



**WOLLASTON LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

**RULES**

**REVISED 2018**

**(Up to date as or March 2021)**

## **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF WOLLASTON LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

1. The provision and promotion of tennis and social / recreational activities for the benefit of its members and the wider surrounding community (Stourbridge, Wordsley, Kingswinford, Kinver, Cookley, Dudley) regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, race, religion, disability or sexual orientation.
2. The provision and maintenance of a Club House at Prestwood Drive, Stourton, Stourbridge, to accommodate the playing, social and recreational needs of its members and the surrounding community.
3. To extend and promote the use of the Club facilities by the local community and open its use to interested parties.

## **WOLLASTON LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

### **RULES REVISED 2016**

1. **NAME.**

The Club shall be called "Wollaston Lawn Tennis Club", hereinafter referred to as "the Club".

2. **TRUSTEES.**

The Property and other Assets of the Club shall vest in Trustees.

The Trustees are:-

David John Crump Johnson  
John Cutler  
Vincent Clutterbuck

Who shall henceforth hold all Property and other Assets of the Club upon trust for the other members of the Club according to the Rules thereof and other Assets as the committee of the Club shall from time to time direct. Any change in the Trustees shall take place in accordance with the Trustee Acts.

3. **DISSOLUTION OF THE CLUB.**

On a dissolution of the Club all liabilities shall be paid in full after which such assets as remain shall be disposed of in the following manner:-

- (a) To start a fresh sporting Club of a similar nature or if this is not possible then
- (b) To help other sporting Clubs of a similar type in such manner as the members think fit, or if this is not possible then
- (c) To give such Assets as remain to a sporting association or charity as the members may think fit for the furtherance of their objectives.

4. **MEMBERSHIP.**

(a). The membership of the Club shall be divided into the following classes:-

- (i) Full Membership. Obtaining use of the Club's facilities subject to any regulations made by the General Committee from time to time.
- (ii) Honorary Life Membership. To which members may be elected by the Club in General Meeting in recognition of outstanding service to the Club.
- (iii) Country Membership. Persons who live for at least twenty-six weeks of the playing year (1st April to 31st March) outside a fifteen mile radius of the Club may become Country Members. Subscriptions which shall be payable in advance shall be at a lesser rate than the Full or Intermediate subscription as agreed from time to time at the Annual General Meeting. Country Members shall have similar privileges to Full or Intermediate Members.
- (iv) Student Membership. Members having the same privileges as Full Members, subject to (1) below, but who on 1st April of the subscription year are either between the ages of 16 and 18 or, if undergoing full time education throughout the subscription year, are under the age of 22 years:-
- (v) Junior Membership. Persons under the age of 16 years on 1st April of the subscription year who shall be subject to restricted privileges as directed by the General Committee from time to time. (See Appendix to Rules).
- (vi) Junior Membership (under 11). Persons up to and including the age of 10 years on 1st April of the subscription year who shall be permitted to play on any courts not required by a member of any other class.
- (vii) Temporary Members. Persons who at the discretion of the General Committee are granted short term membership of any of the classes in (i), (iii), or (iv) above.
- (viii) Non-Playing Membership. Persons who shall not be permitted to play Lawn Tennis and who shall have no right to vote in General Meeting, but who shall otherwise have the same privileges as full members.
- (ix) Sub-Section Membership. Persons belonging to a Sub-Section of the Club, who shall not be permitted to play Lawn Tennis and who shall have no right to

vote in General Meeting, but who shall otherwise have the same privileges as full members.

- (b) The membership of the Club shall be limited in number (each class being considered individually) fixed at the discretion of the General Committee appointed for the time being.
- (c) The General Committee shall have power to expel any member infringing these Rules after that member has had a chance to explain the infringement and the Committee are satisfied that the rules have been infringed sufficiently to warrant expulsion. The member must be informed in writing of the reasons for the expulsion.
- (d) No Sub-Section shall admit into membership any person who is not a member of one of the classes in (a) above.

5. **Fees Payable.**

- (a) Annual Subscription. The Annual Subscription for the ensuing year shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting. Subscriptions shall be due and payable to the Honorary Treasurer on 1st April for the period ending 31st March following.

All classes except Non-Playing and Sub-Section will be subject to approximately 25% rebate of subscription when joining after 30th June, approximately 50% rebate when joining after 30th September, and approximately 75% rebate when joining after 31st December in any season.

The subscription of Non-Playing and Sub-Section members joining for the first time between 1st January and 31st March shall be deemed to be valid until 31st March in the following year.

