

ST ALBANS LAWN TENNIS CLUB LTD

BYE LAWS

1. Membership

a. Election as a member

All nominations for election to membership of the Club are to be made by sending an application for membership form to the Membership Secretary. The Committee have the right, without giving any reason, to decline to accept any applicant for membership. A list of the members of the Club shall be kept in the Clubhouse.

b. Joining fee

All new members shall pay a joining fee as fixed by the Committee. No new members shall be entitled to the privileges of the Club until the joining fee and annual subscription have been paid. Current joining fees are as shown on the application for membership form.

c. Annual Subscriptions

All annual subscriptions fall due on 1st April for the following 12-month Season. No member shall be entitled to the privileges of the Club until the subscription for the current year has been paid. Members will be advised as to the amount of their subscription which will be fixed by the Committee. Current subscription terms are as shown on the application for membership form.

A coloured identification tag is issued to each paid up playing member. It must be clearly visible when playing e.g. laced to the tennis shoe. No person will be allowed to play at the Club without this identification, unless specifically authorised to do so e.g. as a bona fide visitor.

d. Suspension of Membership

The Committee may in their absolute discretion suspend a member from the privileges of membership. Such suspension may be lifted by the Committee, or by resolution at an annual or special general meeting. Expulsion requires a resolution at a general meeting.

e. Members

All members who are 18 or over on 1st January prior to the start of the season are seniors. All others are juniors. Certain members under 18 may play in seniors social tennis if considered to be of a suitable playing standard. The Committee will keep a list of such individuals and display them on the notice-board.

Members may play tennis and enjoy full social membership as determined by their type of membership (e.g. full, summer, mid-week, student, social etc).

f. Visitors

A member introducing a visitor for the purpose of playing tennis shall enter the name of the visitor in a book kept in the Clubhouse and shall pay in advance a visitors fee to the Club at a rate determined by the Committee. No visitor may be introduced for tennis playing purposes on more than three occasions during one season.

2. Matches and Tournaments

a. Matches

County, league and other matches shall be arranged and managed by the elected captains either directly or via match sub-committees or organisers approved by the Committee and their decisions on all matters pertaining are final.

b. Club Closed Championship and Club Handicap Tournament

These tournaments shall be arranged and managed by the Tournament Organiser approved by the Committee. Their decisions (or those of their tournament sub-committee) on all matters pertaining are final.

Any entrant must immediately withdraw from a Club Championship / Tournament if they know they will not be available to play on finals day.

The rules for these tournaments will be displayed on the notice-board at the time of the event.

c. Other tournaments and leagues (open or internal)

Other tournaments e.g. Open Junior Tournament or winter floodlit leagues shall be arranged and managed by organisers approved by the Committee, and their decisions on all matters pertaining are final.

Times when some / all of the courts are not freely available because of matches and tournaments are displayed on the notice-board and club website.

d. Match Fees

These are set by the Committee and apply to both home and away matches. They do not include catering, bar and travelling costs.

3. Court Usage, Reservations and Restrictions

a. General play

All sets must be made up before occupying a court. Singles, apart from league and tournament matches, are not allowed if all the courts are full.

At certain times, which shall be decided by the Committee and displayed in the Clubhouse, play may be continuous. At other times players shall leave the court at the end of each set and shall not commence another set whilst other senior members wish to play. A set may proceed to 6-6, at which stage a tie-break will be played to finish the set.

b. Coaching Courts Reservation

The Club Coach has priority use of court number 3.

c. General Court Reservations

Three courts are reserved for each Herts County League home match and each Watford League home match, with two courts being reserved for each Veterans match. 'One-off' reservations are shown on the notice-board. Regular reservations including these will be displayed on the club website and/or club notice board (subject to re-arranged matches).

d. Court Restrictions

Restrictions on time of play for closed championship and handicap tournament matches are displayed with the rules at the time of event.

No outside tournament match can be played between 2.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. on Saturdays and Bank Holidays, after 6.00 p.m. on Wednesdays or before 12.00 noon on Sundays. Such tournaments have **NO** priority over general play and should only be arranged at off-peak times. The only exception to this rule is with the prior approval of the Committee.

Juniors and Coaching have precedence over seniors in the use of court 4 except on Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons when seniors may use it if ALL other courts are full.

4. Tennis Clothing and Tennis Balls

a. Dress and Footwear (for all players including guests)

Dress shall be “SPORTS CLOTHING SUITABLE FOR TENNIS” and will NOT include jeans and cut-offs.

