

# Chesham 1879 LT & SC Annual General Meeting

15<sup>th</sup> December 2019

**Chaired by David Griffiths (President)**

## Agenda

Squash/Squash 57 (Racketball) Annual General Meeting

Tennis Annual General Meeting

Club Annual General Meeting

# SQUASH REPORT

- ▶ **Membership** - The squash section has grown slightly in the past year and we continue to see a steady inflow of new members, some through the club Open Day, some via word of mouth and other on spec. Encouragingly, the majority are younger than the current average in the squash section. AN Open Evening is planned for mid January - Friday 17<sup>th</sup>
- ▶ **Publicity** - Linked to the Open Evening, we are also running a news campaign to get Chesham 1879 squash regularly featured in the local press. Led by David Ouvry and David Griffiths we have seen recent coverage of the international trip undertaken by the section to Gibraltar and of recent team matches.
- ▶ **Teams** - The squash section now runs 4 teams in the various Bucks Leagues. We have a men's team in Division 1 and 3, a newly formed Women's team in Division 2 and a Junior team in Division 3. All are at the mid point of the current season and performing well with Men 1 lying 2nd in Division 1, Men 2 lying 3rd in Division 3, Women topping their division and likewise the Juniors. Last season Men 1 narrowly finished 2nd in Division 1, Men 2 finished bottom of Division 3, the Women's team did not exist and the newlyre- formed Juniors were in Division 4. This represents considerable progress, an increase in playing standard and a widening of people representing Chesham 1879.
- ▶ **Coaching** - There is probably a link between increased success and coaching and we now have in Kristen Johnson and John Hatch, 2 regular coaches available to members. John works heavily with the Women and Juniors both of whom have regular coaching sessions. Kristen works more on an individual basis, largely with members on the Men's 2nd team

15<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

# SQUASH REPORT

- ▶ **Sponsorship** - For the first time ever I think, we actually had a sponsorship campaign resulting in income and some local names on the squash 'tin'. Thanks to Steve Ramsden for coordinating this. Our sponsors include Yerrell Flooring, Chatgaon, Plum Lighting, Clark Removals and Seabrook Wines - new sponsors more than welcome.
- ▶ **Events** - We ran, in 2019, our first serious event with world number 26, Mathieu Castagnede, coming to Chesham 1879 for a full evening, doing coaching sessions with Juniors, playing a number of members and then exhibitions vs Charlie Yerrell and Kristen Johnson. The gallery was full with spectators benefitting from the staging built by Robin Brylewski. We also more than covered the costs of the event
- ▶ **Leagues** - Playing membership of the monthly box leagues is also on the increase and its good to see a few of the Juniors now joining the leagues.
- ▶ **Competitions** - the section ran its usual range of competitions in 2019 and is hoping for an increase in participants in 2020
- ▶ **Social** - Club Night has dropped off the calendar recently and we would hope to re-instigate during 2020

# SQUASH REPORT

- ▶ **Courts/Facilities** - Our courts continue to be amongst the best in the County and local area and this time last year we replaced the flooring on both courts and invested in glass back doors to modernise the look and feel of the courts - thanks to Paul G and Paul B for managing this process. Similarly we replaced the flooring of both changing rooms during the summer, an activity managed entirely through volunteers (other than the flooring itself supplied and fitted by Yerrell Flooring)
- ▶ **Court booking system** - 2019 also saw the introduction of Manage My Match, a club wide change. Inevitably as is common in technology projects, there were teething problems but all is now running well - thanks to David G for managing this process
- ▶ **Travel** - The 14th annual 'international' tour took place this year in Gibraltar in early November. The group of 14 playing members (16 total) were welcomed by the Gibraltar Squash Club at their brand new venue in the Europa Sports Centre at the very southern tip of the island. A friendly warm up on the Friday evening was followed by a more serious encounter the following evening where only Tim Pritchard-Jones emerged victorious. Nevertheless, a good time was had by all and the group is already planning next year's trip - probably to Italy.

