

# **BLAYDON TENNIS CLUB RULES**

As of April 2021, valid until further notice.

## **GENERAL AIMS**

- to promote the game of tennis to all, irrespective of gender, ethnicity, religion, age, or ability.
- to give fair and reasonable access to the club to as many people as possible.
- to treat everyone who comes into the club with respect and courtesy.
- to operate a zero-tolerance policy to bullying.
- to create a club ethos which is fun, sociable, supportive and sporting.
- to re-invest all monies collected into securing the future development of the club.

## **GENERAL ACCESS**

- The courts are available to book from early morning to late evening (with some restrictions on usage at certain times, depending on membership category).
- Sessions should now be booked via the club's website: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/blaydontennisclub>.
- Membership Fees are due on April 1<sup>st</sup> each year.
- Members have access to the clubhouse and its facilities on the understanding that, should they open the premises, they must also lock up (or, by mutual agreement, arrange for another adult member to do so).

## **JUNIOR ACCESS**

- The club requires parents/guardians of Juniors up to the age of 18 to acquaint themselves with both the rules of the club (here) and also the specific guidance on court etiquette before attendance.
- Junior members 14 years and over can come to the club unsupervised.
- Juniors under 14 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult (18 years and over).
- Juniors representing an adult club team may attend an adult social session, but must first seek the approval of a coach, a team captain, or the match secretary.

## **CHANGING ROOMS**

- There are two changing rooms: one Female and one Male.
- At times, these changing facilities will be required by both Adult and Junior members simultaneously.
- As there is no supervision, the club requires parents/guardians of Juniors to offer them such advice and guidance as they deem appropriate. (Please refer to our Changing Room Policy).
- The use of mobile phones, or any devices with recording capabilities, is not permitted in the changing rooms.

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## **COURTS**

- At times of high demand, it is necessary to prioritise use. On these occasions there are separate rules for the astroturf and tarmac courts:

### **Usage of Astroturf Courts: Order of Priority**

1. Maintenance.
2. Authorized Club and promotional events.
3. Adult League Matches.
4. Club Social Sessions.\*
5. Authorized Junior Matches.
6. Any member - casual doubles or singles or 1-1 Member Coaching. \*
7. Pay and Play for non-members. \*

### **Usage of Tarmac Courts: Order of Priority**

1. Maintenance.
2. Authorized Club and promotional events.
3. Junior Matches.
4. Coaching and Development activities.\*
5. Adult League Matches.
6. Any member - casual doubles or singles. \*
7. Pay and Play for non-members.\*

*\* There is a charge for using the floodlights in these categories (payable before play begins).*

## **SOCIAL SESSIONS**

- The club organises social sessions throughout the week, as identified on the club website.
- The aim is to offer all adult members at least one session a week at an appropriate level, with opportunities to play mixed, men's and ladies' tennis within this.
- Booking for all sessions is now online: the system is managed by a committee member. Otherwise, play is currently self-regulated on arrival (from April 2021, members arriving to play "on spec" will need to know the session access code for the gate).
- Prospective team players may request match practice with each other.

## **BEHAVIOUR ON COURT**

- Members and visitors are expected to show courtesy and respect to others at all times: bad language and insulting behaviour are not acceptable under any circumstances.
- Anyone needing to cross behind an occupied court should wait until invited to do so at a pause in play.
- Suitable sports clothing and correctly-soled footwear should be worn (ridged training shoes, jeans and other items of "everyday" clothing are not permitted).
- No food is allowed on court. Drinks, other than water, must be in sealed bottles.
- At the end of a game, the court should be cleared of all belongings and rubbish.
- Unless the circumstances are exceptional, mobile phones should be switched to "Off" or "Silent" before starting a match.

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## **CARE OF CLUB FACILITIES**

The club employs a maintenance person and a cleaning contractor to help keep the club facilities in good order. However, we need all members and visitors to help by:

- Leaving padlocks attached, and locked, to the fence/gate/shutters after opening up. This should enable us to avoid loss. *(Please do **not** put keys or padlocks in a bag or pocket: you risk leaving the premises with them still on you!)*
- Keeping bags, clothing, equipment etc in the changing rooms to avoid congestion in the lobby areas.
- Removing any uneaten food from the premises after sessions, especially after matches. *(Hygiene regulations apply).*
- Returning equipment to storage areas after use.
- Not leaving empty tennis ball tubes/lids on court.
- Clearing up, washing up and putting away any crockery or utensils used.
- Switching off the TV, floodlights and clubhouse lights when not in use. *(Please save on lighting costs wherever possible).*
- Closing the clubhouse outer door during winter months to prevent heat loss. *(Please save on heating costs wherever possible).*
- Behaving responsibly to avoid damage to club property. *(Criminal damage will be reported to the police).*
- Recording all maintenance issues as soon as possible on the "Faults List" on the clubhouse whiteboard. *(Contact a committee member if the need is urgent).*
- Following correct procedures for locking up. *(See the notice displayed by the telephone in the clubhouse).*

**Inevitably, regrettably, and with the best will in the world, at some point there may be an issue regarding the application of these rules.**

**Anyone wishing to report a breach can do so through our Complaints and Feedback Policy.**

**The committee will consider the breach and decide what action to take.**

**The decision of the committee is final.**