and she was the steadier against Sharleen Hussey, winning 6-1 6-4 to put Telford ahead 3-2.

Wigmore immediately struck back with a convincing win in the Men's Doubles from Damien Hing and Gavin Pereira over Tim Clarke and Jamie Scott, 6-3 6-2, levelling the tie at 3-all.

"They were a good pair," said Pereira. "I thought they would beat us at the start but in the end we were just a little more consistent."

Telford's Sarah Mawby took the first set easily in the Women's 40 and Over Singles but had a fight on her hands in the second from Celia Edwards. She survived the scare and came through 6-1 6-4 to put Telford ahead 4-3.

With all to play for, the two remaining matches took to court as the weather deteriorated and the conditions for play became even trickier.

Wigmore's mixed pair of Alexandra McAdam Clark and Neil Dowden put in a fine effort but were pegged back by Alice Hamilton and Mathieu Lacourx, 6-2 6-3, who clinched the tie in Telford Park's favour.

In the Men's Over 45 Singles, Telford's Keith Lavender recovered from 1-5 down to take the first set against Adrian Crawford and went up 3-0 when the heavy rain set in and the match was abandoned.

"This was one of the closest finals we have had in the Millennium Cup," concluded Barbara Wancke. "Congratulations to Telford Park and well done to everyone who competed."

Murray Sutton, Chairman of Grafton LTC responded on behalf of all the clubs participating in the competition - Grafton, Norbury Park, Telford Park, Wigmore and Woodfield Grove: "I'd like to thank Barbara for running the Millennium Cup for the last 10 years and to acknowledge all the work she has put into making this such a success.

"I know she intends to step down this year and I'd like to reassure her, and everyone who enjoys playing, that we [on the committee] will make sure that the competition continues into the future so we have a go at winning this magnificent trophy!"

The coveted Millennium Cup trophy, which was donated by the three inaugural clubs - Telford Park, Wigmore and Woodfield Grove, is a beautiful crystal vase centrepiece measuring 215cm in height and 145mm in diameter set on a wooden base with a silver sleeve.

It has now been won five times by Telford Park, while Wigmore, Grafton and Norbury Park have each won it twice.

Final Results of the 2011 Competition

Saturday 17 September, 2011

TELFORD PARK LTC DEFEATED WIGMORE LTC 6-3

At Wigmore Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Marlene Russell lost to Melissa Canavan 4-6 6-4 6-2; Men's Singles: Claudio Soares lost to Mathieu Lacroux d 6-7 6-3 6-0; Women's Over 40 Singles: Celia Edwards lost to Sarah Mawby 6-1 6-4; Men's Over 45 Singles: Adrian Crawford lost to Keith Lavender 7-6 3-0 (abandoned - rain); Girl's Under 16 Singles: Sharleen Hussey lost to Natasha Cox 6-1 6-4; Boys Under 16 Singles: Pierre Galez d Guy Tillson 6-2 6-1; Women's Doubles: Cary Alder & Caroline Strachen 4-6 6-3 8-6; Mixed Doubles: Alexandra McAdam Clark and Neil Dowden lost to Alice Hamilton & Mathieu Lacroux 6-2 6-3; Men's Doubles: Damien Hing & Gavin Pereira d Tim Clarke and Jamie Scott 6-3 6-2.

Saturday 25 June, 2011

WIGMORE LTC DEFEATED NORBURY PARK LTC 7-2

At Wigmore Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Marlene Russell lost to Caroline Hodd 6-3; 6-2; Men's Singles: Adrian Crawford d Eric Mensah 6-1 6-2; Women's Over 40 Singles: Anne Boucnik d Helen Mountain 6-2 6-4; Men's Over 45 Singles: Peter Hodsoll lost to Khamsay Phomavorgo 6-2-6-2; Girl's Under 16 Singles: Sharleen Hussey d Dominique Williams 6-? 6-4; Boys Under 16 Singles: Galez d George Twim Barima 6-2 6-1; Women's Doubles: Wendy Fidao & Carys Alder d Lisa Patient & Jenny Barrett 6-1 6-2; Mixed Doubles: Alexandra McAdam Clark & Peter Lilley d Mark Squires & Carol Watson 6-4 7-6; Men's Doubles: Claudio Soares & Gavin Pereira d Cecil Dennie & Tony Ball 6-0 6-1.