# Chesham 1879 LT & SC

## Squash/Squash 57 (Racketball) Annual General Meeting

- Election of Officers

Squash Chairman: Roger Hill,

Committee:

Paul Griffiths

Paul Belcher

John Hatch (Coach)

Steve Ramsden

Matthew Yerrell

Julia Yerrell

15<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

# TENNIS REPORT

## ▶ 2019 Review

- ▶ Membership numbers as at 1 October - 143 adults & 81 juniors (224 total)

## ▶ Teams

- ▶ active participation, running over 20 teams this winter
- ▶ winter 2018/19 highlights - L2 won A&D Div 4
- ▶ Spring/summer 2019 highlights - Ladies 3 pair won Div 4 Hatch End League and Div 4 of David Lloyd Charity League, M1 won BS 2 pair Div 5, M2 promoted from A&D Div 3, MX1 won A&D Div 2

# TENNIS REPORT

## ▶ Facilities

- ▶ Floodlights on courts 1, 2 & 3. No switch required! Allowed clay courts to lie fallow during wet autumn
- ▶ Court slip testing results
- ▶ Fencing improvements

## ▶ Coaching

- ▶ Thank you to Challenge Tennis
- ▶ Big welcome to Nick Brooks the new Head Coach

## ▶ Election of officers

# Chesham 1879 LT & SC

## Tennis Annual General Meeting

- Election of Officers

Tennis Chairman - Alastair Ferguson

Mens Captain - Michael Dukes

Ladies Captain - Sally Halley

Secretary - Tamara Ferguson

Membership Sec. - Tamara Ferguson

Fixtures Sec. - Tamara Ferguson

Member - Hilary Evans

Member - Simon Reynolds

Member (Coach) - Nick Brooks

Standing down - Anne Birkett

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# Chesham 1879 LT & SC

## Annual General Meeting



- **Facilities Report- Simon Reynolds**
  - **SQUASH**
    - Squash court new flooring
    - Squash court new glass doors
    - Changing room showers
    - New floor in changing room
    - Court lights to be discussed
  - **TENNIS**
    - New floodlights on courts 1,2&3
    - Now we have the possibility of all 9 courts on at the same time
    - New Storage container
    - Base for new summer house complete and cabin ordered
    - Fencing repairs in process of getting new quotation
    - New Blower for removing leaves from courts prior to playing

15<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

# Chesham 1879 LT & SC Annual General Meeting



## Chairman's Report

- A very active and positive year at 1879 – A lot of visible additions/changes
  - Membership continues to rise steadily
  - Income steady
  - Financial reserves as planned
- Improvements to courts – squash and tennis, clubhouse/bar and grounds/surroundings.
- Strong sports performance and development

# Chesham 1879 LT & SC -AGM



- The Club Committees have been very busy again in 2019

- ▶ Tennis Open days and marketing
- ▶ Squash exhibition match and professional coaching
- ▶ MMM launch and development
- ▶ GDPR continued development
- ▶ Improvement to squash courts
- ▶ Squash viewing platform
- ▶ New additional squash coach and teams
- ▶ Floodlights on tennis courts
- ▶ New club tennis coach
- ▶ Club Storage facilities
- ▶ New log cabin
- ▶ Bird welfare/nesting project
- ▶ Work with other local sports clubs
- ▶ Ongoing 10 year plan refinement

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# Chesham 1879 LT & SC Annual General Meeting

