# Men’s Captain Report 2021

With some big shoes to fill, taking over the men’s captaincy from long-time captain John O’Meara, things couldn’t have got off to a more unexpected start – successfully navigating 2020 without a league team losing a single set! Post lockdown however, we returned to a somewhat more challenging year...

The 2021 season saw the entry of six men’s teams in the Chippenham and District League. Perhaps a victim of our own success in previous years, this included four men’s sides in the top two divisions. A feat that has (at least throughout my time at the club) not been achieved before. Hamstrung by a new league rule limiting the number of matches an individual can play, and following the loss of some strength at the top end of the club, I am sorry to report the same will not be true in 2022: with four out of our six sides finishing in relegation positions. On a more positive note, well done to our A team who remained highly competitive finishing third in the top division and our C team who also finished third in the second.

In the Swindon and District league we entered three sides as per previous years. Unfortunately, before the season even began we made the difficult decision to pull our A team from the league due to the limited interest that had been shown to play in a very challenging top division. Well done to the B and C teams though who finished second and third respectively in their divisions. A specific thanks to the players who consistently turn out despite some of the far-flung locations this league takes us to.

A big thank you to everyone who played, and particularly to all the captains for their time and effort, without whom it would not be possible to offer the amount of competitive tennis we do. The work involved can sometimes go unseen by many. If anyone new wants to get more involved in playing matches or running a team let me know – you will find me at the bar.

Finally, a big welcome to the club to Dillon, under whose tutorage I am sure we will see greater success in 2022.

Mike Roberts