Saturday 11 June, 2011

WOODFIELD GROVE TC DEFEATED GRAFTON LTC 5-4

At Woodfield Grove Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Mercedes Gonzales Gallegos d Caroline Ellingham 6-1 6-1; Men's Singles: Roberto Savoia d Dan Reynolds 6-1 4-6 6-3; Women's Over 40 Singles: Viv Young d Helen Couldrey 6-2 6-3; Men's Over 45 Singles: David Snook d Murray Sutton 6-3 3-6 6-1; Girl's Under 16 Singles: w/o to Grafton; Boys Under 16 Singles: Sam Grover lost to Sergino Zamara 6-1 6-0; Women's Doubles: Claire Lean & Mercedes Gonzales Gallegos d Rachel Codd & Angela Raynor 6-4 6-4; Mixed Doubles: Carole Britton & Kenny Govan lost to Louise Wilson & Chris Noel 6-1 6-3; Men's Doubles: Piers Simcox & Matt Chivers lost to Richard Barker & Gareth Jardine 6-2 6-3.

Saturday 21 May, 2011

TELFORD PARK LTC DEFEATED GRAFTON LTC 6-3

At Telford Park Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Melissa Canavan d Gemma Wallace 7-5 6-1; Men's Singles: Andrew Jelffs lost to Steve Grant 6-0 6-7 6-0; Women's Over 40 Singles: Sarah Mawby d Maureen Kenny 6-0 6-2; Men's Over 45 Singles: Keith Lavender d Murray Sutton 6-3 6-1; Girl's Under 16 Singles: Natasha Cox lost to Angela Zamara 6-0 7-5; Boys Under 16 Singles: Ed Tillson d Renael Dixon 6-2 6-0; Women's Doubles: Gilly Sinclair & Sarah Clarke d Rachel Codd & Caroline Ellingham 6-

0 6-0; Mixed Doubles: Andrew Jelffs & Juliet Griffiths lost to Gareth Jardine & Louise Wilson 6-4 6-2; Men's Doubles: Francois Reboul & Mark Thurgood d Richard Barker & Anthony North 6-1 6-0.

WIGMORE LTC DEFEATED WOODFIELD GROVE TC 6-3

At Wigmore Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Amy Taylor lost to Mercedes Gonzalez Gallegos 4-6 6-0 6-2; Men's Singles: Damien Hing lost to Sam Scibilia 6-2 6-4; Women's Over 40 Singles: w/o to Wigmore; Men's Over 45 Singles: Peter Hodsoll d David Snook 6-2 6-2; Girl's Under 16 Singles: Minna Hainault d Amy Taylor 4-6 6-0 6-2; Boys Under 16 Singles: w/o to Wigmore; Women's Doubles: Alexandra McAdam Clark & Sharon Goulds d Carol Britton & Mercedes Gonzalez Gallegos 6-4 3-6 6-4; Mixed Doubles: w/o to Wigmore; Men's Doubles: Adrian Crawford & Krishna Shiva lost to David Snook & Matt Barker 7-6 6-7[10].

Sunday 15 May, 2011

NORBURY PARK LTC DEFEATED WOODFIELD GROVE TC 6-3

At Norbury Park Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Jenny Barrett d Abi Brown 6-1 4-6 7-5; Men's Singles: Eric Mensah d Craig Schonborg 5-7 6-4 7-6(9); Women's Over 40 Singles: Maxine Stoute lost to Viv Young 6-2 6-4; Men's Over 45 Singles: Khamsay Phommavongsa d David Snook 7-5 6-1; Girl's Under 16 Singles: Sabrina Stoute lost to Scarlett Bishai 7-5 4-6 6-1; Boys Under 16 Singles: George Twum Barima lost to Ben Thompson 7-5 6-3; Women's Doubles: Caroline Hodd & Lisa Patient d Carol Britton & Claire Lean 6-3 7-5; Mixed Doubles: Nigel Flay & Helen Mountain d Alex Kyle & Viv Young 6-2 6-3;

Men's Doubles: Frank Baron & Mohammed Sahi d Paul McGuinness & Piers Simcox 6-3 6-4.

Saturday 14 May, 2011

TELFORD PARK LTC DEFEATED WIGMORE LTC 6-3

At Telford Park Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Alice Hamilton lost to M Rusell 6-4 7-5; Men's Singles: Mathieu Lacroux d C Soares 7-5 4-6 6-2; Women's Over 40 Singles: Sarah Mawby d Wendy Fidao 6-4 6-1; Men's Over 45 Singles: Keith Lavender d Peter Hodsoll 6-0 6-4; Girl's Under 16 Singles: C Beith lost to S Haskey 6-4 6-1; Boys Under 16 Singles: Mateusz lost to Pierre Galez 6-3 6-1; Women's Doubles: G Sinclair & S Clarke d C Aldex & C Strachen 6-1 6-7 6-1; Mixed Doubles: Alice Hamilton & Mathieu Lacroux d C Edwards & N Bowden 6-0 6-1; Men's Doubles: F Reboul & A Maton d D Hira & K Shiva 6-4 6-1.

