

As of 1st October 2014 Billericay Lawn Tennis Club has incorporated and is now known as Billericay Lawn Tennis Club Limited.

Billericay Lawn Tennis Club Limited (“the club”)

Club Rules as at 22/10/2021

These rules of the Club are made pursuant to the Club’s current Articles of Association and the Management Committee Responsibility/Authority guidelines. The terms used shall have the same meaning as in the Articles of Association. Where there is any inconsistency between these Rules and the Articles of Association, the provisions of the Articles of Association shall prevail.

1. Membership

- a. The membership year shall run for 1st April to 31st March of the following year.
- b. The club offers the following categories of playing membership:-
 - i. Adult Full member;
 - ii. Adult Midweek member;
 - iii. Under 21;
 - iv. Student (*in fulltime education*);
 - v. Country (*living more than 25 miles from the club*);
 - vi. Junior (*from age 11 to 17*);
 - vii. Intermediate (*junior member with full member rights*);
 - viii. Mini (*from age 4 to 10*);
 - ix. Junior parent;
 - x. Life Member
 - xi. Adult Winter Member (membership runs from 1st October to 3rd March)
- c. The club offers the following categories of non-playing membership:-
 - i. Social member
 - ii. Holding member
 - iii. Honorary member
- d. For the avoidance of doubt, only members aged eighteen (18) or over, of the above categories b.i, b.ii, b.iii, b.iv, b.v and b.x shall have voting rights.

- e. Each member agrees as a condition of membership:
 - i. to be bound by and subject to these rules and the rules and regulations of the Essex County Lawn Tennis Association (ECLTA but also known as Essex Tennis) as in force from time to time,
 - ii. to be bound by and subject to the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) Rules and the Disciplinary Code.
- f. Rule 1d (ii) confers a benefit on the LTA and, subject to the remaining provisions of this rule, is intended to be enforceable by the LTA by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999. For the avoidance of doubt, the members do not intend that any term of these rules, apart from rule 1d (ii), should be enforceable, by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999, by any person who is not a party to this agreement.
- g. The Directors may terminate the membership of any person, or impose any other sanction they determine to be appropriate, in connection with the breach of any condition of membership set out in these Rules.
- h. The tennis sub-committee shall have sole discretion to determine the most appropriate category of membership for new members.
- i. The tennis sub-committee reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to change the membership category of a member at any time.
- j. A database of Club members' details will be maintained by the club.
- k. The names and membership categories of adult members may only be provided to the LTA or ECLTA.
- l. The club will adhere to the Data Protection Principles.

2. Membership subscriptions & joining fee

- a. Member subscriptions are due by the start of the membership year, or immediately on acceptance as a member.
- b. Members who have not paid their membership in full by 1st April may, at the discretion of the Management Committee, be refused access to the club premises until their membership is paid.
- c. New members joining after 1st April in any year will have their first year's membership pro-rated on a monthly basis until the end of the current season. They will still be liable for the full joining fee.
- d. Membership subscriptions are not refundable.
- e. Subscriptions and joining fees applicable for the current year are displayed on the club website.
- f. A discount may be available for multiple annual subscriptions paid by the same family or for members aged over 65.

3. Club and Court availability

- a. The clubhouse and courts are generally available from 8am to midnight Monday to Sunday, with certain restrictions detailed below.
- b. Members can purchase a key to the clubhouse from the Membership Secretary. This key will allow them to open the clubhouse upon arrival and lock it upon departure, if they are the last to leave.
- c. All members must familiarise themselves with **de-activating** the alarm on opening the front door and **setting** the alarm, after securing all doors and windows, before locking the front door on departure.
- d. If all doors and windows are not locked this poses a security risk and is likely to trigger the alarm which will require a committee member to be called out at whatever time to reset the alarm and secure the clubhouse. This will also incur a cost to the club from the security company monitoring the alarm.
- e. Access to courts is restricted according to membership category – see Court Booking Rules*.

