

RULES OF THE LITTLETON LAWN TENNIS CLUB

1 TITLE

The Club shall be called the Littleton Lawn Tennis Club, in recognition of the fact that it started as a grass court in 1921 and continued to have grass courts until 1978. The club shall also be known as Littleton Tennis Club.

2 PURPOSE

The Club is formed to provide for the members tennis courts, refreshments and other social activities and generally to encourage and facilitate the playing of tennis.

3 MANAGEMENT

3.1 Committee

The entire management of the Club shall be deputed to a Management Committee consisting of a President, Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, two Club Captains, Grounds, Volunteer Co-Ordinator, Junior Organiser, with other volunteer members forming a 'Family Tree': each volunteer reporting to a member of the Management Committee. The members of the Management Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

3.2 Quorum A quorum at a management committee meeting shall be four.

3.3 Affiliation

The Club shall conform to the rules of the Lawn Tennis Association in so far as they can apply. The club agrees that each member of the Management Committee is required, as a condition of election or appointment, to agree to be bound by and subject to club rules, the rules and regulations of the relevant CountyLTA and the LTA Rules and the LTA 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.

4.1 Term of Office: All Members of the management Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and the term of office shall be one year.

4.2 Nominations

Any member of the Club may nominate another member to serve on the Committee and such nomination should reach the Club Secretary at least fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting. The Committee may also nominate members for election to the Committee to fill vacancies left by the retiring members who do not wish to serve a further term.

4.3 Election

At the Annual General Meeting the list of nominations by the Committee shall be displayed with the list of members otherwise nominated. The election may be by written ballot if there is more than one nomination for a position on the Committee. Each Club member entitled to vote shall indicate his or her preference by selecting from the lists of nominees as many candidates as there are vacancies to be filled and writing these names on a ballot slip to be provided by the Secretary. The ballot shall be counted by the Secretary, scrutinised by the President and the results announced by the President. A tie shall be re-balloted.

4.5 Sub-Committees

The Committee may from time to time appoint such sub-committees as they deem necessary or expedient and may depute or refer to them such of the powers and duties of the Committee as the Committee may determine. Such sub-committees shall periodically report their proceedings to the Committee.

5 PRESIDENT

The President shall be elected by members and shall hold office until death or resignation unless removed from office by a resolution of the Committee or members.

6 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6.1 Date

The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held on a date in late November or early December to be decided by the Committee.

6.2 Agenda

Fourteen days at least before the Annual General Meeting or any special General Meeting a printed or written notice of such meeting and of the business to be transacted thereat shall be sent to every member and no business other than that of which notice has been so given shall be brought forward at such meeting.

6.3 Accounts

An audited Income & Expenditure Account together with the Balance Sheet showing the financial situation of the club as at the end of the financial year is to be prepared by the Treasurer and submitted to the Annual General Meeting.

6.4 Conduct of Meeting

At all General Meetings of the Club the Chairman, and in his or her absence a member selected by the meeting, shall take the chair. Every member present entitled to vote shall have one vote on every motion, and in the case of equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

6.5 Fees and Subscriptions

Entrance fees and subscriptions shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting.

7 SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

The Committee may at any time on reasonable notice for any special purpose call a Special General Meeting and they shall do so forthwith upon the requisition in writing of any ten members entitled to attend and vote at a General Meeting, or one-fifth of the total number of members so entitled stating the purpose for which the meeting is required.

8 QUORUM

A quorum at all General Meetings shall be ten.

9 MEMBERSHIP

9.1 General

Persons shall be eligible for full membership, provided they are eighteen years of age by the start of the membership. Children below the age of eighteen years may be elected as junior members without a right to hold office or to exercise the power of voting, but junior members may be co-opted by the Committee. Similarly, all persons are eligible for non-playing membership, with rights as above, except for playing and in the matter of voting. Such non-playing members shall not be entitled to vote on playing matters. The decision as to which matters shall be considered playing matters shall be at the discretion of the Chairman.

9.2 Application and Approval

A candidate for admission as a member must complete an application form, either in paper format or online format, and any candidate for membership may be considered by the Management Committee, which may, in its absolute discretion, decide whether to admit that candidate as a member.

9.3 Equality and Diversity

No person shall be denied membership of the club on the grounds of race, ethnic origin, creed, colour, age, disability, sex, occupation, sexual orientation, religious, political, or other beliefs or social/economic status.

