



## CLUB RULES March 2024

### 1 NAME

The name of the Club shall be "**Goring Tennis Club**".

### 2 OBJECTIVES

The object of the club is to provide facilities for and promote participation of the whole community in the sport of Tennis.

### 3 INTERPRETATION

In the event of there being any doubt as to the meaning or application of any part of the Rules or Bye-laws, the Club Committee shall decide.

### 4 COMMITTEE

#### 4.1 Composition and Election

- i. The Club shall be administered by an elected Committee which shall consist of the Officers of the Club.
- ii. All Officers shall be elected to the Committee and the posts appointed at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- iii. The Officers of the Club shall, as a minimum, consist of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- iv. Additional Officers may be elected at the discretion of the AGM to suit the prevailing needs of the Club. Such Officers could include: Club Captain, Match Secretary, Court Manager, Membership Secretary, Tennis Development Officer, Tournaments Organiser, Junior Liaison Officer, Social Secretary, etc.
- v. Should a vacancy occur in an elected post, then the Committee has the power to appoint a Club member to the post in a temporary capacity until the time of the next AGM when the new elections to the Committee will be held.
- vi. Nothing shall prevent any member of the Club from holding more than one post except that the posts of Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer shall be held by separate members.

- vii. The Club agrees that each member of the Management Committee will be required, as a condition of election or appointment, to agree to be bound by and subject to these rules, the Rules and the Disciplinary Code, such agreement to contain an express acknowledgement that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 applies and that the LTA and the Club can enforce any breach at its option and in its sole discretion

## **4.2 Powers and Duties**

- i. The control of the Club shall be vested in the Committee with the exception of the selection of match teams.
- ii. In order to assist the Committee in the efficient conduct of the Club's affairs, the Committee shall have power to elect or appoint other sub-committees as they think fit but the Committee shall have power to override any resolution or action of any such sub-committee, with the exception of the selection of the teams.
- iii. The Committee shall have the power to co-opt additional members. Such members will not have committee voting rights until elected at an AGM.
- iv. The Committee is empowered to commit the Club to expenditure of up to £3,000 on any single capital item and to a total expenditure on capital items in any financial year not exceeding £6,000 or such greater amount as shall have been previously approved in a General Meeting. For the purpose of this section, a capital item is any item of equipment intended to have a useful life of more than one year, whether it is capitalised in the Club's accounts or not.
- v. The Chair and Secretary jointly are authorised to sign on behalf of the Club any agreement which has been approved by resolution of the Committee.
- vi. All surplus income or profits are to be reinvested in the Club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.
- vii. Upon dissolution of the Club any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC), a registered charity, or the sport's governing body for use by them in related community sports.
- viii. The club is permitted to use online banking. The Treasurer may transfer funds online or use a bank debit card to make purchases for goods, services or investments or settle invoices as agreed by the tennis club committee. Authority for the Treasurer to make any such transactions shall be agreed at either a committee meeting or by email confirmation of the club Chairman or Secretary.

## **4.3 Meetings and Procedures**

- i. Four officers shall form the quorum at a Committee Meeting which must include any two of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.
- ii. The recorded minutes of any meeting of the Committee shall be shown to any member on request.
- iii. The Committee shall meet as often as necessary and, in any event, not less than once in every quarter.

## **5 DUTIES OF OFFICERS**

### **5.1 Chair**

The Chair shall be responsible for chairing General and Committee Meetings, for promoting and guiding discussion and for ensuring the proper execution of the Club's business. The Chair will report to members on the affairs of the Club as well as representing the Club at official functions.

### **5.2 Vice-Chair**

The Vice-Chair shall deputise for the Chair in the latter's absence and take the chair at the AGM during the election of the new Chair.

### **5.3 Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep minutes of General and Committee Meetings. The Secretary shall also deal with all official correspondence and shall be responsible for keeping an inventory of the Club's property.

### **5.4 Treasurer**

The Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Club and be responsible for the keeping of an account of the Club's financial transactions. The Treasurer shall ensure that the annual accounts are accepted by the Committee and certified by the reporting accountant. The Treasurer shall be responsible for presenting the accounts to the members at the AGM and making a statement on them. The Treasurer shall be responsible for reporting to the Committee on the finances of the Club when required to do so.

## **6 MEMBERSHIP**

Membership of the Club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs.

- i. The classes of membership shall be as follows:-
  - Single Adult (Individual)
  - Joint Adult (Couples at the same address)
  - Family (2 Adults plus children at the same address)
  - Life (Individual)
  - Young Adult (Over 18 and under 36 years)
  - Walking (Those of constrained ability)
  - Junior (10 to 18 years)
  - Minis (4 to 9 years)
  - Social (Non-playing)
- ii. Members' guests may play on the courts at a rate determined by the Committee.
- iii. The Club may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club's members and decided by a majority vote in line with the procedures detailed at rule 10.
- iv. Walking tennis has recently been introduced (2024) at Goring Tennis Club following successful programmes at Benson and Portcullis tennis clubs. Those joining the club in this membership class will initially have limited daytime only access to the courts.

## **1. Conditions of Membership**

- i. Each member agrees as a condition of membership:
  - (A) to be bound by and subject to these rules (as in force from time to time)<sup>1</sup>;
  - (B) to be bound by and subject to the Rules and the Disciplinary Code<sup>2</sup>.

### **Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> This means that each member of the Club agrees to be bound by the rules of the Club.

<sup>2</sup> This means that each member of the Club agrees to be bound by the LTA's Rules and Disciplinary Code.

