**Results of Survey on Brookfield Championships 2019**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Count |
| **Autumn (late Aug/Sept)** | 20 |
| **Spring (April)** | 23 |
| **Summer (June/July)** | 10 |
| **Grand Total** | **53** |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| **Championship tiebreak** | Count |
| **Yes - it worked well** | 26 |
| **No - it did not work well** | 21 |
| **No opinion** | 6 |
| **Grand Total** | **53** |

**Any comments on time of year**

April

April / May if possible: longer evenings, chance of better weather

April best time and then late Aug/Sept but not June/July does not work for majority of those who play regularly throughout other times of the year.

April seems to work well

Best time to get ready for summer league

Best to get maximum players in Spring. We were just unlucky with the weather this year. The weeks before and after were lovely.

Build in a 7pm start time to the Junior Coaching calendar for the first week of the Champs. Great turnout this year.

Club Championship should be played at the end of the Summer 2015 Numbers clearly validate this. March Championship was played under lights and in cold, wet horrible weather. Not to be repeated please..

Gets people who don't play all year to get fit and interested!

Happy to play in summer also,if played in spring again i feel stongly that seniors should have precedence over juniors especially for the club championships. Matches were started far too late , starting say at 6.30 would have made a big difference

I think you should analyse the returns from those who played in the championships separately from the returns if those who did not. The timing is off Easter might determine the actual dates.

I would prefer to play in daylight and either summer or late August to September. Or last 2 weeks in June. It first week in July

I'd like the Championships to take place straight after the Summer League

In fact any time late May to September but not before...it’s too early in season, cold dark wet etc

Looking at the numbers over the past 10 years, Spring seems to suit members. More people can commit to playing at this time of the year.

March is too early

Most Tennis Clubs traditionally have their Championships in Autumn 1st 2 weeks in September and weather is normally kind !

No real preference- Maybe Spring as it results in a larger entry

Players will be fitter and ready for a Championship tournament having been playing more regularly during the Summer, especially singles.

Preference for Autumn though Spring a very close second option

Spring or Autumn - good preparation for leagues

Tennis tournaments are associated traditionally with long summer evenings therefore daylight is essential. While the Irish weather is somewhat unreliable, longer daylight is assured. Playing championships in layers of fleece, is certainly not my idea of how it should be.

The Championships are supposed to be the premier event in the club but it doesn't seem like it, as we are starting the matches much too late because the junior coaching is taking priority also they should be taking place during daylight.

This year the Spring option made for a very early tournament and it was cold and wet for most of it. I would rather a summer tournament but entries do not hold up. So probably Autumn is the best option to get the better weather and better entries.

Too much pressure on court availability

Weather conditions are better during June/July

Weather should be better then.

When the weather is generally better and the clocks have gone forward

"Would Prefer autumn"

**Comments on 3rd Set Championship Tie-Break**

Bad loaded question, it just cheapens tennis competition in my opinion. Hate to watch it hate to play it. Happy with 3 tie breaks just about.

can see how it kept matches shorter but hated playing it

Championship should be best of 3 sets with last set decided on tie breaker at 6 all.

Championship Tie-Break with Full Sets at the Finals

Championships are the ultimate event in the calendar, start the games earlier and do not allow the junior program to dictate when senior members can play. Many players get only one or two matches, let them be played as the game is routinely supposed to be

Could be used in mixed doubles but I think singles and doubles should keep the full 3 sets for the club championships as it makes a lottery of the game once we go to a 3rd set.

Excellent idea

Having lost 2 of my matches on a 3rd set championship Tie Break I am not a fan..

I feel this is a club decision and it worked well for this years timing challenge but a full 3rd set would be preferable if possible.

I prefer a shorter match

I think a 3'rd set would have had a different outcome in some matches

I think ideally a third set is more fair, however I understand there are time constraints and this is most likely the overriding factor

I thought it ruined the whole match and it was like playing a very tentative game. At least playing a third set One can come back if they are down in a set.

If its a tight match, the winner is often the winner if the last game before the tie break. It goes with the momentum of that match.

"If the competition is held in the Springtime, it is better because of the weather. Also, it is easier time schedule matches at whatever time they take place."

IFthere is another way of prolonging duration of tournament to eliminate the possibility of tie break it would be preferable.

It seems like luck plays more of a part and not strategy also having a strong serve is a huge advantage more than clever play. It is not a good idea.

No think we should play it out as before (can't say it didn't work well though)

Preference for third set which would require an earlier start to the first matches

Preference would be for a third set

Speed

There aren’t a lot of rounds in many of the competitions so would think we can afford the time to have a clearer winner

This is the championship why demean it by making games shorter,. Run it over a longer period if it has to be

Tie break OK in 3rd set, but finals should be best of three full sets.

Too quick, if you've just lost the second set it doesn't give a player a chance to regain momentum.

While many think it is unfair, it does speed up games & allows for players to play on in singles and doubles without expecting too much fatigue. The WTA /ATP format is for Champ tiebreak in doubles only.

Works well even though I came out the wrong side!

**Any other feedback on tournament (e.g. format, duration, bar & social etc)**

Very well run and very enjoyable, just weather was miserably cold the second week

All went very well but a bit later in spring might have slightly better weather! No guarantee though and overall I thought it was great.