## 2019 Member survey

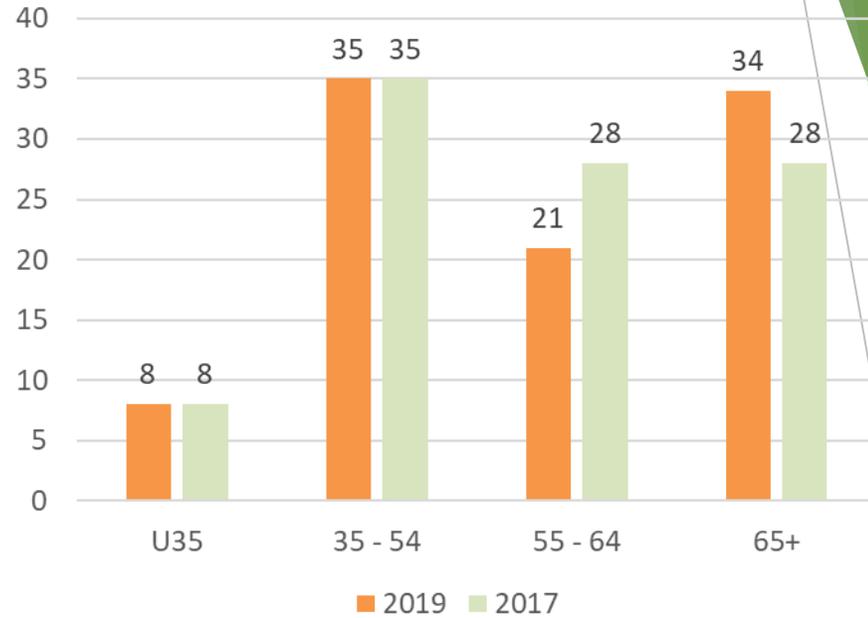
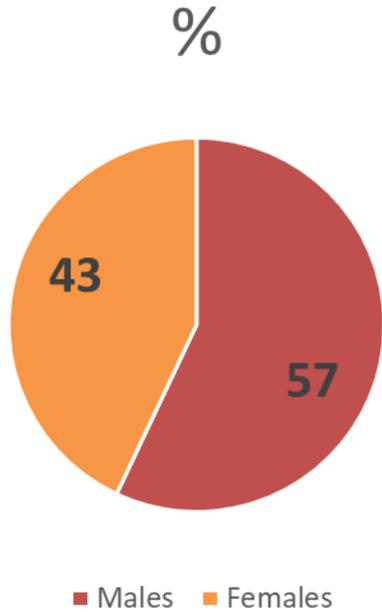
December 2019



## Snapshot of Chesham 1879 Member Satisfaction Survey

Prepared for the 2019 AGM  
December 2017

# The members who took part



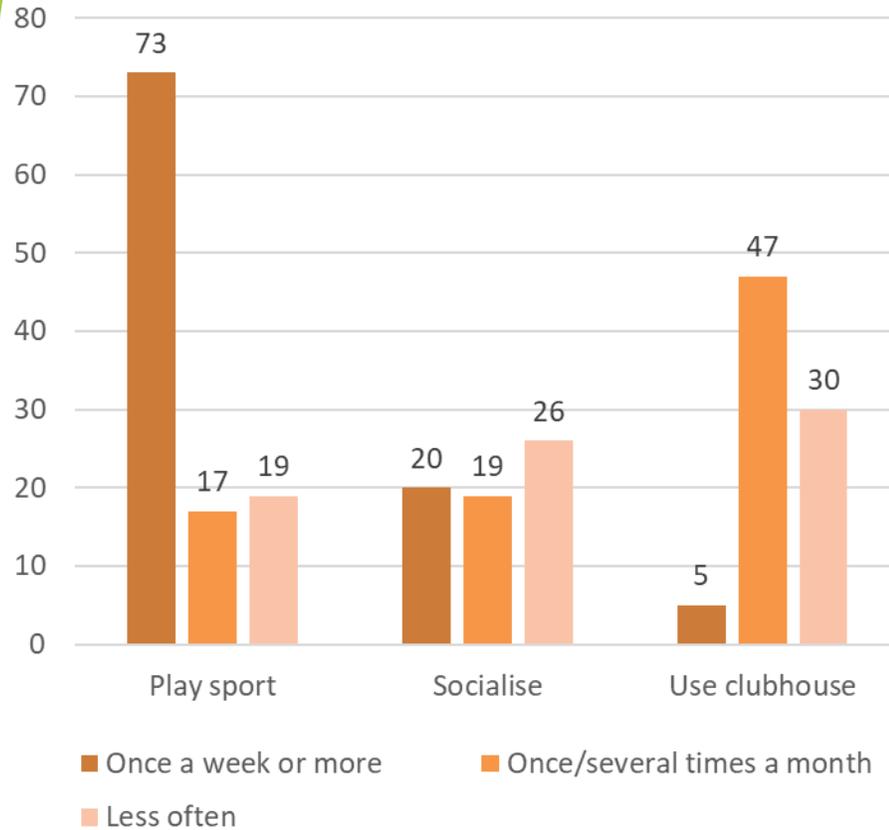
28% with children under 18 in the household

