

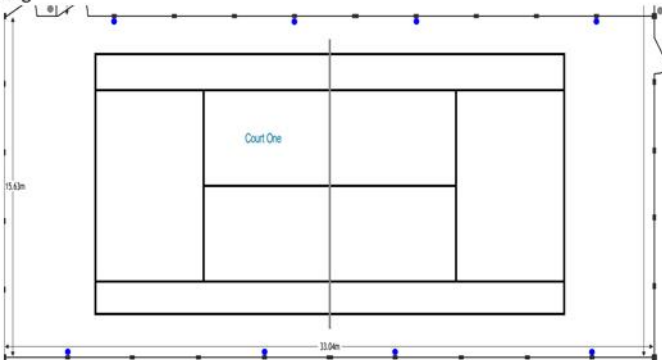
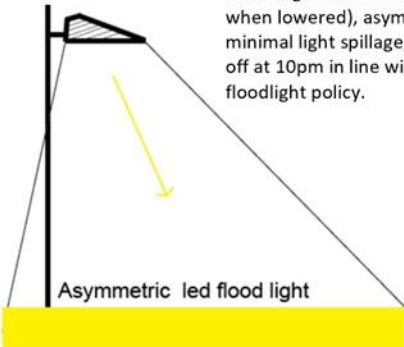



BRAMFORD TENNIS CLUB

FLOODLIGHT USAGE POLICY

8* fence mounted LED floodlights, max height 4.25m in use (2.75m when lowered), asymmetric so minimal light spillage, automatic cut off at 10pm in line with existing floodlight policy.



- * Low impact
- * No planning permission
- * Raise only when needed
- * Cost effective solution to increase court capacity in winter



This policy is reviewed every two years (or earlier if a change is deemed necessary).

Policy Approved: 2 July 2024

Policy review due: July 2026

INTRODUCTION

Venues providing floodlit tennis have an enormous advantage over those without lighting as on average venues with floodlights have 50% more members and improved retention levels, are able to attract and retain coaches who deliver coaching opportunities year round, have increased revenue opportunities through membership and pay and play. Between November and April when daylight is shorter, lighting outdoor courts adds 35% more playing time.

SCOPE

This policy defines the safe operation of the two different floodlighting solutions that currently exist at Bramford Tennis Club and applies to all members, coaches, guests and visitors that attend the club when floodlights are in use. The policy also highlights any restrictions in usage as defined in the associated planning permissions. Finally the policy highlights any future plans relating to floodlights as defined in our infrastructure improvement plan known as Project Smash.

FLOODLIGHT USAGE POLICY

Floodlight usage is included in adult member fees and its important to understand in relation to their usage that the following key principles apply in all cases

1. Floodlights must only be used by adult members, or the clubs approved Coaching Provider
2. It is a condition of our Planning Permission that the floodlights must not be used before 3.00pm or after 10.00pm. Floodlights are also not permitted for use on Sundays. These hours are set in the interests of residential amenity, and it is important that these conditions are fully adhered to.
3. To ensure compliance with item 2 above, the lights are timed to go off automatically at 10pm. The lead member, organiser or coach should ensure that play is concluded by 9.45pm to ensure that there is adequate time to safely collect in any balls and equipment and for players to pack up and safely leave the courts whilst they are still lit
4. The lead member, organiser or coach should leave the courts last and ensure that the relevant floodlight rocker switches are turned to the OFF position. Note that an egress timer will ensure that one light (nearest to the court entrance) remains on for 5mins to allow for the final player to leave the court safely.
5. If for any reason the lights cut out prior to the 10pm time, please make sure that associated rocker switches are left in the OFF position so that they do not automatically switch ON again the following day. Report the early cut off problem to bramfordtennisclub@yahoo.com so that the cause of the problem can be investigated
6. The lights for Courts 1 are LED and are on a separate switch to those for Courts 2 and 3. If all lights have been used (most likely in the case of a match), it is imperative that all rocker switches are turned to the OFF position prior to leaving the court.
7. The lights on Court 2 and 3 are metal halide and take time to cool down after use. Please do not attempt to switch them back on immediately after usage as this could cause damage to the lights. Please be patient before attempting to turn them on again.
8. **Do not waste power.** Floodlighting is a major cost to the Club. Please fill courts already floodlit before switching on more lights – and please turn off lights where courts have been vacated, even if adjacent courts are still in use.
9. **Maintenance costs money.** If the lights fuse an engineer may have to be called to attend to the problem. To eliminate unnecessary callouts, please have particular regard for the instructions above.
10. **Court 1 floodlights special conditions** – this solution is based on an innovative retractable pole solution with state-of-the-art LED head units attached to each pole. This solution was adopted to meet with stringent planning permissions regarding light spillage and proximity to the local bowling club which runs adjacent to Court 1. The floodlights can be used in the down (fence height) position, but optimum light is given when poles are fully extended. To extend the poles, a manual winch-based system is used and to comply with health and safety and equipment longevity only those with approval who have received appropriate training will be able to extend and lower the lights¹. To minimise any disruption, whilst also being compliant with planning permissions, the lights will be extended to their full height in the following situations:
 - a. Summer months (Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug, Sep) – lights will be left in the DOWN (fence height) position except for evening summer league matches when there is an expectation that play will continue after 8.30pm (still subject to lights being off by 10pm)
 - b. Winter months (Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar) – lights will be left in the UP (extended position) so that members/coaches can easily use them via the rocker switch. Note that if

¹ Those with approval are currently limited to the following: Graham Chappell (Chair and Men's captain), Ali Sparrow (Ladies Vice Captain) and Carl Douglas (Club coach)

high winds are expected, the committee can agree without consultation to temporarily lower the lights until such time as the weather improves

11. **Problems with the floodlights.** If you have any problems with the floodlights, or if any lamps fail, please report to bramfordtennisclub@yahoo.com

FUTURE PLANS

As defined in the club infrastructure development plan (Project Smash), the intention, once associated funding has been obtained is to upgrade the floodlight solution on Courts 2&3 .The tall masts will be retained but the heads which are currently 2000W Metal Halide units will be replaced with more efficient and cost effective LED equivalents. LED lights are much less expensive to run and parts for metal halide units are now in very short supply.

When the time comes, as well as funds, we will also need to apply for a change to the original planning permission known as a non-material amendment and to aid in this process we will work with a recognised lighting provider to ensure that a full lighting design and any other documentation is produced to support our application.

To read more about Project Smash, what has been achieved so far in Phase 1 and future plans (Phases 2&3), please visit

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/BramfordTennisClub/COMMITTEE/GRANTS>