Family subscription is to include Mother, Father and Children in the household. Children shall, on the 1st April of the subscription year be either under the age of 18 years or, if undergoing full time education throughout the subscription year, under the age of 22 years. Family members shall enjoy the same privileges applicable to the other membership classes according to age.

- (b) Subscriptions of Sub-Sections. The classes of membership and subscription rates of any sub-section of the Club shall be determined by the sub-section concerned.

6. **Club Management.**

(a) The affairs of the Club shall be managed by its General Committee which, subject to these Rules or to any direction of the Club in General Meeting, shall have absolute control of the Club property and funds. The General Committee may fill any vacancies occurring in the officers of the Club during its tenure of office, and may, at its discretion, take such other action, not specifically covered herein, for the better running of the Club.

(b) The General Committee shall consist of:-

Chairperson  
Vice Chairperson  
Honorary Treasurers  
Honorary Secretary  
Membership Secretary  
Men's Captain  
Ladies Captain  
Development Officer  
Tournament Chairperson  
Grounds Chairperson  
Bar Chairperson  
Social Chairperson  
Catering Chairperson  
Club Coach  
Publicity Officer  
Junior Chairperson  
Welfare Officer  
Five elected Members

A Representative from each Sub-Section.

In addition, the Club's Trustees, if not holding other office, shall also be ex-officio members of the General Committee.

(c) Five members of the General Committee shall form a quorum.

(d) Seven days notice of the General Committee Meetings shall be given by the Honorary Secretary.

(e) The Annual General Meeting shall appoint teams to administer:-

Social /Bar  
Catering  
Grounds/Clubhouse Management  
Tournaments

(f) Junior Members shall also, at a meeting convened for the purpose, elect from their number in accordance with the Appendix to these Rules, a Committee to administer the affairs of their section. The Chairman of this Committee shall be appointed by the General Committee.

(g) Sub-Committees may be appointed by the General Committee and shall be responsible thereto, but the Chairmen

thereof shall not thereby become members of the General Committee. All Committees shall be subject to the overall authority and direction of the General Committee.

(h) All Officers and Committees shall be elected annually at the AGM.

7. **Sub-Sections.**

- (a) Sub-Sections of the Club shall hold their own Annual General Meeting for the purpose of appointing a Management Committee, agreeing membership classes and approving subscription rates.
- (b) Each Management Committee shall consist of at least 2 members for a section membership up to 20, and 1 further member for each additional 10 members in excess of 20.
- (c) The Club Treasurer shall be an ex officio member of each Management Committee.
- (d) Each Management Committee shall appoint a representative to the General Committee. Such appointment shall not prevent the representative from being elected to the General Committee in another capacity.
- (e) Each Management Committee shall notify the Club's Honorary Secretary within 14 days of the appointment of a representative to the General Committee.
- (f) Each Management Committee will be responsible to the General Committee for the satisfactory running of the Sub-Section.

8. **Injury, Loss of Property Etc.**

Members or Visitors leaving unattended vehicles, rackets, clothing or other property at the Club do so at their own risk and the Club shall not be responsible for any loss or damage resulting from this or any other cause.

9. **Finance.**

- (a) The accounts of the Club will be subject to an annual external examination by a Chartered Accountant appointed at the Annual General Meeting and the audit report shall be appended to the accounts.
- (b) All funds received by each Sub-Section will be accounted for to the Club Treasurer who will then be responsible for making all payments on behalf of the Club. The Club Treasurer will have power, subject to the approval of the General Committee, to operate a limit under which sub-section payments can be made by the Sub-Section without prior recourse to him.

- (c) Each Sub-Section shall nominate one person only who shall obtain a Letter of Credit from the Club Treasurer to enable purchases to be made on behalf of the Sub-section.
- (d) Funds in respect of Sub-Sections will be shown separately in the annual Profit & Loss Account of the Club.

10. **General Meetings.**

- (a) The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held before 31<sup>st</sup> March in every year.
- (b) An Extraordinary General Meeting shall be summoned by the General Committee at its discretion or by the Honorary Secretary within fourteen days of the written request of six members.
- (c) At least seven days notice of any General Meeting shall be given to all members.
- (d) Twenty members shall form a quorum.
- (e) Voting rights shall be restricted to members of classes (i), (ii) whilst members of the General Committee, (iii), (iv) and (viii) whilst members of the General Committee, of Rule 4 (a).
- (f) Voting shall be by show of hands or by ballot at the request of five members present, having voting rights.
- (g) All questions arising shall be determined by a simple majority vote, the Chairman having a casting or additional vote in the event of a tie.

