

AMHERST LAWN TENNIS CLUB – RULES – August 2019

1. The Club shall be called Amherst Lawn Tennis Club and is an affiliated member of the Lawn Tennis Association, whose Rules of Play shall apply to the Club.
2. The purposes of the Club are to promote the amateur sport of lawn tennis in the Hastings area and provide for community participation in lawn tennis consistent with the statutory requirements for Community Amateur Sport Clubs (CASC).
3. Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone in the community interested in tennis without discrimination according to the limitation of the Club resources and facilities. The Club establishes a range of membership classes and subscription levels to encourage widest participation of the local community. Membership fees are set only on a cost recovery basis and are aimed not to pose a significant obstacle to people participating.
4. Membership may be refused or withdrawn by the Club Committee for good cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club into disrepute. Appeal against membership refusal or removal may be made to the members at a General Meeting.
5. The Club is a members' club and the management of the Club shall be vested in its Committee. The Committee shall exercise the powers given to it by these rules and perform such duties as it may, from time to time, undertake on the instructions of the members as determined by resolution at a General Meeting.

The Committee shall consist of the following officers elected at the Annual General Meeting to hold office until the end of the next Annual General Meeting:

President
Chairman
Men's Captain
Ladies' Captain
Secretary
Treasurer
Membership Secretary
Social Organiser
Bar Organiser
Clubhouse/Grounds Co-ordinator
Three other members
Representative of the Junior Section

The Committee may appoint such other officials as it may deem necessary from time to time and may make appointments to fill any casual vacancy arising on the committee. The Head Club Coach shall also be a member of the committee for the period of his/her appointment. He/she shall have full voting rights except for matters appertaining to his/her appointment.

6. An Annual General Meeting of all members shall be called in June/July of each year and at least two weeks notice of this meeting, together with the business to be transacted, shall be given to all members other than temporary members. This meeting shall be called for the purposes of receiving the accounts and officers' reports for the previous year, electing officers and other members of the committee, appointing an auditor, determining the subscriptions and discussing matters relating to the club. Any proposed alteration to the Rules and any other major resolution (as under Rule 7) must be proposed and seconded and received by the Secretary by 30th May for inclusion in the business to be transacted.
7. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the club may be called at any time on the request of the Chairman or by written request to the Secretary signed by not less than seven Senior members. Such written request and notice convening the meeting shall specify the reason for the request. Not less than two weeks notice of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be given to all full members.
8. At all General Meetings every member of the club shall be entitled to be present and to vote on every question raised (save that Junior, Temporary or suspended members shall have no vote). Except as provided in Rules 10 and 34, all resolutions shall be passed by a simple majority of

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those present and entitled to vote. In the event of an even division of votes the Chairman shall exercise a casting vote. The Secretary shall take minutes of the proceedings at all General Meetings.

9. Membership shall be divided into the following classifications: -

- Honorary Life Members
- Paid Up Life Members
- Senior Members
- Off Peak Members (8am-5pm Monday to Friday, Saturday 2pm onwards)
- Junior Members (under 18; under 14; under 10 as of 1st Jan of calendar year)
- Senior U21 members
- Family Membership
- Temporary Members - monthly/weekly – Senior/Junior
- Country Members (living greater than 20 miles from the Club)
- Non-Playing Members

Definitions of Membership: -

Family membership applies to Members residing at the same address and includes 2 adults and all juniors aged 18 or under (or adults up to age 25 and in full-time education). A further fee of £55 will apply for each additional adult member at the same address thereafter.

Reduced subscription rates apply to Seniors who are 60 and over; Juniors under 14, Juniors under 10 years of age, bona fide students in full time education, and family membership as detailed in the current subscription list.