Membership	2019	2017
	99	120
	%	%
Tennis	58	65
Squash	30	26
Joint	6	6
Social	7	3

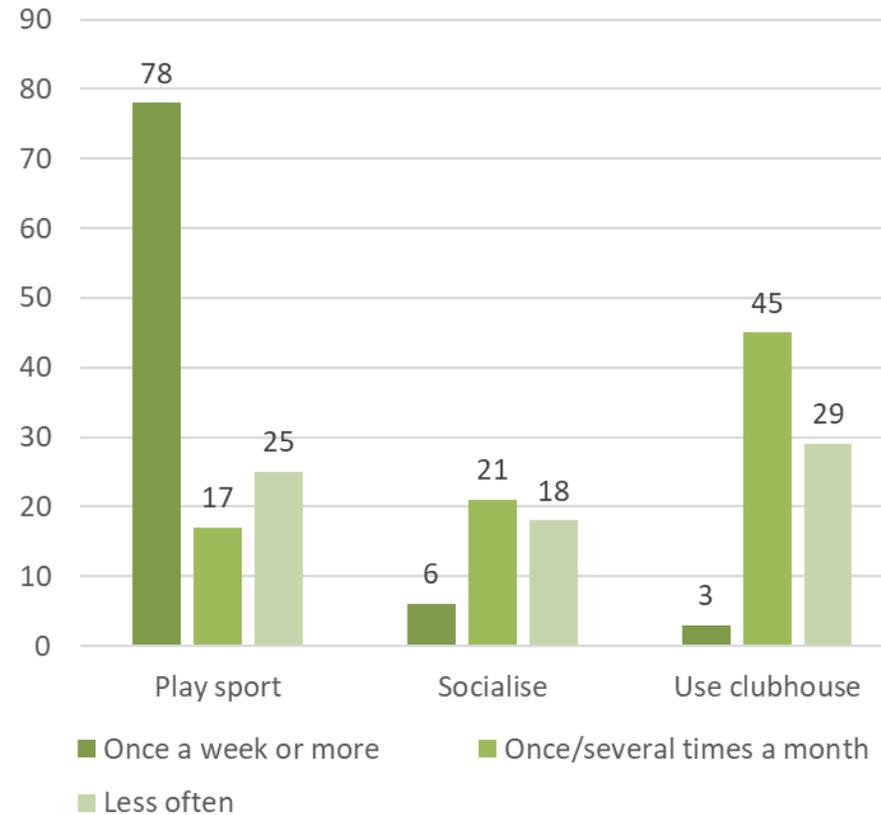
12% 1 year  
 28% 2-10 years  
 15% 11-20 years  
 18% 21-30 years  
 25% 31+ years

