

# **THISTLEWORTH TENNIS AND SOCIAL CLUB**

## **TENNIS SECTION RULES**

The following rules for tennis members have been prepared by the Tennis Committee and approved by the Thistleworth Club Executive Committee. They apply to all tennis members and should be strictly observed. Each member is empowered to enforce any rule should they feel it is being breached. Alternatively offenders should be reported to the Tennis Committee.

### **1. MEMBERSHIP STRUCTURE**

- Senior Members
- Intermediate Members
- Veteran Members (70 yrs + over)
- Accompanying Adult (Parent able to play with son/daughter only)
- Student Members (16 yrs + over)
- Junior Members (15 yrs + under)

### **2. GENERAL RULES**

Members should wear their membership shoe tag at all times.

Visitors may be invited up to a maximum of 4 times in any one year. Members inviting visitors are responsible for collecting the visitor fee of £5 and handing it to a Tennis Committee Member or the bar staff.

Veteran, Senior and Intermediate members may invite visitors; juniors are not allowed to invite visitors.

Junior members must either use their own tennis balls or those provided by the club – these are marked with black spots and are stored in the gents changing room.

Numbered balls are for use by Veteran, Senior, Intermediate and Student members only.

### **3. COURT PRIORITIES**

League matches against other clubs take priority over all other court usage.

Senior Club tournament matches take priority over all other court usage except league matches.

Where court priority is being applied those players currently on the court should be allowed to complete the set that is in progress.

## **COACHING**

Scheduled group coaching sessions take priority over all other court usage on courts 1 to 3 on Saturday mornings from 9am to 1pm and Friday evenings during the summer months from 5pm to 7pm. Additional courts can be used if there are no members waiting to play.

Individual coaching sessions must use court 7 only. When individual coaching sessions are taking place court 6 is designated as the dedicated junior court.

A maximum of 1 court can be used for group or individual coaching under floodlights. This needs to be booked in advance and paid for at the standard rate.

## **CLUB SESSIONS**

During club sessions if a set reaches six all, the set must either be stopped or finished by playing a tiebreak.

Wherever possible doubles should be played during club sessions.

Fixed sets of four or two players may only be played outside of club sessions. A fixed set still in progress at the start of a club session may continue to completion.

During club session's players must only play 1 set if others are waiting to play, and then mix in with those waiting.

### **Senior club sessions:**

Tuesday	7:00pm until dusk
Thursday	7:00pm until dusk
Saturday	1:00pm to 5:00pm
Sunday	10:00am to 1:00pm

During these sessions seniors have priority over all courts except court 7, which is reserved for junior members.

Intermediates may use any spare courts.

Where possible Internet League matches should not be played during these sessions.

### **Intermediate club sessions:**

Monday            7pm until dusk  
Sunday            3:00pm to 6:00pm            (3 courts only)

On Monday evenings Intermediates have priority over all courts except court 7, which is reserved for junior members, and 1 court, which should be made available for senior members. On Sundays Intermediates have priority over 3 courts.

Wednesday evenings are free for veterans, seniors and intermediates to play pre-arranged fixed fours. There is no requirement to mix-in. Doubles matches should take priority over singles matches.

### **Juniors club sessions:**

Friday            6:00pm to 8:00pm

During this session juniors have priority over all courts except court 1 which should be reserved for Veteran, Senior or Intermediate tennis. Priority should be shared for this court.

### **Non club sessions**

Outside of the above club sessions the following court priorities apply:

Veteran and Senior members have equal priority over all other members except on court 7, which is reserved for junior members. Intermediate members have priority over Student and Junior members except on court 7, which is reserved for junior members. Student members have priority over juniors except on court 7, which is reserved for junior members.

## **4. FLOODLIGHTS**

Floodlight tokens are available from behind the bar. It is advisable to purchase these in advance, as it cannot be guaranteed that the bar will be open.

The floodlights must not be used after 10:00pm Mon - Sat, and 6pm Sun.

The booking system comes into play from dusk onwards. Until this time summer rules apply. Members must ensure courts are not booked prior to dusk.

The online court booking system on the clubs website must be used to reserve a court; this is on a first come first serve basis. Every club member has the same priority (inc. juniors). Courts must not be booked more than 13 days in advance. Each member can book a maximum of 1 session per day.

Sessions are as follows (Monday – Saturday): 6pm – 7pm, 7pm – 8.30pm, and 8.30pm – 10.00pm.

If you fail to turn-up within 15-minutes of your booking time your court will be is available for other members to use for the remainder of your booking.

## **5. DRESS**

Recognisable tennis clothing and proper tennis shoes should be worn at all times.

Training shoes with heavily ridged soles are not allowed, as these will damage the court surface.

Shirts must be worn at all times whilst on the club premises.

## **6. COURT BEHAVIOUR**

On completion of a match all four balls must be replaced in the ball net and return to the hooks provided, ready for the next players, if no one is waiting to play they should be returned to the ball cupboard. Tennis balls must not be left on court after play.

If a ball is knocked out of the club grounds it is must be reclaimed on completion of the set in progress.

The last person to play must lock the courts.

Members are not permitted to borrow club balls or other equipment for use outside the Club.

Tins of drink and food are not allowed onto the courts. Glasses or cups used for water must be returned to the clubhouse.

## **7. SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Subscriptions are due in March of each year. A discount is offered to members who pay their subscriptions before the end of April.

Members who have not paid their subscriptions by the end of April should not use the facilities of the club until their account is settled.

Cheques must be payable to the "Thistleworth Club" and passed to the Membership Secretary.