



I.Český *Lawn-Tennis* Klub Praha

Newsletter



130 LET I.ČLTk PRAHA

WORD FROM THE CLUB MANAGER



Dear club members, dear tennis fans,

I really do not remember ever before experiencing so much joy and pride at Štvanice over the incredible achievements and the impressive history of the I.ČLTk Prague as in the last three months. Karolína Muchová's final battle at the Roland Garros was an unexpected and amazing success of our player. At that moment, we did not know that five weeks later we would be sitting in front of the screen at Štvanice again and in an incredible atmosphere cheering for Markéta Vondroušová in the final of Wimbledon against the favourite Ons Jabeur. This time with the sweetest ending, an amazingly converted match point and huge euphoria during the champagne toast. Those who were not at Štvanice that day can hardly imagine the atmosphere.

We could not have gotten two better gifts for the 130th anniversary of the founding of the I.ČLTk Praha. So exactly one week after Markéta's triumph the planned celebration of the club's anniversary took place in the presence of the Wimbledon winner. The originally planned number of club members and invited guests was well exceeded and settled at about 200. On the constructed roofed stage, with Petr Vichnar as moderator, there was not only talking but above all rewarding. The teams that had won the championship titles in 1968, 1975, 1990 and the most recent ones in 2018 and 2019 took turns there. Beautiful silver commemorative medals were given to all the participants of these Štvanice successes as well as to all the Grand Slam title holders or Olympic medal winners who played for I.ČLTk. Petr Šimůnek, the club president then presented gold badges to seven honorary members of the club (more about them below). One of the highlights of the evening was a 15-minute documentary about the history and the present of the club, which was filmed and edited by the excellent and very helpful Martin Vadas.

But the celebrations are over and we must think hard about how to continue to discover and nurture the successors to these wonderful achievements. Yes, the children's tennis school, the preparation of players up to 9 years of age in the categories of orange and green tennis ball and the holiday camps work very well, but the subsequent selection of children who are really serious about tennis and have the necessary prerequisites for it will always be very important. Some parents prefer tennis lessons at a social level, others see their child as a future Vondroušová or Muchová. And the latter need to be talked to and prepared for a difficult, financially and time-consuming future.

Recently there have been rumours that the newly drafted metropolitan plan would severely limit our ability to play tennis on the seven courts behind the Negrelli Viaduct. This would be tragic news for the I.ČLTk, and I believe that subsequent negotiations will convince those in charge at the Prague City Hall and Prague 7 that sport and especially tennis, has always been and should remain on the Štvanice Island. After all, dozens of children, competitive and recreational players play sports every day on the seven courts and multi-purpose court in the former Slavoj area. Let's hope reason prevails!

Vladislav Šavřda, manager of I.ČLTk Praha

MARKÉTA VONDROUŠOVÁ - WIMBLEDON 2023 CHAMPION

Markéta Vondroušová, player of I.ČLTK Praha, has won the Wimbledon singles and in terms of the history of the Czech tennis she has thus followed up the triumph of Jan Kodeš from 1973. Markéta Vondroušová became only the third Czech player after Jana Novotná and Petra Kvitová to win the Venus Rosewater Bowl after her final victory over Ons Jabeur of Tunisia 6/4 6/4. Markéta moved into the Top 10 of the WTA World Ranking after her victory!



Maky, congratulations on your phenomenal success and thank you for representing the club so well!

NIKOLA BARTŮŇKOVÁ IN THE WIMBLEDON JUNIOR FINAL



I.ČLTK Praha player Nikola Bartůňková (WTA ranking 349 / ITF Juniors 23) fought for the Wimbledon junior singles title. In the final Nikola lost to American Clervie Ngounoue 2/6 2/6.

Niki, congratulations on your success and thank you for representing the club so well!

KAROLÍNA MUCHOVÁ IN THE FINAL OF ROLAND GARROS 2023

I.ČLTK Praha player Karolína Muchová played her first Grand Slam final on clay in Paris. In the battle for the title, she was unable to keep up with the world number one Iga Świątek from Poland, with whom she lost 2/6 7/5 4/6 after almost three hours. Karolína Muchová jumped in the rankings 27 places after the final and is the third best Czech player at 16th position.



