

General Guidance for Members of Bloomfield Tennis Club 2020

General Information

The club is located at 98 Wellsway, BATH, BA2 4SD. Our facilities include three all-weather carpet courts, a single junior short tennis court, a practice wall and a modest clubhouse with electricity and running water. Other facilities are shared with the neighbouring Bloomfield Bowling Club, including car parking, toilets and an occasional bar.

Clothing and equipment

Sports clothing and proper tennis shoes are essential. The carpet court surface is our biggest asset so please help to protect it. Heavy duty, heeled or muddy footwear, bikes, scooters, pushchairs or animals are not permitted on the carpet courts. Shoe tags for the relevant membership year should be worn at all times.

General playing standards/Coaching

Given the number of courts/number of member's ratio and to ensure that club sessions (see below) are attractive to as many members as possible, we do ask that members wishing to attend club sessions are of a playing standard to allow for reasonably well-matched games to be played. By playing standard we mean that members should feel reasonably confident in playing all stroke types (i.e. forehand, backhand, volley, serve) and an understanding of tactics including 'court awareness'. New members may be asked to demonstrate that they are of this playing standard. We acknowledge that some members will not be of this standard and for adult members wishing to gain that knowledge and consistency, adult coaching is available. Personalised coaching is available through the club, please look at our website or talk to a committee member. For general coaching enquiries, both Junior and adult please contact our coaching partners tt-tennis, either through Tom Terrien at tom@tt-tennis.co.uk or go to <http://www.tt-tennis.co.uk> and look at the Bloomfield section under **information**.

Access to Courts and the Clubhouse

Access to the courts is by coded padlock and to the clubhouse via a key safe on the outside wall – the codes are available from any Committee Member. Please remember to lock all the gate padlocks and the clubhouse if you are the last person to leave the club

Court Etiquette

There are some key points when you are at the club:

- Wait for an appropriate break in play when accessing the courts by the main gate;
- Use all the available gates to avoid interrupting play;
- Show courtesy to all members, members of the bowling club and neighbours - this means keeping noise to a reasonable level both on and off court;
- Put all your litter in the bins provided – this includes ball tins/lids, water bottles etc..

Club Play Sessions

During club sessions we play doubles unless there are insufficient players to do so. Please note the following key principles which should be respected:

- Play is for one set with a tiebreak at 5-5 and end changes are on odd games
- You must clearly see the ball out before calling "Out" – if you didn't see it "Out" the ball is "In"
- If you are distracted by a ball or see a ball where a player might tread on it call a let
- Avoid returning a fault service if possible

- Carry at least two balls when you are serving
- Don't provide a running commentary on the play and don't shout out if you play a poor shot or set the ball up for your opponent
- After your set please vacate the court promptly and leave the balls at the net for the next group of players.

Club balls are available from the "Club Balls" store for use only during club sessions and must be returned to the store at the end of a session. If the balls are beyond use ask a Committee Member to replace them with new ones. Put any old balls in the "Practice Balls" store. There is also a box of equipment for young children in the clubhouse which members are free to use. Please return the equipment to the box after use.

The responsibility to arrange the next four to go on court lies with the member who has been waiting the longest. Priority should be given to members who have been waiting longest rather than to those who have just arrived, but care should be taken to ensure players of similar ability play together.

Summer season (approximately end of March [weekend when the clocks go forward] until end of October [weekend when the clocks go back])

There are Club Play sessions on Tuesday and Thursday evenings commencing about 5pm and at weekends on Saturday afternoon at 1pm and Sunday evening at 4pm. All members meeting the required standard are welcome, but we do ask members to play with others of similar ability. At the invitation of the Committee, juniors, accompanied by an adult member, may take part in the Thursday and Sunday evening sessions. On Saturdays juniors will be able to take part provided there is court availability but adult members will have priority. Juniors will be expected to play an "adult" game and mix in with all members attending the session.

In addition on **some** Monday and Wednesday evenings when matches are not scheduled (please see separate information below) the courts are free for families and juniors, but please check the [Court Availability](#) schedule as these times may also be used for coaching.

During the summer junior coaching programmes are generally scheduled for Saturday morning, together with some kids' camps during the school holidays

Winter season (approximately end of October [weekend when the clocks go back] until end of March [weekend when the clocks go forward])

There are Club Play sessions on Saturday and Sunday afternoons at 1pm until dusk. All members meeting the required standard are welcome, but we do ask members to play with others of similar ability. At the invitation of the Committee juniors, accompanied by an adult member, may take part in the Sunday session. On Saturdays juniors will be able to take part provided there is court availability but adult members will have priority. Juniors will be expected to play an "adult" game and mix in with all members attending the session.

Winter junior coaching is only likely to be arranged for Saturday mornings together with some kids' camps during school holidays. Please check the [Court Availability](#) schedule for details

Private Play

Outside of club and coaching sessions and when league matches are not being played at home the club is open to members and their guests. Members must provide their own balls for private play.

During private play, members may use the courts as much as and for as long as they wish. However if there are people waiting to play, members must vacate their court at the end of a match (one set as in club session play).

There is a Court Availability schedule, which is updated regularly, and published on the web site at www.bloomfieldtennisbath.co.uk along with a printed version inside the club house. This contains details of when courts are in use by scheduled activities

Guests

To ensure that the club retains its membership culture, the number of guests permitted at any one time is limited to one per member. Guests are allowed to make use of the facilities no more than six times per year. Complaints about abuse of this guideline will be dealt with by the Committee and may result in the relevant member having their membership withdrawn. Guests should pay the £5 guest fee (£2 for juniors) into the marked box and sign the Visitors' Book, both located in the clubhouse. This is very important as guests will not otherwise be covered by the club insurance.

League Tennis

The Club operates two men's, and one mixed team in the Chippenham & District League. Matches are played on alternate Mondays (Mixed – 7 home games), Wednesdays (Men's A & B Teams) from 6.15pm usually until dark. No club play is possible during match sessions. If you are interested in playing matches please contact any of the team captains – Men's A Team (Patrick Toynbee), B Team (Steve MacGillivray) and Mixed (Tony Merkin).

Tournaments

Throughout the summer we arrange both singles and doubles tournaments, which are advertised in the clubhouse. All members are welcome to join in.

Wimbledon Tickets

The Club receives a modest allocation of Wimbledon tickets and all members who are British Tennis members are entitled to put their names forward for the annual draw in April/May. Details are advertised in the clubhouse.

Committee

The current Committee is:

President	Currently vacant	
Chairman	Bob Vincent	01225 442004
Secretary	Jilly Hillier	07843 387424
Treasurer	Pete Try	01225 462383
Member	Andrew Wright	01225 312045

Members should contact any member of the Committee if they have any issues or concerns.