

**BRIDGE TENNIS CLUB RULES (reviewable annually)
as per clause 4(a) of the Constitution**

- 1) Each person applying for membership shall complete an application form and pay a membership subscription simultaneously. The subscription will include the cost of one key to the courts' gate which should be returned to the club in the event that the membership lapses for any reason. A decision of the Club Committee to admit or refuse new members is final and binding.
- 2) There are nine types of membership:
 - a) Senior, being any adult who is not a Student or Family member.
 - b) Junior, being under 18 years of age or under on 1st April in the membership year (1st April to 31st March) and who is on that date attending a school or other form of full-time education until at least the end of the summer term.
 - c) Student, being a member over 17 but under 25 years of age on 1st April in the membership year, and who is attending a full-time course of further education until at least the end of the summer term.
 - d) Family, consisting of two adults and their associated junior children under 18 years of age (as defined above) and their Student children (as defined above) PROVIDED that they all have the same permanent residential address. In the case of Juniors or Students studying away, or being absent from such address, their addresses for communication must be that address.
 - e) Coaching Adult, available to those persons who only wish to attend coaching sessions with a Club Coach.
 - f) Under 30's Adult, available to those adults who are under 30 year of age as of the 1st April start to that tennis year.
 - g) County, available for those persons living outside Kent and who wish to have occasional use of the Club's facilities.
 - h) Honorary, being those persons who may be voted honorary membership at a resolution passed at the Club's Annual General Meeting (AGM).
 - i) Coaching, for coaches and their family.
- 3) Subscriptions are due on 1st April each year, and if not paid by 30th April an additional levy may be charged. Members are reminded that if they are not fully paid up, they are ineligible to represent the Club in matches, to enter the Club annual tournament and to be included in the draw for Wimbledon tickets. Members are further reminded that LTA Rules require persons entering the Wimbledon ticket draw to be registered, via the Club, as a member of the British Tennis Association. If they are not so registered, but succeed in the draw, British Tennis and the LTA will not permit the Club to allot tickets to them.

The Committee may, in its absolute discretion, permit tournament entries from unpaid members provided that all outstanding sums are paid before they play the first round of tournament, but such discretion will only be exercised in unusual circumstances and the Committee's decision shall be final.

- 4) Matters requiring the Committee's attention may be discussed by email between the Committee members, and if there is a sufficient email minimum quorum of 4, then a decision may be made, or action taken, subject to ratification at the next Committee meeting, and subject always, where appropriate, to approval at the next AGM.
- 5) Subscriptions are determined by the AGM after consideration of the recommendations of the Treasurer and the Committee. New members joining on or after 1st August in the Club year shall pay as a subscription one twelfth of the annual sum due for each month or part of a month during which they enjoy membership from their joining date until 31st March of the year following. In the event that, for whatever reason, a member is unable to play or to remain a member, no refund of subscription will be payable.
- 6) Whilst a member of our club, we expect to engage directly with the children and young people who attend in order to allow us to effectively coach them to the standard which parent's should expect of us. At times where concerns/about behaviour are needed to be addressed, we may need to speak to parents about this. However, for the most part we will address this through the junior themselves if we believe they have the capacity to understand what we expect of them.
- 7) Details of Club Mix-in Sessions, Club General Sessions, Coaching Sessions and general court availability will be found on the Club's website. At present Mix-in Sessions take place each Wednesday evening between approximately 5.30 – 9.30 pm, and on Sunday mornings Club General Sessions take place until 1 pm. Those days and times cannot be booked for other purposes except by the Committee.
- 8) From time to time two courts are required for league matches, and also courts may be used for tournament games or for events organised by the Committee. Courts can only be booked (apart from Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings) online, and members are strongly advised to view and use that system to book courts and to ascertain availability dates. Juniors should only use the courts before 5.30 pm Mondays to Saturdays and from 1 pm on Sundays, unless invited otherwise by the Committee. On-line Court booking rules are appended to these rules.
- 9) On Wednesday evening Club Mix-in Sessions, the Club will provide new balls for each court being used for doubles, and will also defray the cost of floodlighting when used. Members will pay a fixed contribution (currently £1.50) for each Mix-in Session they attend, regardless of whether they play within or outside daylight hours, or whether they elect not to use the balls provided. On Sunday morning mix-in sessions there will be no charge and members may choose to use old balls or purchase new ones..
- 10) In normal circumstances the on-line booking system and its attendant rules will apply. For club mix-in sessions, normal procedure is to play doubles unless availability allows for Singles. Where members are waiting for the court to become free, only one short set of 7 games should be played otherwise a standard set should be played before a mix-in changeover. A peg system sometimes operates on Club Evenings to encourage all players to mix.

- 11) Members may each bring no more than two guests to the club to play, but must pay £5 for each adult guest, and £2.50 for each Junior or Student guest. After 3 such visits in any one Club year, such guests are expected to apply for Club membership, or the Committee may debar them from further visits. The Committee's decision shall be final. The guest fees should be placed in an envelope marked with the names of the members, the names and contact details of the guests and the date, and put into the locked box in the clubhouse (on the wall to the right of the sink). Guests are not expected to contribute to the cost of balls and floodlighting.
- 12) All members are expected to use footwear that is not detrimental to the court surfaces and that provides adequate grip in wet, dry, and frosty conditions, eg ribbed sole track shoes with nylon soles are prohibited, as are other forms of non-tennis footwear.
- 13) The floodlights can only be activated by £1 coins. The lights must not be switched on and off needlessly, as this lessens lamp life. Please remember to switch off the floodlights and the clubhouse lights if you are the last one to leave.
- 14) Any stray balls within the courts should only be recovered with regard to court etiquette and when there is no adverse consequence to games on other courts. Balls lost outside the courts should be recovered at the next change of ends or whenever any other reasonable circumstance permits.
- 15) At the end of a game, unless the courts are to continue in use, the tension should be released from the nets and all balls and equipment should be returned to the appropriate storage area/clubhouse and the court left tidy for the next users.
- 16) Juniors and Guests should not be left to play by themselves without locking the clubhouse and making sure they understand how to lock the gate. If the club is to be entirely vacated then the clubhouse and the gate should be locked by the last player leaving.

**Signed, JOHN MORGAN, Chairman
2016**



These Rules were approved and passed by the AGM of 2012 and incorporate the amendments that have been made since that AGM and will be reviewed annually as before.