

Hillside LTC

Tournament Rules

1. All entrants to a tournament must satisfy the criteria for the tournament. For example, to enter the Under 16 Boys you must be a boy who was not yet 16 on the 1st January of the year in which the tournament is being played.
2. All entries must be made by the closing date shown on the entry sheet posted on the club noticeboard. The Tournament Referee has discretion to extend the closing date if entry numbers are low but once a sheet has been taken down from the noticeboard no further entries will be accepted.
3. To enter a tournament you must be available to play on the date shown for the final. For the annual club Championships and the Marcus tournament the final will be on a Saturday with a reserve of the day after (Sunday) in case of bad weather – you must be available for both days. If you become unavailable for a tournament final after the tournament has begun you must withdraw immediately and inform the Tournament Referee.
4. All entrants to a tournament automatically agree to their contact details being supplied to all other entrants of the same tournament.
5. Formats for the adult club tournaments:

The adult events in the **annual club Championships** are best of three sets, handicapped (see rule 6) for the doubles and seeded for the singles. The singles are two 6-6 tie break sets and a long final set. The doubles are three long sets although where handicaps are equal, then 6-6 tie breaks may be played in the first two sets if all players agree to this before the start of the match. If the same person(s) reaches both a doubles and a singles final then the singles final will be played first.

The **Marcus tournament** is a knock-out mixed doubles tournament played during the autumn with partners selected by a random, seeded draw. The draw will be made by dividing the entrants into 4 groups in the order of their playing ability as determined by the Handicapping Committee (see rule 6). Ladies from group one will be drawn with men from group 4, ladies from group 2 will be drawn with men from group 3 and so on. If there are less than 24 entrants then three groups may be used instead. Matches will be decided by two 6-6 tie break sets and a long final set.

The **Wardle Cup** is mixed doubles where the combined ages of each pair must add up to at least 90. It will be played on one evening or afternoon as a series of “round robins” followed by semi-finals and a final. All events will be a single “first to 6 games” set.

The **Betty Silvester tournament** is played under floodlights and is mixed doubles with a completely random draw for partners. It will be played on one evening as a series of “round robins” followed by semi-finals and a final. All events will be a single “first to 6 games” set.

6. The handicapping committee for adult tournaments will comprise a minimum of the Tournament Referee and the two Club Captains although if a Club Captain is not available he/she may nominate another member of the club selection committee instead. Other members of the club selection committee may also take part. Handicaps will be based on the usual team of the players but adjusted for the strength of the pairings at the discretion of the handicapping committee.

7. Junior section of the **annual club Championships**

This will comprise the following events only:

Singles

10 and under boys and girls – (The Chris Taylor Trophy)

12 and under boys and girls – (The Mary Howard Trophy)

14 and under girls – (demonstration event, no named trophy)

14 and under boys – (demonstration event, no named trophy)

16 years and under girls – (The Henderson Trophy)

16 years and under boys – (The Bingham Trophy)

Doubles

Mixed or single gender doubles events in any of the age groups listed for singles may be included each year depending on the ages of the available children and whether there will be space in the Finals Day schedule. These will all be demonstration events with no named trophy.

All junior events, singles and doubles, will be best of 3 sets with tie breaks at 4-4 in the first two and the third set being a championship tie-break (first player to 10 points with 2 clear).

Entries

Junior may also enter the adult section of the annual club Championships but must not enter more than three events (junior or adult) in total.

8. Trophies and display of winners

Winners of the adult section of the adult club Championships will be displayed in perpetuity on the clubhouse wall. They will be given the appropriate trophy to keep for up to one year or until the date of the next club Championships, whichever is earlier.

Winners of the junior events in the annual club Championships that have a named trophy will be displayed in perpetuity on the clubhouse wall. They will also be given the appropriate trophy to keep for up to one year or until the date of the next club Championships, whichever is earlier. Winners of demonstration events will be awarded a medal or similar token to keep.

Trophies must be returned immediately if the holder leaves the club.

9. For all tournaments that take place over more than one day, the first named player, or pair, in the tournament draw are responsible for contacting their opponents to arrange the date and time to play their round. (This does not apply for the final which will be on the day and time as announced before the start of the tournament.)
10. All rounds must be played by the date shown on the draw on the clubhouse notice board. Any difficulty with playing by the due date must be referred to the Tournament Referee and extensions will only be granted at his/her discretion.
11. The draws for all club tournaments, but not the handicapping, must be conducted at a time and place where they may be observed by any club members who wish to do so. At least one week's notice must be given of the date, time and place of the draw.
12. If a player is injured and unable to play a round of a tournament by the due date (or after any extension granted by the Tournament Referee) then they must withdraw and inform the Tournament Referee immediately. No substitutes for injured players are allowed once the tournament draw has taken place.
13. Once any club tournament has started and the tournament final date has been advertised then it will not be changed for any reason unless there are genuinely unforeseen circumstances on the day of the final, such as weather conditions that make the courts unplayable.
14. Tournament finals will be subject to LTA rules of dress and conduct currently in force, to be applied by the umpire including the penalty point schedule (fines will not be applied). Appeals may be made to the Tournament Referee or to the club Chairman if the Tournament Referee is

umpiring the match. Overrules will only be made if there is a clear circumstance that the umpire has not taken into account.

15. Presentation of cups and prizes, when applicable, will be made at the end of each event. Cups will be presented again at the annual presentation evening and winners should make sure that cups are returned to the Tournament Referee in time for this.
16. Before cups are awarded they must be signed for on the form provided by the Tournament Referee and they then become the responsibility of the winner until they are returned to the Tournament Referee and the form is signed off. If a cup is lost or damaged it must be replaced by the person who has signed for it.
17. All decisions in relation to club tournaments (including anything not covered in these rules) will be taken by the Tournament Referee and will be binding on all parties. Appeals may be made to the main club committee, via the club Chairman, but will only be considered where there are relevant circumstances which the Tournament Referee has not taken into account.