Footwear must be “ACCEPTED TENNIS FOOTWEAR”. Footwear on any court must be soft rubber soled tennis shoes, without raised heels, deep ribbing, cleats or spikes.

The Committee, both as a whole and through authority devolved to individual committee members, is empowered to decide upon the suitability and acceptability of clothing and footwear. If footwear and / or clothing are considered unacceptable, committee members are authorised to ask members and / or visitors to stop playing and leave the court until they are suitably attired. In the event of a member refusing to comply with such a request, the matter will be referred to the Committee for appropriate action, which under some circumstances could include suspension of membership.

b. Tennis Balls

Except for inter-club league matches and club finals, members must provide their own tennis balls which must be LTA approved yellow of at least a reasonable quality.

Good condition ex-match balls may be purchased at the Bar or from Team Captains.

5. Clubhouse and Grounds Regulations

a. General

i. Security

The Committee can take no responsibility for any articles or money left on the club premises, or in the grounds, nor for vehicles parked in the vicinity of the clubhouse, nor for items within these vehicles.

ii. Children under 10 years of age

Children under 10 must be accompanied by an adult member who must ensure that they do not cause annoyance to other members, or damage club property.

iii. Animals

Animals are not to be brought into the club grounds unless under control.

iv. Damage

If after a full investigation of any damage to buildings, fixtures, fittings or equipment a member is found to be responsible, the Committee have the right to charge that member for the repair or replacement at full reinstatement value.

b. Clubhouse

i. Opening Hours

The Club will not normally be open before 8.30 a.m. nor after 11.00 p.m. unless the Committee has given authority for an extension.

ii. Restrictions

No member under 16 years of age may open the clubhouse and such members may remain in the clubhouse only when there are older members present.

iii Key

Senior members opening the clubhouse must obtain the club key and hang the key on the hook provided inside the main door. In the event of the key being unobtainable a key can be obtained from any committee member. Keys to the inner doors can be obtained from committee members and team captains.

The last senior member to leave the club on any occasion must ensure that all windows are locked, water taps, lights and the cooker is turned off and the front door and other doors are locked and the key returned to its accepted location.

iv Lettings

The Clubhouse is let to various organisations and to individuals for private functions as agreed by the Committee. A schedule of regular lettings and bookings are displayed on the notice-board.

c. Grounds

The Grounds Committee shall manage the club's courts and associated equipment and their decision on all matters pertaining is final. It may be necessary for courts to be occasionally taken out of play and members must respect the official "court out of play" notices.

Members must ensure that tables and chairs etc. are never taken on to any of the courts in circumstances where the surface could be damaged (e.g. soft / wet grass or all-weather courts softened by hot weather).

Members when entering or leaving the courts must close all gates behind them to deny access to stray animals.

6. Administration

a. Mens / Ladies Captains

The mens and ladies captains shall be elected / re-elected annually at the annual general meeting.

- b. Bar
The Bar Convenor and committee members shall be elected / re-elected annually at the annual general meeting.
- The Bar Committee shall arrange and manage the bar and their decision on all matters pertaining is final.
- The permitted hours of opening the bar, in pursuance of the Licensing Act, for the service of members, their guests and visitors, are displayed in the Clubhouse. Only members over the age of 18 years may enter the bar area or serve or consume alcoholic beverages within the stipulated hours.
- c. Catering & Entertainments
The Catering Committee shall arrange and manage the provision of refreshments and their decision on all matters pertaining is final. The Entertainments Committee shall arrange and manage all forms of entertainment and their decision on all matters pertaining is final.
- d. Sub-Committees
The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer are ex-officio members of all sub-committees.
- e. Wimbledon Tickets
Any tickets acquired by members via the club draw are for their personal use. If they cannot be so used then they must be returned to the Club Secretary or the Organiser of the draw who will endeavour to re-sell them. Contravention of this rule would render the Club liable to severe penalties.
- f. Regulations
A copy of these bye-laws is on the notice-board and all members both existing and new will be bound by them. Membership of the Club is hereby deemed to require compliance with all of these regulations. A copy of the Memorandum and Articles of Association are available from the Company Secretary on request.
- g. Alteration of Bye-Laws
The Committee have the right to alter and add to these bye-laws whenever they think fit.
- h. Interpretation
In the event of any doubt arising on the interpretation of these bye-laws the Committee's decision shall be final.

By order of the Committee

**May 2003
(Revised April 2009)**