- ii. Rule 6.1 i confers a benefit on the LTA and, subject to the remaining provisions of this rule, is intended to be enforceable by the LTA by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999. For the avoidance of doubt, the members do not intend that any term of these rules, apart from rule 6.1 i, should be enforceable, by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999, by any person who is not a party to this agreement.
- iii. The Committee may terminate the membership of any person, or impose any other sanction they determine to be appropriate, in connection with the breach of any condition of membership set out in this rule.

## **7 SUBSCRIPTIONS**

- i. The subscriptions shall be determined at the AGM and shall become due on 1 April.
- ii. Any new member joining the Club after 30 June shall be entitled to a 25% reduction on the full annual subscription. Any new member joining the Club after 30 September shall be entitled to a 50% reduction on the full annual subscription. There shall be no other reduction or refund of any subscription except at the discretion of the Committee.
- iii. Approved coaches will be required to pay an annual subscription to be decided by the Committee.

## **8 RESIGNATION**

Any member wishing to resign shall give notice to the Membership Secretary. Any subscription already paid may, on request, be refunded on a proportional basis at the discretion of the Committee.

## **9 POWER TO SUSPEND MEMBERS FROM PLAYING**

Should any member not have paid his or her subscription within one month following the due date, the Committee shall have power to suspend that member until the subscription is paid.

## **10 CONDUCT OF MEMBERS**

The Club agrees that all unlicensed and unregistered coaches and, so far as reasonably practicable, players and other persons using the facilities of the Club will be required, as a condition of such use, to agree to be bound by and subject to these rules, the Rules and the Disciplinary Code, such agreement to contain an express acknowledgement that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 applies and that the LTA and the Club can enforce any breach at its option and in its sole discretion

Should the conduct of any member be, in the opinion of the Committee, detrimental to the character, reputation, good order and welfare of the Club, the Committee shall have power to suspend his or her membership until the next General Meeting of the Club. A General Meeting of the Club shall have the power by a two thirds majority of those members present and voting to expel any member who has been suspended by the Committee. A member under suspension shall have the right to make representation on his or her own behalf to the Meeting prior to a vote being taken. A member who has been expelled shall have no right of redress against the Club or Committee.

## **11 SURRENDER OF CLUB PROPERTY**

Any member having custody of any document, monies or other property belonging to the Club shall, upon request, surrender it to the Committee.

## **12 TRUSTEES**

The property of the Club shall be vested in a minimum of two and maximum of four trustees who shall be appointed by the Committee and the property of the Club shall be vested in them to be dealt with by them as the Committee may from time to time direct by resolution (of which an entry in the Minute Book shall be conclusive evidence). This is avoid a potential situation whereby the sudden loss of a trustee leaves the club with only one remaining trustee. The Trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property. The Trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or until removal from office by the Committee. Where by reason of such death, resignation or removal it is necessary that a new trustee or trustees be appointed, the Committee shall nominate the person or persons to be appointed the new trustee or trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination the Chair is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new trustees for the Club within the meaning of Section 36 of the Trustees Act 1925 and shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the Committee.

## **13 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

- i. The AGM of the Club shall be held within four calendar months following 30 September.
- ii. At least 14 days notice of the AGM shall be given to members. A copy of the agenda and the certified accounts of the Club for the financial year ended on the preceding 30 September shall be included with the notice convening the meeting.
- iii. At every AGM the members shall appoint a suitably qualified person (the reporting accountant) to make an independent report to the next AGM on the annual accounts of the Club. The reporting accountant shall not have been a member of the Committee during the year to which the accounts apply.

#### **14 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS**

An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) of the Club shall be held within 21 days of a written request signed by at least six members, or by resolution of the Committee, stating the purpose for which the meeting is required. At least 14 days notice shall be given to members of the EGM.

#### **15 CONDUCT OF GENERAL MEETINGS**

- i. Motions shall be considered carried when a simple majority of those members present vote in favour, except as stated in Rule 16 iii below.
- ii. The Chair's decision as to the result of voting on any question shall be final and an entry in the Minute Book signed by the Chair of the Meeting shall be conclusive of the terms of any Resolution and of its having been passed.
- iii. Only paid-up members (excluding Juniors) will be entitled to vote at a General Meeting. Joint members shall be entitled to 1 vote each.
- iv. Twenty members shall constitute a quorum.

#### **16 ALTERATION OF RULES**

- i. These Rules shall not be altered except at a General Meeting of the Club.
- ii. Any proposed alteration or addition to the Rules must be sent in writing to the Secretary not less than 14 days before the General Meeting.
- iii. A majority of at least two thirds of the members present and voting shall be required to pass any amendments to these Rules.

#### **17 TEAM SELECTION**

Selection of teams shall be made by the Team Captains and/or such others as the Committee may appoint.

#### **18 BYE-LAWS**

The Committee may draw up such Bye-laws as are considered necessary for the safe and efficient running of the Club. The Bye-laws shall be posted on the Club's notice board.

#### **19 THIRD PARTY LIABILITY**

Neither the Club nor any officer or servant thereof shall be liable to any member or guest for any loss, damage or injury to persons or property occurring whilst participating in or being present at any Club activity howsoever such loss, damage or injury may be caused and whether or not due to negligence.

#### **20 COPY OF RULES TO BE SENT TO EACH MEMBER**

A copy of these Rules shall be sent to each member and he or she shall be deemed to have read and agreed to be bound by them.

As adopted at the AGM January 16, 2012