



Flitwick & Ampthill Tennis Club

USEFUL CLUB INFORMATION (The Rules)

President – Hilary Nellist
- hilary.nellist@ntlworld.com

Officers of the Club

Chairperson - Barbara Mabbitt (*) (Ladies Captain/Selection Chair/Adult Club Tournament Referee/Webmaster)
b.turner1@ntlworld.com

Treasurer – John Kitchener (*) (Vice Chairman/100 Club/Beds League Secretary)
kitcheners.9@btinternet.com

Secretary/Membership Secretary – Mike Cocke (Webmaster/Constitutional Affairs) –
cockem1@sky.com
Contact No: 07557 670703

Other Members of The Committee

Terry Mabbitt - Head Coach/Men's Captain/Grounds/South Beds Chairman
terrymabbitt@hotmail.co.uk

Geraldine Breed – Referee/Grants/Newsletter

Marcus Breed – Club House Facilities Manager

Tracey Gourlay – Juniors Manager/Deputy Welfare Officer

Barry Timms – Welfare Officer/Club Development/Grants

Sharon Haines – Bar Manager/Open Day

Jack Devereux – Social Sub-committee/Tournaments

Steve Rolt – Marketing Manager/Social Media/Webmaster

Ed Hamill – Fixtures Secretary

(*) Beds LTA Representatives

coaching for all abilities and ages as well as providing a sporting and social focal point for our members and the local community.

ALL MEMBERS....

Details of the various category of membership available and the current subscriptions are shown on our web site clubspark.lta.org.uk/FlitwickAmpthillLTC. Membership runs from 1st April – 31st March each year. To join the club, or to renew your membership, go the membership section of the website and click on the link which takes you to the electronic payment section. There you will be asked to input (or amend) your details and you can join or renew immediately. If you have any queries please contact the Membership Secretary.

A list of current members is updated regularly and is held in reception..

The club aims to produce regular newsletters and this plus all important information and notices are sent out via email. Where appropriate suitable information is added to our website and facebook page. If you do not receive such information, please advise the club secretary in order that your name can be included on the email distribution list.

ADULT SOCIAL TENNIS....

Summer club sessions for seniors and good juniors will commence early April each year.

Saturday afternoon from 13:00 – 17:30 hrs

Sunday morning from 09:00 - 13:00 hrs

Tuesday evening from 18:45 – 22:00 hrs (floodlit in winter)

Wednesday morning from 09:00 hrs - vets

(Please be aware that there will be adult league matches occupying 2 and occasionally 4 carpet courts during the summer and winter seasons).

PURPOSE OF THE CLUB

Flitwick and Ampthill Lawn Tennis Club is a vibrant and progressive tennis club where you can play both social and competitive tennis all year round, whilst improving your health and wellbeing. We offer

JUNIORS....

At Flitwick & Ampthill LTC we have implemented a progressive and inclusive tennis programme that offers tennis to everyone regardless of standard and/or ambition.

Our Junior Coaching Programme follows a four stage progression where they can gain maximum improvement and enjoyment from the sport.

Junior Club Night is held every Monday evening during the summer months and some winter months from 4.00 – 5.30pm. All juniors are welcome and there is no charge.

A note for parents

A parent's role in their child's development is crucial. Parental support, whatever the outcome of their child's endeavours, is invaluable and will ensure that the child enjoys tennis and continues to play this great sport for many years to come.

Every child develops at their own rate. Encourage and nurture this development and your child can be the best they can be.

Juniors are able to play at the club at most times of the day throughout the season.

Juniors are not allowed unattended access to the Clubhouse, other than when an Adult member is in attendance.

Please note, Adult members have priority to use the courts **at all times**, except when Junior League or Club Tournament matches are being played. All Junior matches are usually played on the hard courts.

We expect our junior members to respect the club and its grounds at all times. Please do not leave litter lying around, use the bins provided. Please no swearing or shouting, we should respect our neighbours and other club members..

Junior members are **NOT** allowed to bring guests to the club, under any circumstances.

COURT BOOKINGS / FLOODLIGHTS

All courts should be booked on the courts booking page on our website. This diary also indicates league matches and regular events and should be used when booking Club Tournament matches or social games. If you need to use floodlights you can purchase tokens at Reception in the Club House 01525 715214.

Cost £1.50 per token (½ hour).

VISITORS

Please note that only Adult Members are allowed to bring guest(s) to the Club. You should not bring non-members on more than 3 occasions.

A Visitor's fee of £5.00 should be paid to the club on each occasion. Please pay your visitor's fee into Reception at the club house. Be honest when bringing visitors. If they wish to play regularly, encourage them to join. We offer extremely good value for money tennis facilities compared to other clubs of a similar size.

LITTER....

All club members are asked to assist with the task of keeping the clubhouse, court areas and surrounding grounds tidy and free from rubbish. This is **your** club, please make the personal effort of placing your rubbish in the bins provided, picking up rubbish you see or placing it within the Biffa Bins.

If you notice that the clubhouse bins are full, don't just leave it to one or two members to clear up, new sacks are in the storeroom for you to use.

Members are reminded not to bring take-away hot meals to the club. This request has arisen from a general disrespect for the clubhouse and its tidiness, and also that it has attracted vermin around the waste bins.

DRIVING...

We are always being reminded by local residents to ask members to show caution when driving to and from the Club. Please remember there may be young children playing in the roads approaching the Club.

COURT ETIQUETTE....