# Usage of the club

2019

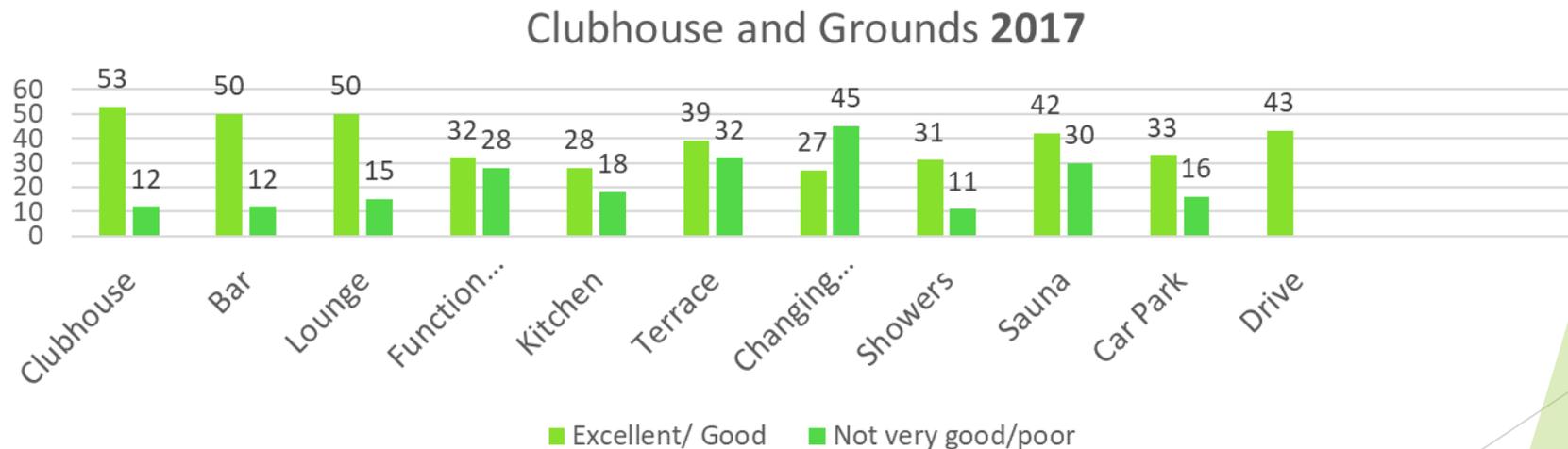
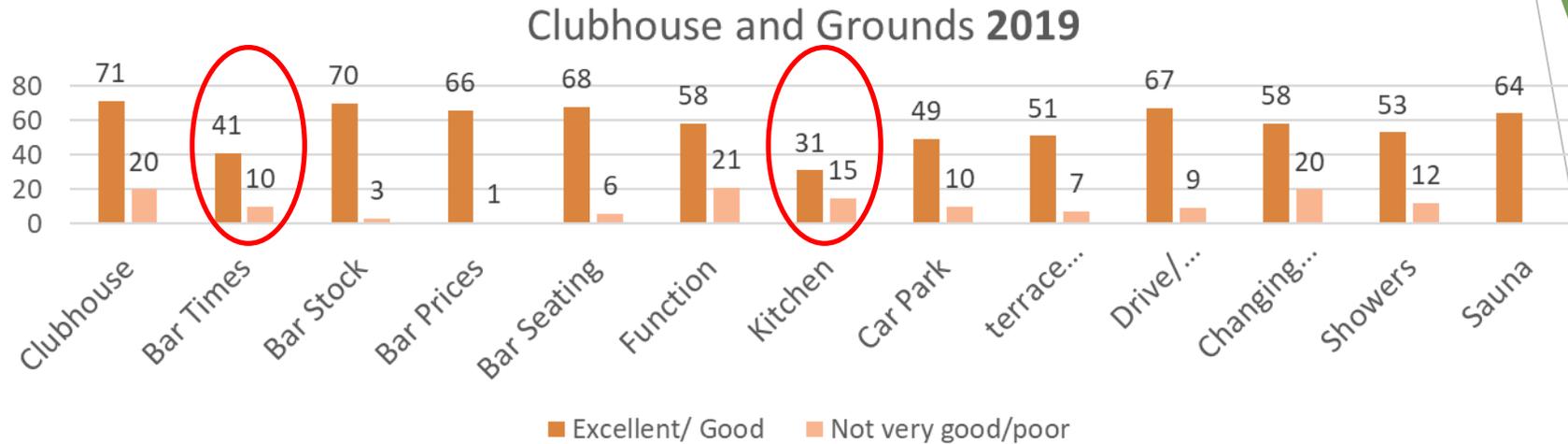


2017



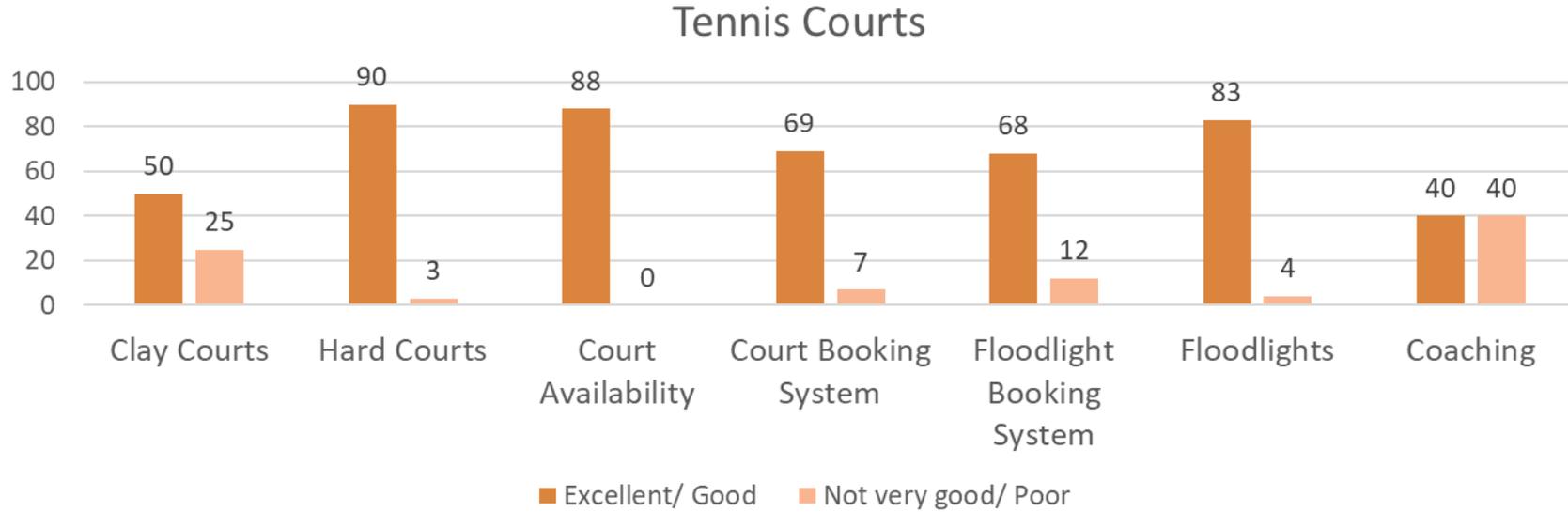
**A large proportion of members are visiting the club weekly to take part in their sport. Socialising appears to be low in priority for people using the facilities – probably due to the lack of organised events. However this has increased slightly – probably Friday nights and some more social squash and tennis members using the bar**