"Allot enough time for matches during the 2 weeks. Flex the kids coaching lessons to suit - if this is done in advance at the beginning of year/term it should not be a problem. Could matches also be played during the middle weekend to allow more time etc.

I think the big social event should be on the Saturday night rather than Friday night - I feel it could attract more attendees and spectators if it ran early evening after finals etc and could be an even greater club social event. The format/food etc was very good and big kudos to all the volunteers."

As a parent with a child doing the coaching until 7.30 i’d be more than happy for the coaching to take place at the weekend or not to happen during the championships to accommodate an earlier start of matches.

Compliments to Ruth Potterton, amazing organisational skills.

firstly thanks to ruth for organizing a great tournament and i thoroughly enjoyed it despite the late starts and awful conditions. If played at a better time of year it would elminate use if lights, players would enjoy their games more, and possibly you would get more members down to watch and enjoy the championships, and make it a more social event for everyone

Format is grand and is well run by Ruth

Hugely well run by Ruth and Social Comm. put in lots of hard work enjoyed by all

I am in favour of bringing the presentations to the same time as the At Home barbecue/meal and I think it would work best on Friday evening. We could try play some finals on Thursday night and rest on Friday.

I cannot be sure to be available every night for 2 consecutive weeks, whatever time of year it is held. I tried for a few years, but it was too stressful!

"I feel that a 630 start is better in terms of march scheduling and often it is still bright. Particularly in week 1

The standard in the ladies doubles was really strong and there were great matches to watch in all tne competitoons. the atmosphere both on and off the court was fantastic "

I think the social committee have done a very good job on the whole.

If possible, only have one set of matches on the Saturday, so that the presentation can take place at tea-time

It definitely should start much earlier than 7.30 as it is not fair being expected to go on for a match at 9 or 9.30 as happened to me this year for a singles game 8.45pm start. Children’s coaching should not take precedence over our championships as it was always the highlight of Brookfield calendar. Children’s coaching should stop at 6.30 throughout the year but particularly at championship. As I work full time and I would like to be able to drop in for a game of tennis at 6.30 and talking to a lot of members over the course of the championships they were in agreement. Coach mark mentioned that Saturday afternoons is like a ghost town in Brookfield so why don’t they organize some of the children’s coaching on Saturday afternoons instead of the 6.30 / 7.30. It is also impossible at times to get a court in Saturday mornings as coaches are doing private coaching and group coaching. Just my string feeling on this as I would like to arrange practice matches now for 6.30 on my way home from work. Many thanks fir letting me have this opportunity to share my views as I was going to send an email to tennis committee.

It is a pity that more people are not around for the trophy presentations on the final day. The finals were all good & enjoyable games to watch

It is very well run but the junior coaching seems to be the stumbling block surely for 2 weeks during the year the adults should be more of a priority.

It should never be run again before the clocks go forward in March and run closer to when Wimbledon is on in summer or early autumn

It was great apart from weather

its a bit crazy ungraded knockout 👻. Could the singles be organized as a set of round robins leading to a knockout so everyone gets two games? Would have been nice if the nets had been checked or a net stick available 😳 new balls to buy during the tournament ?? 🎾🎾🎾

Once again summer evenings are conducive to outdoor socializing, dark evenings must be spent indoors. I would assume that the bar sales were down this year, since most players finished so late that there wasn’t enough time to stay around. On one evening the sparkling water stock ran out!

Organisation and pairings excellent would recommend simple foods like bowls of salt free nuts and fruit for player.

"Perhaps we could consider a draw for the mixed tournament to make the competition a bit more competitive.

Most importantly I’d really like to thank all those involved in organizing the tournament, especially Ruth. It was so enjoyable and a great way to get people together. It lovely to see the club full. "

Please sell new balls behind the bar for the duration of tournaments. Social Committee did a super job for the Friday gathering.

Same winners (almost) each year; restrict entries to members only; manning bar is difficult for the entire two weeks; social committee served up outstanding food;

Thanks for a great tournament. The dinner with catering was much easier

The 7 30 and 9 starts worked well with the third set tie breaker. Envisage practical difficulties "holding" those times if we play a full 3rd set. As always, hats off to Ruth on running the tournament--a tough task with the shocking weather we had this year.

The online updates/results and schedules were great.

The standard of players was very high, noticed particularly in doubles. Would some kind of preliminary 'qualifying' rounds encourage more mid-level players to participate and guarantee them at least 2 matches? When I saw the field I knew I was one of the weakest and would only get one match in mixed and WD!

The start time of the matches was very late and I believe this was due to the juniors being on court until 7.30. It is only in the past few years that the junior coaching program has been extended to 7.30 . Before then the juniors were always expected to be finished from 6.30 during the week to allow Adult members court priority. I am not sure when this policy changed but I do think the management Committee need to look carefully at the amount of court time during the week and especially at weekends that is now given over to the juniors. It is usual in most Clubs that generally adult members take priority. I would therefore suggest that during the weeks of the Adult Championships and Handicaps that the juniors finish at 6.30 to allow the matches start at a more reasonable time.

Think early June/late May would be a better time and book ends the Summer with Championship and Handicap tournament.

Tournament well run and good entry. Disappointing having tie breaks as standard was very high and the matches were very entertaining.

Very good way to meet new members.. good to have bar open..

Well organised, well attended, great food and company.. Just terrible timing..