11. **Conditions of Play, Ground Rules etc.**

- (a) The game shall be played according to the Rules of the Lawn Tennis Association.
- (b) Players must wear suitable tennis clothing and tennis shoes.
- (c) All, or any, of the courts may be closed for play by a member of the General Committee or by the Groundsman, if considered necessary. The courts may be reserved at any time by the General Committee for match purposes.
- (d) Except when participating in Club competitions no person shall be allowed to play two consecutive sets if another person is desirous of playing, nor, in such circumstances, shall long sets or singles be played.
- (e) Arranged play is allowed on a restricted number of courts at scheduled times. Please see appendix for the schedule.

12. **Visitors.**



Visitors may be introduced by a Club member, on payment of a fee per head per session, a session to be Morning, Afternoon or Evening, and each visitor shall be allowed only two sessions per calendar month. The fee to be determined at the Annual General Meeting each year. Names of Tennis Playing visitors must be entered on the Visitors List before play commences. Junior Members, Under 16 & Under 11, are allowed only Tennis Playing visitors, except at organised Club events.

Every member of a visiting match team shall be an Honorary Member for the day and every competitor in a tournament at the Club (and in the case of a competitor under the age of 18 years, his/her parent or guardian) shall be an Honorary Member for the period of the tournament.

13. **Dogs.**

Dogs are not allowed at the Club.

14. **Sale of Intoxicating Liquor.**

- (a) The permitted hours of the Club, during which intoxicating liquor may be supplied to members and their guests for consumption on the premises, shall comply with the local licensing laws which currently are Monday to Saturday 11.00am to 23.00, Sunday 12.00 noon to 22.30, Good Friday 12 noon to 10.30pm and Christmas Day 12 noon to 3.00pm and 7.00pm to 10.30pm. Times within these hours may be decided from time to time by the General Committee and displayed on the Club notice board.
- (b) The purchase and supply of intoxicating liquor or any other goods shall be controlled solely by the General Committee. Persons under 18 years of age will not be supplied, sold or allowed to consume alcohol on the premises.
- (c) Intoxicating liquor for consumption off the premises shall only be supplied to members of the Club during the permitted

hours.

- (d) Visitors to the Club, who are members of clubs having objectives similar to those of the Club, may be admitted to the Club at the discretion of the General Committee and may purchase intoxicating liquor for consumption on the premises during the permitted hours.
- (e) Profit arising from the activities of the Club shall be used for the benefit of the Club as a whole.
- (f) No persons shall be paid any commission or similar payment by the Club in connection with the purchase of intoxicating liquor or any other goods by the Club, and the General Committee shall have no power to make any such payment to any person.
- (g) Any pecuniary benefit arising either directly or indirectly from the supply of intoxicating liquor, shall be used for the benefit of the Club as a whole.

15. **Club Registration**

The Club Secretary will have responsibility to ensure the Club is registered with the South Staffordshire Council under the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003.

16. **Alterations and additions to Rules.**

No alterations or additions to these Rules shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting or at any Extraordinary General Meeting and any proposal to amend these Rules must be submitted in writing to the Honorary Secretary not less than 28 days before such meeting. These Rules shall be checked annually at the AGM to ensure that they are up to date and accurate. Copies of the newly updated Rules shall be forwarded to the Magistrates Clerk and Chase Police Licensing Unit and displayed on the Club notice board.

These Rules have been reviewed for compliance with the European Convention on Human Rights. It is reasonably believed that these Rules comply with the requirements of the European Convention at the present time.

Signed

*Vincent Clutterbuck*

Honorary Secretary (Acting)

Dated

March 2018

## **APPENDIX**

### **Junior Membership and Rules.**

1. The Junior Section shall be administered by a Committee consisting of five Junior Members, together with the Junior Chairperson. The Junior Chairperson shall be appointed by the General Committee. A quorum shall be formed by the Chairperson together with two Junior Members.
  
2. Hours of permitted play are to be agreed from time to time by the General Committee and displayed on the notice board. See Notice Board for details.
  
3. The Club's Dress Code as set out in Rule 11(b) must be followed. The details are:-  
  
    Players must wear suitable tennis clothing and tennis shoes.
  
4. Junior Members are subject to all the other Rules of the Club except where amended by this Appendix.
  
5. Juniors under 11 years must not be left unaccompanied on the Club premises, but must be supervised and in the care of a responsible adult.
  
6. Juniors under 16 may not remain on Club premises after 10.00pm or after 7.00pm on Mondays to Fridays between 1st November and 31st March, nor after 7.00pm on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the year unless in the care of a parent(s) or a responsible adult nominated by their parent(s).