(*) court availability may be restricted due to; social play, junior coaching or inter-club matches. See also para (p) below.

- f. Courts are **reserved** at the following times:

Tuesday & Thursday 9.00 am to 1.00 pm - Midweek club play

Monday to Friday 3.30 pm to 7.30 pm - Junior coaching

Tuesday evening 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm - Adult social play

Thursday evening 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm - Adult social play

Saturday morning 9.00 am to 1.00 pm - Junior coaching

Saturday afternoon 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm - Adult social play

The head coach will endeavour to make at least 1 court available to members during junior coaching, if numbers allow.

- g. The Club operates a court booking system via the club website.
- h. Booking of the clubhouse or courts for other outside competitions and social events must be made through the head coach and/or tennis sub-committee.
- i. Visitors, including junior parents who are non-members, can use the courts with an adult member present, upon payment of a £5-00/visitor fee (£7-00 for indoor courts) and completion of the visitor's book in reception area of the main club. All visitors must be signed in by an adult member or a coach.
- j. A member can only sign a maximum of 6 visitors per season.
- k. Visitors using the facilities of the Club will be required, as a condition of such use, to agree to be bound by and subject to these rules, the LTA Rules and the Disciplinary Code, such agreement to contain any express acknowledgement that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 applies and that the LTA and the Club can enforce any breach at its option and in its sole discretion.
- l. Floodlights for the courts are currently free
- m. Planning restrictions mean that lights for courts 4, 5 & 6 will automatically switch off at 10.30 pm, from 1st October to 31st March each year.

Note: Emergency lighting will be provided for 7 minutes to enable you to leave these courts.

4. Court usage & etiquette

- a. The tennis sub-committee will provide 3 tennis balls per court for all club play sessions. These will be either new balls or used match balls.
- b. Players should return all balls from their court to the racks in the clubhouse at the end of play. **Players must also retrieve any balls hit out of court.**
- c. Players must provide their own tennis rackets and wear appropriate tennis clothing and non-marking footwear.
- d. Players entering and leaving courts should do so quickly and quietly and without disrupting play on adjacent courts.
- e. Players must slacken off the court nets & close the court gates when they leave the courts at the end of play.
- f. Players must turn off floodlights on any courts not being used at the end of play. Members must also ensure that light meters are turned off 'free' at the end of every evening.
- g. Stronger players are expected to adjust their style of play accordingly when playing with or against weaker players during club play sessions. All players are expected to observe the accepted standards of tennis etiquette at all times.

5. Codes of Conduct, LTA Rules and Disciplinary Code

The club's disciplinary powers and procedures are contained within both the Articles of Association and the Management Committee Responsibility/Authority.

- a. In addition to the above, the following Codes and Rules should be taken to apply to individuals and team members, involved in both social and competitive play and to members and visitors use of other club facilities.
- b. The codes of conduct apply to:
 - i. Coaches
 - ii. Team Officials
 - iii. Players
 - iv. Parents/Spectators.
- c. Full details of the codes of conduct for the above can be found on the Club website.
- d. The club is committed to complying with and upholding the Rules and Disciplinary Code of the LTA and/or the ECLTA. Copies of these rules and the code can be found on the club website.
- e. All members and parents of junior members are expected to familiarise themselves with the rules in (c) & (d) above.

6. Clubhouse & Bar usage

- a. All members, visitors and guests use the club premises and facilities at their own risk.
- b. The club holds a Club Premises Certificate from the local authority that allows it to sell intoxicating liquor on the premises, subject to certain conditions.
- c. No intoxicating liquor shall be supplied to members or any other person on the Club premises otherwise than on behalf of the Club. Subject to any conditions on the Certificate issued by the local authority, no intoxicating liquor shall be sold to any person other than:-
 - i. Club members or their guests.
 - ii. Members of visiting Clubs.
- d. The supply of intoxicating liquor on the Club premises will be permitted during the following hours:

