

Ewell Tennis Club

Tournament Rules 2021

- 1) All players must be available for the Finals Day which for 2021 is **4th September**. The following Saturday is held in reserve in case weather prevents play on the 4th September. Please save both dates in your calendar.
- 2) There will be a strict timetable for completing each round of the tournament, including semi-finals, that will be posted at the same time as the draw and will depend on the number of matches and rounds to be played.
- 3) The individual or pair that has an asterisk next to them (this is randomly drawn) will be responsible for contacting the others to arrange a date to play the matches. Where a match is not played by the due date, then the committee will ask for evidence of contact and content and hear the cases of all involved and will then determine which player/pair go through. This will be based on the effort expended to try to arrange the match, the availability or otherwise of the players and the reasons for the delay. In exceptional circumstances the Playing Committee may extend the time to play a match but this will consider any knock-on impact on the next round.
- 4) You **must** use the online booking system to book a court for your matches prior to playing. If a date is agreed that is more than a week ahead please email [mencaptainewelltennisclub@gmail.com](mailto:menscaptainewelltennisclub@gmail.com) with the date, time, court you require and players involved so we can reserve the court for you. We advised that at least 90 mins is booked to ensure completion of match. If weather prevents match from finishing, please re-arrange another day to complete the match from where it was left off on the same court surface you started the match on. Just a note that no matches are to be played during the official social tennis hours on Sunday morning 9:30am-12pm or Wednesday evening 5:30pm-8pm. Also no matches to be played during team training on courts 2 & 3 6:30pm-8:30pm or during Junior coaching Saturday 10:30am-12:30pm. Please note there will also be times where league matches are taking place on court 2 and 3, these will be put on system in advance so you will be able to see them when making a booking.
- 5) Please arrive in good time for any match and be ready to play. There are many matches to get through and so in the interest of completing matches on the day if you are 15 minutes or more late you forfeit the opening set. If you are more than 30 minutes late you forfeit the match.
- 6) Results should be emailed to [mencaptainewelltennisclub@gmail.com](mailto:menscaptainewelltennisclub@gmail.com) no more than 48 hours after the match from the winner of the match. Please email with the subject of Club Competition Result and in the email please state all players full name and set scores clearly. E.g. Joe Bloggs v John Doe 6-4 6-7 6-2. We will post the draw and all results on the website so that you can track progress of the tournament.

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- 7) With the Men's Singles there are sufficient numbers of entries so a plate competition will be arranged for all those losing in the preliminary and first round and will be communicated to all involved as soon as the draw has taken place. The plate competition is played to the same rules.
- 8) Please follow all club rules in place such as sanitising hands on entry and exit, clearing the courts of large debris before play and sweeping the clay courts after play as per court instructions.
- 9) For this year the individuals involved will be responsible to agree on and bring their own tennis balls to play matches, please agree this in advance to save any disagreements on match day. Balls must be good match quality balls, ideally a new or near new tube of balls. Please note for Finals day the matches will be played with club balls.
- 10) As we now have 2 different surfaces it is up to the individuals involved to agree on a court surface to play on prior to making a booking for the match. If this cannot be resolved please email menscaptainewelltennisclub@gmail.com at least 48 hours in advance prior to match day and the playing committee will randomly allocate a court for the match with a coin toss. This is dependent on the court being available for the time the match is to take place. The playing committee will have final say on this. Please note for Finals day the matches will be played on Court 1 (the Artificial Grass Court).
- 11) All Matches are best of 3 sets (first to 2 sets), with a tie-break if the games are 6-6 at the end of each set. Tie-break is first to 7 or by a margin of 2 points if it gets to 6 points each. Remember for tie-break you switch ends every 6 points played. The first person/team to serve in the tie break is the person who is due to serve the next game, they have 1 serve from the right side. Then server switches and they start from the left side, followed by a serve on the right side. This pattern of 2 serves each continues until someone wins. If a new set is required after tie break, it will be the person/team that did not start the tie break serving. In doubles it is the same pattern but each time you switch serving to the other team, you have to alternate your own server (so not the same person that served in your team last time your team served). The only exception to this alternate of server is at the start of a new set where the team serving can decide to switch the order and the team receiving can also decide to switch sides they are playing on.
- 12) Match play is not social play therefore as a rule of thumb you must only call a ball out if you are certain it was out. If you are not sure then the ball is in and you should give benefit of the doubt and not request a let. A let can only happen if a serve goes in off the net or if an outside influence directly affects play – this would include a ball rolling on court but either player must halt play during the live point not request a let after the point has concluded.
- 13) If you act in such a way as to put your opponent off their shot intentionally or otherwise this is hindrance and you forfeit the point. For example, shouting out before the ball has bounced twice just before the opponent is about to possibly make contact with it.
- 14) If playing on clay, marks may be left on the court and an opponent can ask to see the mark so please make an effort to accurately identify it where necessary. If you call a

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winning shot out that can be proven in on inspection of the mark then you lose the point; however if it was a rally shot and you had a play on it then a let is played should you have mistakenly called the ball out. This occurs once only per player and if you are wrong again you lose the point. The opponent has no right to cross the net to see the mark but may ask you if you mind him or her coming over. Do NOT rub the mark out with your foot before both parties looking at it, instead circle the correct mark and discuss with you opponent if needed.

15) All Finals will be umpired and players call the lines. Umpires will overrule if required and their decision is final.

16) Match results and tournament progress will be posted on our website at regular intervals.

17) Any variation to the rules is entirely at the discretion of the playing committee.

18) Finally please remember this is an intra club tournament, it is serious and you should be competitive but please also have fun and enjoy the games. It is also a chance to meet other members at the club.

Any questions please email [mencaptainewelltennisclub@gmail.com](mailto:menscaptainewelltennisclub@gmail.com) and the playing committee will answer them as soon as possible.

Good luck to all competitors!