# Satisfaction with facilities - CLUBHOUSE



The clubhouse, bar, grounds, changing rooms/showers, sauna and even drive and car park are all rated higher in 2019 vs 2017, the bar times and kitchen were the lowest scoring areas. Overall there seems to be a large improvement in the rating of the facilities.

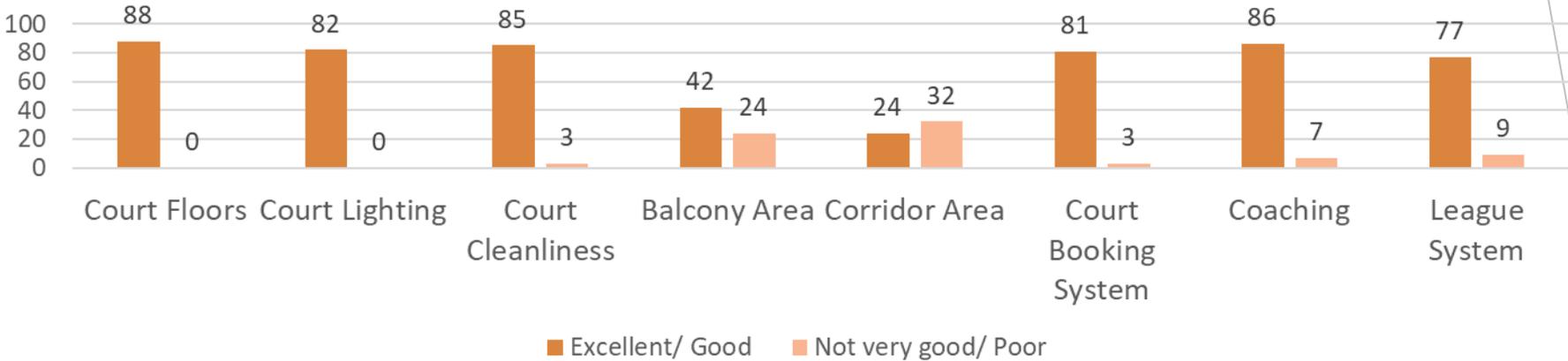
# Satisfaction with facilities - TENNIS



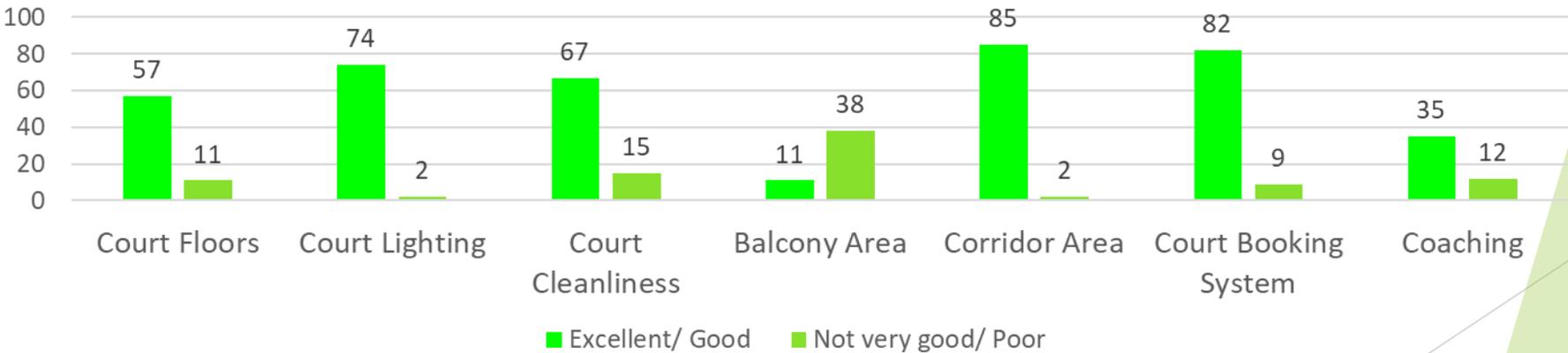
**The courts ratings are greatly improved on 2017.**

# Satisfaction with facilities - SQUASH

Squash/ Racquetball Courts 2019



Squash/ Racquetball Courts 2017



**Overall improvement in satisfaction. Vast improvement in balcony and courts but deterioration in Corridor which is used as a dump area.**

# Social events

How often attended	86
	%
Always	8
Sometimes	70
Never	22

	99	120
	%	%
Very good	6	13
Quite good	50	48
Not very good/ Poor	9	8
Don't know/not sure	35	31