Kája, congratulations on your success and thank you for the excellent representation of the club!

NEWLY AWARDED HONORARY MEMBERS OF I.ČLTK PRAHA

Lucie Hradecká was on the ITF and WTA Tour between 2002 and 2022. Together with Andrea Hlaváčková, she won the women's doubles at the 2011 French Open and 2013 US Open. They subsequently won the silver medal at the 2012 London Olympics. Alongside František Čermák, she won the Grand Slam mixed doubles title at the 2013 French Open. She has won twenty-six doubles tournaments on the WTA Tour. She was No. 41 ranked singles player in the rankings in June 2011, and No. 4 ranked doubles player in October 2012. She won the Fed Cup in 2011-2012 and 2014-2016.

Iveta Benešová has won two singles tournaments on the WTA Tour, in Acapulco 2004 and Fès 2010, and fourteen doubles tournaments. Together with Jürgen Melzer, she won the mixed doubles at Wimbledon 2011. Her highest ranking in the WTA singles rankings was 25th in April 2009 and 17th in doubles in January 2011. She won the Fed Cup in 2011.

Zdeněk Krampera has long been a member of the Executive Committee of the I.ČLTK, focusing on legal services. He is a partner and attorney at AK Hlaváček & Krampera, s.r.o. and former vice-chairman of the board of Ferona, a.s.

David Ríkl has worked as a professional since 1989. He gradually started to prefer doubles, in which he won a total of 30 ATP tournaments with various partners. David Ríkl participated in 10 Davis Cup matches for the Czech Republic team. His highest ranking for doubles was 4th in August 2001.

Ivo Minář won the 2000 European Junior Championship, defeating his compatriot Tomáš Berdych in the final. His highest ranking among seniors so far was on 20 July 2009, when he was classified 62nd in the ATP rankings. 2012 Davis Cup winner. Currently a coach of juniors of the I.ČLTK.

Jaroslav Jandus was the head coach of I.ČLTK Praha from 2000 to 2016. He also worked as a coach in the Fed Cup team. He has worked with successful players such as Zarina Diyas, Daniela Bedáňová, Denisa Chládková, Sandra Kleinová and Michaela Krajíčková. He has been with the I.ČLTK since 1998.

Daniel Vaněk has been a coach of juniors of I.ČLTK for many years. He is a former league player and junior national team player and has worked with successful players such as Roman Jebavý, Michaela Krajíčková and the Plíšková sisters. He has been with I.ČLTK since 1985 with a break of several years.

CELEBRATION OF 130 YEARS OF I.ČLTK PRAHA

The legacy of the founding fathers is what makes the I.ČLTK truly exceptional. There are several clubs in the Czech Republic with modern facilities, many courts and conditions for competitive, recreational and children's tennis, but none can offer such an amazing history as I.ČLTK. Štvanice, however, is alive with the vibrant present. The oldest local club, which celebrates its 130th anniversary this year, has built fantastic facilities in recent years and its players are having one success after another. The latest and greatest gift for this year's anniversary was given by Markéta Vondroušová - she triumphed at Wimbledon in July and, like the Štvanice legends Jaroslav Drobný and Jan Kodeš, became an honorary member of the All England Club!

Photogallery of celebration of 130 years



"I like how history is accentuated in the club, because it is what distinguishes the I.ČLTK from the others," Milan Šrejber, a former Davis Cup player who has been at home on Štvanice since he was 19, said recently, adding: "I am proud to have been part of this history for forty years."

"I am happy that we still have successful players and that so many kids are playing at Štvanice. It is always packed during the holidays. And I know that there is always someone I like to sit next to and talk with. This is a something that has always belonged to Štvanice," says club president Petr Šimůnek.

"Štvanice is my heart's desire. Whenever I come back from somewhere, I look forward to it. I cannot imagine playing anywhere else. I grew up here, I have my comfort here, I have people I like to see, the club is helpful in everything. And there is an atmosphere here that I would not find anywhere else. And I am not talking about the conditions and the quality of the facilities, it is top-notch now. If we manage to build two more planned concrete courts, it will be perfect," Markéta Vondroušová recently

Behind history and success are our partners! Thank you for your support!



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