10. Applicants for membership will be asked to complete a brief application form (available at the Clubhouse or from the Membership Secretary) which will be displayed on the Club notice board by the Membership Secretary. The Club Committee will review all new applications and elect new members by a majority vote. During this time new applicants will be welcome to use the Club and its facilities, although Licensing Regulations do not permit new applicants to use the bar for the first two days from their application. Honorary Life Members may, on the nomination by the Committee, be elected at any General Meeting by a vote of two thirds of the members present entitled to vote.
11. Subscriptions for each classification of membership shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting and shall become renewable from 1st April next. Life membership is available to all Senior members of 60 and over, at the rate of ten times the full Senior Annual Subscription.
12. Any member not having paid his or her subscription by 30th April in any year, shall, at the discretion of the Committee, not be entitled to use any of the facilities of the Club until such subscription is paid. Any member not having paid his or her subscription by 30th April in any year shall be deemed to have resigned unless adequate reason has been tendered to the Committee.
13. Any member wishing to resign must send his or her resignation in writing to the Membership Secretary.
14. Any member may introduce a guest for a day or part day. The name of the member and the guest must be entered in the Visitors' Book. A fee of an amount determined at the Annual General Meeting will be payable for a playing guest. No person may be admitted as a guest on more than three occasions during one club year. The member shall be responsible for the good behaviour of his or her guest and must ensure that the guest complies with all the relevant rules. A maximum of three guests shall be permitted for each member of the club on any one occasion.

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15. For the wider encouragement and development of tennis, members of the general public are invited to attend group lessons and practice sessions at the Club for which a small court fee will be charged along with the appropriate group-coaching fee.
16. Members of other clubs visiting for the purpose of inter club games may be admitted to the club as temporary honorary members on the occasion of such visits and signed into the Visitors' Book by a Club member. They may buy food and drink (including intoxicating liquor) for consumption on the club premises.
17. No illegal gaming or betting shall be allowed on the club premises and any member breaking this particular rule shall have his or her membership suspended.
18. A court may not be occupied for more than one short set (tie break) if others are waiting to play. This rule only applies outside published organised play.
19. When a set is finished the players shall be responsible for ensuring that the court has its full compliment of four balls and, where further play is not expected, returning the balls to the equipment store.
20. The Committee shall have the power to make arrangements for matches and tournaments that shall have priority in the use of courts: whenever possible at least one court will be available for ordinary club play.
21. No player shall be allowed on the courts unless wearing recognised tennis clothing and footwear. The Committee, or its appointed representative, will be the sole judge of what is acceptable tennis wear.
22. The Committee has power to alter or add to the playing rules (18-21 above).
23. The Club's financial year shall end on the 31st March, as at which date the Treasurer shall cause accounts to be prepared and audited.
24. All monies received on behalf of the club shall be handed to the Treasurer who will thereafter be responsible for their safe keeping and shall pay all surplus monies for the time being into the club's banking account or accounts.
25. All major schemes involving expenditure above £5,000 is subject to members' approval at a General Meeting.
26. The Committee is empowered to borrow money for the purposes of the club in such amounts and upon such terms as to interest, timescale, security and otherwise as the Committee may determine.
27. The property and funds of the Club cannot be used for the direct or indirect private benefit of members other than as reasonably allowed by the Rules, and all surplus income is reinvested in the Club.
28. The Club may provide sporting and related social facilities, sports equipment, coaching, courses, insurance cover, first aid medical treatment, and other ordinary benefits of Community Amateur Sports Clubs as provided for in the Finance Act 2002.
29. The Club may provide in connection with its sports purposes, the sale of food, drink, sports clothing, equipment or related services (eg. racket re-stringing). The sale and supply of intoxicating liquor for consumption on the Club premises shall be permitted under normal licensing laws between the hours specified by the Magistrates to members and signed-in guests only.
30. No person other than the Bar Organiser or those members on the Authorised List may sell or dispense intoxicating liquor on the club premises or hold a key to that part of the premises comprising the bar.

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31. The Committee and members acting properly in the course of running the Club will be indemnified against any liability incurred in the proper running of the Club (but only to the extent of its assets).
32. The Committee will have due regard to the law on disability discrimination and child protection.
33. The quorum at any General Meeting shall be 15 members who are entitled to vote and the quorum at any Committee meeting shall be 6. If at any meeting a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the time for which the meeting was called, it shall be adjourned, to be reconvened as soon as practically possible.
34. The Club may be dissolved only by a resolution passed by a vote of not less than three quarters of the members present and eligible to vote at a General Meeting called specifically for the purpose of considering such a resolution. The Committee will then be responsible for the orderly winding up of the Club's affairs. After settling all liabilities of the Club, the Committee shall dispose of the net assets to another club with similar sports purposes that is either a registered charity or a registered Community Amateur Sport Club.
35. These Rules may be altered only at a General Meeting by a simple majority of those present and eligible to vote. Any proposed alteration or alterations must be notified in writing to the General Meeting and be specified in the notice convening the meeting.
36. These Rules shall be deemed to have been brought to the notice of the members if a copy is exhibited and available for inspection in the club premises.