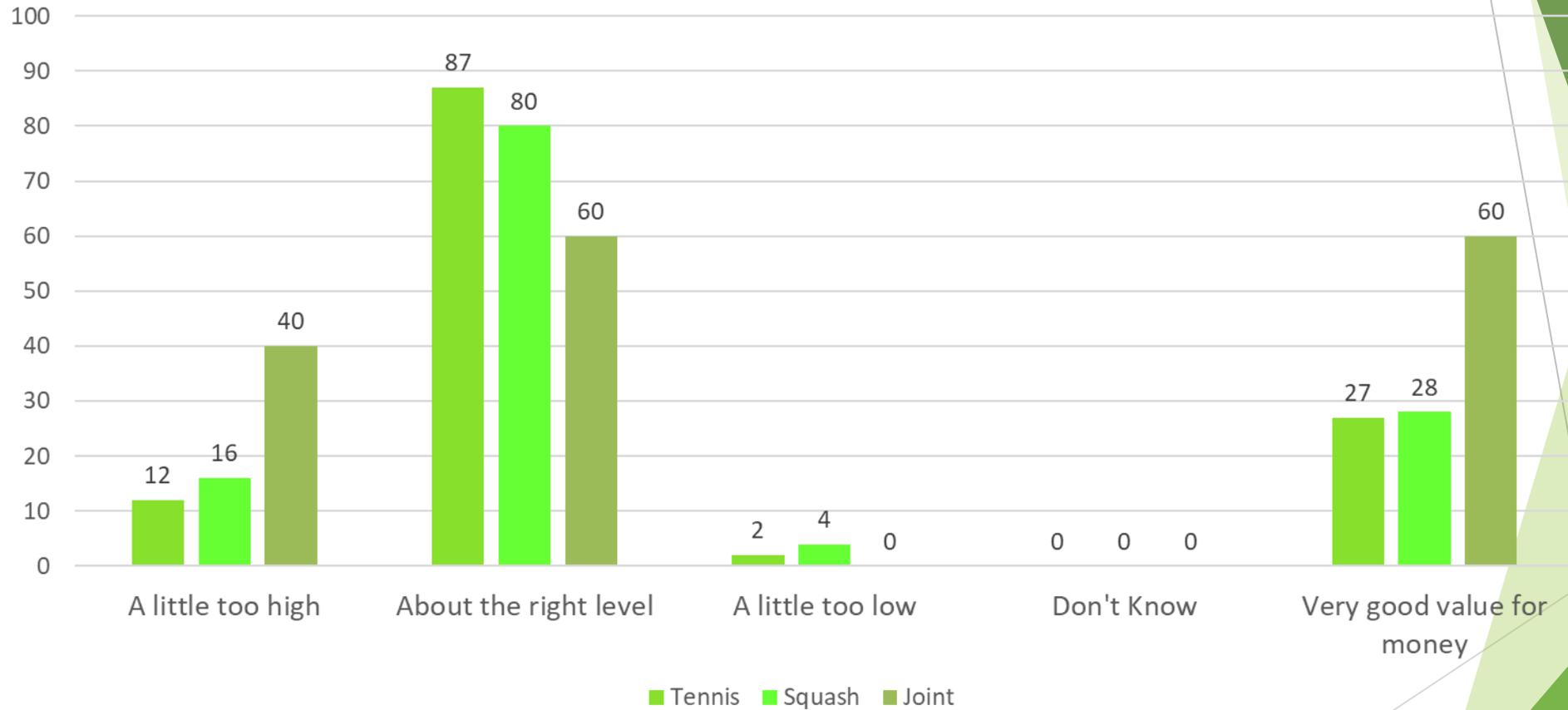
## DESIRED FREQUENCY OF EVENTS



**While the majority (78%) attend SOME social events, there is a clear feeling that the events could be better, with 44% of people ranting the events poor/ unaware of them.**

# Opinion of fees charged by the club

## Tennis and Squash/ Racquetball Fees

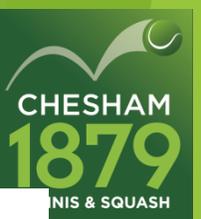


**The majority of members feel that the fees are at the right level.**

# Initial thoughts

- ▶ Clearly a lot of positivity about the club overall
- ▶ Many improvements to facilities
- ▶ Courts and clubhouse complimented
- ▶ New floodlights raise satisfaction
- ▶ Some slight issues which still need addressing - kitchen, bar opening, squash corridor
- ▶ Events are an area that need to be reviewed to increase both participation and quality

# Chesham 1879 LT & SC Annual General Meeting



## 2020 Objectives and focus

- Priority is to focus on a large step up in terms of **membership growth** – Tennis target is 200-250 adult members and Squash is 100
- Member get member, corporate membership, local marketing, taking share from other clubs, new coaches, new facilities and a great new story
- **Social Calendar** – new committee/approach – regular events for all types of member to enjoy
- **ALSO**
  - Clubhouse renting and events – another income source – room and bar
  - Clubhouse refurbishment- ongoing – finish bar decoration and lighting?, tidy and decorate squash corridor and balcony, Patio area, garden and storage
  - Ongoing upgrading of Website – new tools, more PR and information
  - Fundraising for potential projects ongoing
  - **Padel** – investigating potential of the sport external funding options
  - Additional field over river – investigating ideas - nature area, PT section, bee keeping, gardening or other usage.

# Padel Tennis

## The Fastest Growing Racket Sport

- Padel tennis is the fastest growing racket sport in the world and is rapidly expanding in the UK.
- There are now over 40 venues where padel is played in the UK on nearly 80 courts.
- These include padel clubs, tennis clubs, squash clubs, leisure centres, hotels and schools.
- British Padel, the UK governing body recently formed an alliance with the LTA to create LTA Padel.
- With the LTA seeing the benefits of padel for tennis clubs, interest-free loans are now available for clubs to install padel courts.



# Election of Officers

Chairman	: Neil Grantham
Honorary Secretary	: Jayne McCarthy
Treasurer	: Dinah Martin
Finance Chair	: Claire Moore
Facilities Mgr.	: Simon Reynolds
Maintenance	: Steve Ramsden
Auditor	: Michael Brook
Tennis Chair	: Alastair Ferguson (New)
Squash/Racketball Chair	: Roger Hill
Administrator	:
Media/PR	: Team of Gary Martin, Stuart Tennant, Gemma Cholerton.
Coaching Rep.	: Nick Brooks
Bar Manager	: Sheila Jalland
Tennis Rep	: Alastair Ferguson
Squash Rep	: Paul Belcher
Member	: Neil Hollister

# Chesham 1879 LT & SC Annual General Meeting



## Any Other Business

- Recruitment of Club Administrator
- Creation of Social committee
- Ongoing use of Publicity

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Thank you all for coming this evening  
and supporting your club.