9.4 Conditions of Membership

Each member agrees, as a condition of membership: A) to be bound and subject to the rules of the club, to the Club Policies and to the Club's Codes of Conduct
B). to be bound by and subject to the LTA's Rules and Disciplinary Code.

9.5 Rule 9.4 B). 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 9.4, should be enforceable, by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999, by any person who is not a party to these rules.

9.6 The club's Management 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 rule 9.4.

10 ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

10.1 Terms of Annual Membership

Annual membership shall be for twelve months, starting from the date of sign-up and payment. This may be paid annually or by Direct debit over twelve months. Membership cannot be curtailed during this period unless approved by the committee.

10.2 Surcharge

Late renewal payment at the end of twelve months may be subject to a late payment rate as determined by the Management Committee. This late payment rate will be inappropriate for new members and those joining after a break of over four years.

11 RESIGNATION/EXPULSION

11.1 Initial Action

If, at any time, the Committee shall be of the opinion that the interests of the Club so require they may by letter Invite any member to resign from the Club within a time specified in such letter. The member will be made aware of the Club's complaints & Appeals Procedure.

11.2 Expulsion

If no resignation is forthcoming their expulsion will be the subject of a Special General Meeting to be held within three weeks of the anticipated date of resignation.

11.3 Special General Meeting

The member whose expulsion is sought shall have notice of such meeting and of the grounds on which it is sought to expel the member. At such meeting the member shall be allowed to offer an explanation for his/her conduct verbally or in writing and if two-thirds of the members present shall vote for his/her expulsion he/she shall thereupon cease to be a member of the Club PROVIDED that the voting at any such Special General Meeting shall be by ballot, if not less than five members present thereat shall so demand.

11.4 Temporary Exclusion

It shall be in the power of the Committee to exclude such member from the Clubhouse and grounds until such Special General Meeting shall be held.

12. USE OF FACILITIES BY COACHES AND PLAYERS

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 regulations of the relevant CLTA, the LTA Rules and the LTA 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 CLTA can enforce any breach at its option and in its sole discretion.

13 GUESTS

13.1 Every member shall be allowed to introduce guests subject to such regulations and codes of conduct as shall be made from time to time by the Committee, and every guest must be accompanied by the member. The guest's name must be included as a participant when the member books a court; a guest fee is to be paid. The amount of the guest fee to be determined by the Committee.

13.2 Members' Responsibility

Each member shall be personally responsible for any damage or injury to the Club premises by him/her or any visitor introduced by him/her and shall forthwith on demand indemnify the Committee against all reasonable costs incurred in making good such damage or injury.

13.3 Limitations The number of times a person may play as a guest of a member shall be limited to three in any one calendar year.

14 PLAYING ARRANGEMENTS

The Committee shall have power to make arrangements for holding matches, tournaments or other Like competitions, including the imposition of a charge for the admission of non-members to the events, and to provide cups and other prizes for competitions and to reserve courts as may be required on any occasion as the Committee thinks fit.

15 AMENDMENTS TO RULES*

These rules may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any Annual or Special General Meeting PROVIDED that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it be carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members voting thereon.

16 ADDITIONAL POWER OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

16.1 The committee is authorised to borrow up to £25,000 from the LTA. The committee shall have no power to pledge the personal liability of any member for the repayment of any sum so borrowed. (Resolution passed unanimously at a Special General Meeting held on 20th June 2005.)

Additional Authorisation

The committee is authorized to borrow up to £35,000 for the rebuilding and resurfacing of courts 5 & 6, as agreed at the AGM held in December 2007

* Club Loan Terms & Conditions for an LTA loan, between the LTA and Littleton Lawn Tennis Club, issued on 25th July 2007; agreed & signed 14th August 2007; Condition 1.12: 'The club will make no changes to its Constitution without first obtaining the written consent of the LTA' for the duration of the loan (ten years).

Amended at the AGM December 2020: (Clauses 10.1 amended; previous clauses 10.3; 10.4 deleted as a result of the amendment to clause 10.1

Amendments agreed at the AGM held on 12th December 2023, shown in red:

Rule 1: Title;

Committee: 4.1 Term of Office;

Membership: 9.1 General; 9.2 Application; 9.4 Conditions of Membership;

Annual Subscription: 10.1 Terms of Annual Membership;

11.1 Resignation/Expulsion;

13. Guests: 13.1; 13.3 Limitation;