

WALTON-ON-THAMES LAWN TENNIS CLUB REGULATIONS APRIL 2024

New members. All new members, other than Juniors and non-playing, must be offered an introductory game and be accepted by a small sub-committee appointed by the Executive Committee. All arrangements for assessments should be made with Dawn Richards, Membership Secretary. There shall be no discrimination in accordance with the Club's Diversity and Inclusion policy.

Membership. The membership year commences on 15th April. Subscriptions must be paid before 1st May or a further £30 is payable. Intermediate and older Junior members can apply at any time for transfer to Full Adult playing status. Indoor membership is available only to outdoor members and runs from October to March; it is also subject to a late payment fee of £30. Full details of subscriptions, playing times, mix-in sessions, booking arrangements, rules and infringements are on the notice board and notified to all airdome members.

Clothing. All members and their visitors are required to wear appropriate and recognised tennis clothing on the court. Shoes must be suitable for tennis and not mark the courts. Executive Committee Members are empowered to warn members playing in unsuitable shoes or clothing and to ask them to leave the court if thought fit.

Safeguarding. All members are required to adhere to the Club's Policies on Safeguarding, Diversity and Inclusion and Codes of Conduct and to protect children and adults at risk. Mobile phones/cameras must not be used in the changing rooms. Children under 13 years must be accompanied continuously by an adult at all times. The full Policies are available in the clubhouse and on the Club's website.

Behaviour. All members are expected to behave well and not to use any abusive language nor to commit any action prejudicial to the best interests of the Club.

Booking system. There is an online booking systems for indoor and outdoor courts with specified rules that members must follow. If a member has been notified on at least 3 occasions that they have breached the Club's Booking Rules, that member can be suspended from the booking system for a period of 7 days. For clarity, that means both being able to book a court or be named as an opponent in booked sessions.

Arrangements for play

Courts are open daily strictly from **9 a.m. to 10.30 p.m.** except for Christmas Day. An airdome is erected over courts 3 and 4 for the winter, for which there is a separate indoor subscription.

Outdoor playing times are as follows:

Full Adult/ Intermediate At all times except for some summer Friday evenings from 4.45 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. when courts are reserved for Juniors.

Juniors Each weekday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Saturdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. After 5 p.m. (if accompanied by an adult)
Sundays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. After 4 p.m. (if accompanied by an adult)

Junior club evenings are held in the summer on some Fridays from 4.45 to 8.30 p.m. on all courts on dates to be notified each year

Minis At arranged coaching sessions and from 4 to 4.45 p.m. on Junior club evenings

Priority of playing grades. As long as Juniors are playing within their allocated times, they have equal priority for courts with all other members.

Use of practice court/wall. There is no booking system for the practice wall but members must give way to any waiting member after 20 minutes practice.

Balls. All members must provide their own balls except for Club team matches. New and used match balls are on sale at the club.

Ball machines and ball hoppers may not be used if players are on the adjacent court.

Use of floodlights

- Full Adult and Intermediate members may use the floodlights up to 10.30 p.m. (in accordance with planning conditions) each day except Christmas Day. Junior members may use the floodlights within their allocated times.
- All members under 18 years must ask an adult to switch the floodlights on and off.

Mix-ins

The arrangements (days, times, courts to be used) are notified to all members at the start of the season. Those attending are expected to be prepared to play with all other players present, thus facilitating a good mix-in. All players must vacate the court after a short set. Juniors with full playing rights may also play in all Full Adult mix-ins.

In the winter, mix-ins are held in the airdome for dome members at similar times to the summer. The fast4 format is used for play. At mix-in times, courts are reserved outdoors to accommodate non-dome members.

Team matches and fees.

Matches take place at weekends throughout the year and on most Monday and Wednesday evenings in the summer. Some matches may take place on weekday mornings and afternoons. Team captains must follow the Club's system for booking matches. It is a general rule that team matches should not take place during mix-in times although some winter matches are scheduled on outside courts at week-ends during airdome mix-ins.

The team captain is responsible for collecting a fee of £2.00 per player (£1 for Juniors) per match, both home and away, at the time of the match and should pay it to the Club at the end of each season.

Club Championships. Names will not be entered in any tournament draw until the appropriate annual subscriptions and entry fees have been paid. The Club's summer Championships are open to all playing members.

Inter-club matches, outside tournaments/ Box Leagues. The Club's booking system will allow for these matches. No more than two courts may be taken for matches at any time.

Wimbledon tickets. The LTA distributes the Club's allocation of tickets by an automatic draw. Their distribution procedure is on their website.

Visitors

- Members may introduce visitors up to a maximum of 6 times in the Club year, 3 of which may be in the airdome.
- Visitors are not allowed to play at mix-in times.
- **The Club member introducing the visitor is responsible for the appropriate fee** and for the entry of full details on the visitors' sheet. The outdoor fee for adults is £7.50 and £2 for children under 18 years. The indoor fee is £15 for all categories. When an outdoor member plays as a guest in the dome, the indoor member is responsible for the fee. Visitor fees are payable **before** play and should be 'posted' through the letter-box in the bar door or paid online.
- The only exceptions to payment of a visitor's fee are for opponents in Club authorised individual matches played on outside courts which are as follows: Surrey County LTA and National LTA. An airdome visitor's fee must be paid for **all** visiting opponents for matches booked in the airdome.
- Junior visitors may play only during Junior playing times.

Coaching

- Coaching for members and non-members is available at the Club only from coaches authorised by the Executive Committee.
- Court 5 is designated as the coaching court and coaches have priority over all other members. Coaching time is shared between authorised coaches. At other times, (with Committee permission) other courts may be used.
- Coaching under floodlights is permitted only by prior arrangement with the Head Coach and Committee.
- Coaching bookings must be co-ordinated through the Head Coach and are shown on the booking system.
- The use of only one court for coaching in the airdome is not permitted except by arrangement.

Hire of courts. The Executive Committee reserves the right to let out courts at non-busy, off-peak times to non-members. Where appropriate, notices informing Club members of these hirings will be emailed or placed in the clubhouse.

The bar. The running of the Club's bar is under the control of the Executive Committee provided that:

- Co-opted members of the Executive Committee take no part in its management.
- The Bar Secretary is responsible for stock control, staffing and cleaning.
- No intoxicating liquor is sold at the Club to anyone except duly elected members and their guests as per licence.
- No alcohol may be sold to, or consumed by, anyone under 18 years.
- Permitted bar opening hours are 11 a.m. to 11.30 p.m. Monday to Friday, 11 a.m. to midnight on Saturday and 12 noon to 10.30 p.m. on Sunday. Closed Christmas Day.

Care of premises

- Access codes must not be given to non-members.
- All members are required to exercise care in the use of the clubhouse and the Club's facilities. Members who switch on floodlights and clubhouse lights are required to make it their responsibility to switch them off when they leave. When airdome unoccupied between sessions, it must be locked and the floodlights switched off.
- All members must ensure that the clubhouse is locked and all windows shut if they are the last to leave.
- Chewing gum and the smoking of cigarettes/ e-cigarettes are not allowed on the courts, in the airdome or in the clubhouse.
- Members under 18 years may not use the premises unless there specifically to play tennis; Juniors and Minis under 13 years must be supervised or continuously accompanied by an adult whilst on the premises.
- The Executive Committee reserves the right to close courts for maintenance.
- Dogs, with the exception of registered assistance dogs, are not allowed on the premises.

Events held at the Club. Events or tennis competitions may not be held at the Club without the prior consent of the Executive Committee.

In accordance with Club Rules, these Regulations can be varied by the Executive Committee.

Contacts:

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