- Switch off and do not use your mobile phone on court.
- Please talk quietly when standing near tennis courts that are in use.
- Never walk behind a court when a point is still in play. Wait until the point is over and then cross as fast as possible.
- Make sure you are wearing appropriate tennis clothing and tennis shoes.
- Shirts must be worn at all times.

- Notice when balls from other courts have come onto your court and return them at the end of the next point.
- When sending balls back to a neighbouring court, roll them to the back of the court. Never send them back while play is in progress.
- Retrieve balls for your partner and your opponent.
- Call your own lines and let your opponent hear the call. If the ball is good say nothing and play on.
- Always respect the line calls of your opponent.
- If there is a disagreement, offer a let. In other words, replay the point, even if it was a second service.
- When receiving, do not disrupt the server's rhythm
- Try to avoid any verbal exclamation (printable or otherwise) in the middle of a rally
- Call the score regularly and clearly. Generally the server has prime responsibility for calling the score.

Please, if you have to ask juniors to leave a court do it nicely. They are not on court to spite you – they just want to play tennis! Some of the stronger juniors will be invited to play with adult club members from time to time, again offer them help and encouragement. Remember they are young and will improve very quickly. When you are face to face against them in the club tournament they may remember your kindness, or avenge your disdain!

CLUB SECURITY....

Clubhouse keys are available to adult members only from the Reception at a cost of £10.00 for the two keys needed for the shutter and main door.

Adult members who hold a key to the club house should remember to set the security alarm, close and lock the door, and lower the security shutter when leaving, and also close and padlock the courts and entrance gate.

COACHING....

Head Coach, Terry Mabbitt runs a successful coaching programme at the Club. Contact Terry at Topspin Racquets – 01525 715214 (Mobile: 07801 665656).

Full Details of Coaching schedules can be found on the web site at www.flitwicktennis.co.uk

Juniors

Saturday morning

08:30 – 09:15

Tiddlers

09:00 – 10:00

10:00 – 11:00

11:15 – 12:45

Development junior

Intermediate junior

Advanced junior

Tuesday Evening

17:00 – 18:45

Invitation Tournament Squad

Thursday Evening

16:00 - 17:00

17:00 - 18:00

18:00 - 19:00

Development junior

Intermediate junior

Advanced junior

Adults

Monday Evening

18:00 – 19:00

19:00 – 20:30

20:30 – 22:00

Development

Intermediate

Advanced

Friday Morning

09:15 – 10:45

Fun morning for tactics and matchplay

All groups include coaching and matchplay. Look out for holiday timetables for the juniors. Contact Terry for up to date details.

SUMMER AND WINTER LEAGUE TEAMS....

We have a number of teams in the County and South Bedfordshire leagues, both summer and winter (including indoor). If you are interested in playing some team tennis, please contact Terry Mabbitt – Men's Captain (07801 665656) or Barbara Mabbitt - Ladies Captain (07969 602570), or speak to a committee member at the club. We are always looking for new players.

MATCH FEES...

All team captains are reminded to levy a £3.00 per person match fee for all matches Home and Away. The cost of floodlights for home matches is paid for by the club. Match fees should be paid to the club by team captains via Committee Member John Kitchener (01525 841125) at the end of each season.

WORK PARTIES....

General maintenance tasks are supplemented and carried out throughout the year by a small group of volunteers, but there are always opportunities for club members to assist with these duties. Contact Terry Mabbitt, Grounds Manager (07801 665656) if you feel you can help.

100 CLUB LOTTERY....

As a means of raising money for the club, we run a "100 Club" lottery.

You can buy into the scheme on a monthly basis by direct debit or standing order and purchase as many tickets as you wish. The offer is only available to club members over the age of 18.

"BE IN IT TO WIN IT"

Minimum Entry - £1 per month
Recommended Entry - £3 per month
No Maximum

There is a draw at the end of every month for a prize of £50.

Anyone wishing to enter the 100 Club Draw please contact John Kitchener at Reception for details – Tel: 01525 715214 – kitcheners.9@btinternet.com

SMOKING....

As you may know the Government brought in a "no smoking" ban in public places with effect from 1st July 2007.

Therefore the clubhouse is a "no smoking" area.

We also remind the membership that no smoking is allowed on the courts.

CLUBHOUSE....

We have an excellent club house which measures 72 ft x 28 ft with its excellent amenities including showers, a bar and a table tennis table.



There is also a Pro Shop/Reception area managed by Terry Mabbitt our Head Coach which sells all sports equipment relating to racquet sports.

INDOOR TENNIS DURING THE WINTER....

The club has been very fortunate in securing a substantial grant from Central Bedfordshire Council and we now have an air dome over courts 3 and 4 from October to March each year, so we can play indoor tennis.

There is a charge to play in the bubble to cover its running costs, but you get guaranteed tennis regardless of the wind and rain for the 6 months of autumn and winter each year –



FUNDRAISING....

The Fund Raising & Social Sub-Committee are working hard to raise funds for future improvements to the club, including floodlights and court improvements to courts 5 and 6. Please contact Terry Mabbitt (07801 665656) if you feel you can help in any way with these activities.

WEBSITE and FACEBOOK....

Please visit our website at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/FlitwickAmpthillLTC>

Our Facebook page can be found at

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Flitwick-Ampthill-Lawn-Tennis-Club-Official/280347058698282?ref=hl>

ARTICLES of ASSOCIATION....

The Articles of Association of the Flitwick and Ampthill Lawn Tennis Club Limited contain all the details for the constitution and management of the Club. These are available upon request from the Club Secretary.

Club Committee
April 2023