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Monday to Saturday 11.00 am to 11.00 pm
Sunday and Good Friday 12 noon to 10.30 pm
Christmas Day 7.00 pm to 10.30 pm
- e. Only persons permitted under current licensing laws are permitted to consume alcohol on club premises. No person shall be permitted to purchase or consume intoxicating liquor at the Club whilst under the age of 18.
- f. Members of the public may be invited to the clubhouse, for the purpose of raising club funds, on a maximum of 12 occasions per annum.
- g. All wines, spirits and other excisable articles shall be purchased by and under the control of a sub-committee for the benefit of the members, which shall be called the Bar Committee. The Bar Committee shall be comprised of not less than five and not more than ten members elected at the Annual General Meeting or at any Extra-ordinary Meeting.
- h. No person shall be entitled to receive at the expense of the Club any commission, percentage or similar payment on or with reference to purchase of intoxicating liquor by the Club; nor shall any person directly or indirectly derive any pecuniary benefit from the supply of intoxicating liquor by or on behalf of the Club to members or guests apart from any benefit accruing in the Club as a whole and apart also from any benefit which a person derives indirectly by reason of the supply giving rise to or contributing to a general gain from the carrying on of the Club.
- i. The clubhouse may only be hired by members for private functions, for a fee, subject to the approval of the Bar Committee. Terms and conditions will apply to every booking. The fee charged is calculated to cover the cost of operating the club premises during the hire period.
- j. During periods of private hire the ratio of members to non-members should not exceed 1 to 25. A new member must have been accepted by the Management Committee for at least 48 hours in order to be included as a member for the purposes of this ratio.
- k. The Clubhouse shall not be used for gambling or for playing any game of chance or unlawful games. The Management Committee shall have power to prohibit any games which in their opinion are unlawful games or the playing of which would be detrimental to the interests of the Club.
- l. Any surplus from the sale of drinks, vending machines and private hire of the club premises will be used for the benefit of members and the maintenance and improvement of club premises and facilities.
- m. Children are not allowed in the bar area unless accompanied by an adult.
- n. The clubhouse and grounds are to be kept clean and tidy. It is the responsibility of all members to ensure that other members and visitors adhere to this policy.

- o. Lost and left property will be displayed in the foyer for up to 3 months, thereafter it will be disposed of.

7. General club rules.

- a. The Management Committee shall have power to make arrangements for holding matches, tournaments, or like competitions including the imposition of a charge for the admission of non-members to the grounds and to provide cups and other prizes for competitions and to reserve courts as may be required on any occasion as the Management Committee in their discretion think proper. The Club Captain shall be held responsible for and in charge of any trophies won by the Club.
- b. The tennis sub-committee shall have the right to enter teams into local mid-week and weekend leagues to provide inter-club matches for club members who wish to play competitive tennis. The tennis sub-committee shall determine the composition of the club teams based on the sub-committee's assessment of the playing ability of club members who put themselves forward to play in such teams.
- c. The tennis sub-committee shall appoint a captain for each team. In the event no member is willing to captain a team the team shall be disbanded.
- d. Members who play competitive matches for club teams will be required to pay a match fee of £3.00 per person per match to the captain of the team. Student and intermediate members are required to pay a £1.00 match fee. The captain of each team must pay all match fees collected to the Treasurer by the end of the tennis league season.
- e. Members and visitors shall be responsible for making good any damage to Club property caused by their own negligence.
- f. The Club cannot be held responsible for any loss or injury sustained whilst on the Club's premises.
- g. Members using the car park should park their vehicles in an orderly manner so as to maximise the parking available and not to inconvenience other members.
- h. The Management Committee shall, from time to time, make, repeal and amend these Rules as they shall think expedient for the internal management, use of the courts and well-being of the Club. All such changes shall be binding upon members until repealed by the Management Committee or set aside by a resolution of a General Meeting of the Club.
- i. Members are asked to keep children and animals under close control to ensure other members' pleasure and enjoyment.