Sunday 8 May, 2011

TELFORD PARK LTC DEFEATED NORBURY PARK LTC 6-3

At Norbury Park Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Caroline Hodd lost to Alice Hamilton 6-2 7-5; Men's Singles: Mark Squires lost to Adrien Maton 6-3 3-6 6-4; Women's Over 40 Singles: Lisa Patient lost to Sarah Mawby 6-2 6-1; Men's Over 45 Singles: Michael Stoute d Trevor Barber 6-1 6-1; Girl's Under 16 Singles: Dominica Williams lost to Annie Griffiths 6-2 6-2; Boys Under 16 Singles: George Barima d Seb Pauwels 6-3 7-6; Women's Doubles: Anne Marie O'Hara & Sue Lovejoy lost to Ella Griffiths & Brigid Clarke 3-6 7-5 7-6; Mixed Doubles: Khamsay Phommavongsa lost to Alice Hamilton & Mathieu Lacroux 6-1 6-3; Men's Doubles: James Richards & Stuart Collins d Mathieu Lacroux & Richard Povey 6-3 6-1.

Saturday 7 May, 2011

WIGMORE LTC DEFEATED GRAFTON LTC 5-4

At Grafton Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Gemma Wallace d Amy Taylor 6-3 6-2; Men's Singles: Toby Mitchell lost to

Peter Hodson 6-4 6-3; Women's Over 40 Singles: Maureen Kenny d Nell Lindsell 7-6 7-6; Men's Over 45 Singles: Murray Sutton lost to Neil Dowden 6-3 6-2; Girl's Under 16 Singles: Paula Ratajcsak d Minna Hainault 6-2 6-3; Boys Under 16 Singles: Renael Dixon lost to Pierre Galez 6-1 6-2; Women's Doubles: Rachel Codd & Nicola Moore lost to Alexandra Macadam-Clark & Sharon Goulds 6-3 2-6 6-2; Mixed Doubles: Chris Noel & Louise Wilson d Christo Oglethorpe & Gill Mezey 7-5 6-2; Men's Doubles: Richard Barker & Anthony North lost to Adrian Crawford & Damien Hing 6-4 2-6 6-4.

Saturday 16 April, 2011

GRAFTON LTC DEFEATED NORBURY PARK LTC 8-1

At Grafton Lawn Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Gemma Wallace d Caroline Hodd 6-4 1-6 6-3; Men's Singles: Matt Lavers d Eric Mensah 6-0 6-4; Women's Over 40 Singles: Monica Parrott d Carole Watson 6-1 6-2; Men's Over 45 Singles: Rob Cumming d Andrew King 6-2 6-1; Girl's Under 16 Singles: Angela Zamara d Sabrina Stoute 6-0 6-0; Boys Under 16 Singles: Sergino Zamara d George Barima 6-2 6-3; Women's Doubles: Rachel Codd & Nicola Moore d Helen Mountain & Annemarie O'Hara 6-2 6-2; Mixed Doubles: Chris Noel & Louise Wilson d Nigel Flay & Maxine Stoute 6-2 4-6 6-3; Men's Doubles: Richard Barker & Dan Reynolds lost to Mark Squires & James Richards 6-4 2-6 5-7

Saturday 16 April, 2011

TELFORD PARK LTC DEFEATED WOODFIELD GROVE TC 8-1

At Woodfield Grove Tennis Club

Women's Singles: Sophie Dannreuther lost to Alice Hamilton 6-3 6-3; Men's Singles: Kenny Govan lost to T Foskin 6-1 6-0; Women's Over 40 Singles: No show lost to J Richardson w/o; Men's Over 45 Singles: David Snook lost to K Lavender 6-1 6-1; Girl's Under 16 Singles: Ciara lost to N Cox 6-1 6-0; Boys Under 16 Singles: Ben Thompson d H Laughton Scott 6-2 6-1; Women's Doubles: Candice Jones & Esme Kyle lost to G Sinclair & L Pereira 6-4 7-6; Mixed Doubles: Kenny Govan & Candice Jones lost to Mathieu Lacoux & Alice Hamilton 6-0 6-0; Men's Doubles: Piers Simcox & Paul McGuinness lost to 6-3 3-6 6-4.

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