

Organiser guidance for Club Social Tennis



- The following policy statements apply to all of the organised club social play sessions. The current listing of these sessions is provided opposite:
- ‘Open’ means that all members of the club above 14 years of age, irrespective of playing ability, are welcome to attend (note – children younger than 14 may attend but must be accompanied by an adult) ‘Restricted’ means that participation is in some way limited to ensure all players enjoy their matches (see individual social listing for details).
- Co-Ordinator as host or player led. Co-ordinator led socials will have someone attending who takes charge of organising the schedule of play and overseeing the social itself. Player led socials will have no appointed co-ordinator, and the players attending should organise themselves.
- An overall rota for hosts is distributed monthly. No host will be provided for any bank holiday or main holiday period (such as Christmas) to give volunteers a break

Social	Frequency / times	Number of courts booked	Open to all or ‘restricted’ (*)	Co-ordinator or player led (*)
Monday night Beginners / Improvers	Each Monday between 7-9 pm	2	Restricted	Co-ordinator
Tuesday Lunchtime service (under review)	Each Tuesday 12-2pm	2	Open	Player led
Wednesday evening open social	Each Wednesday between 7-9 pm	2	Open – players should be able to hold a serve and return	Player led
Friday ‘Afternoon T’	Each Friday between 2-4pm	2-3 season dependent	Open – players should be able to hold a serve and return	Player led
Sunday morning open social	Each Sunday between 10-12 am	4	Open – players should be able to hold a serve and return	Co-ordinator
Monthly social tournament	Third Saturday each month except December and August	6	Open (to those who enter)	Co-ordinator

Organiser playing guidelines and closing up



For co-ordinator led club social play sessions the way play is organised is decided by the co-ordinator. For the player led sessions the players themselves will decide the best formats, duration of games etc.

- Overly aggressive and dangerous play is not acceptable at any of the club social play sessions.
- For the 'Open' club social play sessions players must accept that they will be playing with and against players of mixed ability. Intolerance of, or impatience with somebody who is of a lesser standard is not acceptable.

For co-ordinator led club social play sessions the Co-ordinator should ensure that at the end of the session:

- that courts are locked,
- all balls used during session are stored in clubhouse,
- clubhouse lights are turned off
- the clubhouse is locked (if nobody is left at the clubhouse)
- floodlights are turned off
- the key(s) and back in the appropriate key box(es)
- Where the coordinator needs to leave and others are behind, they understand it's their responsibility to do this

Key Safety guidance



All accidents should be noted in the club accident book located on the ground floor. This is for insurance and Health and Safety reporting.

- The First Aid box is located on the ground floor. Anne Carroll is the Clubs Health and Safety Officer.
- Anything dangerous that is noted about the clubhouse or court facilities should be reporting to Gary Bond (Site Development lead).

The defibrillator is located outside the ground floor with full access details provided. A first aider is also available at the Golf Club, telephone (0)1672 512147.

If a player needs to go to the hospital, a trustee should be notified immediately, and a member of the club should attend hospital with that member to ensure wider club help and notification of next of kin as needed.

Trustees or other club contacts are listed under the 'Contact Us' page on the website

Sunday Social - Guidance

The co-ordinator should turn up 10-15 minutes early to unlock the clubhouse and get the balls ready for the session. If players turn up earlier, please help by doing these tasks:

- The balls selected for the session should be checked to ensure they are of a reasonable standard and are of approximately the same quality (rather than simply picking up any tin of balls!).
- Any balls that are unusable should be placed in the ball recycling box.
- Six balls per court should be selected.
- Unlock courts 3 & 4 and place 6 balls by each court (put tins on the bench).
- There is no need to unlock courts 5 & 6 straight away. If courts 5 & 6 are needed, then one of the players can unlock the court for themselves (and take 12 balls to the courts).
- As the players turn up guide them to an appropriate court.
- Note – players turning up should ask the co-ordinator which court to go to (as opposed to simply walking onto any court).

Let the Rackets do the talking!

- Depending on numbers attending decide the most appropriate method of play.
- If there are 'exact numbers' then opt for 20-25 min match play sessions.
- At the end of each session (play the hooter to signal this), it is the co-ordinator that decides how the players should be 'mixed up' for the next session (considering people leaving etc).
- The aim is to ensure that everybody gets a good game. Note - this may involve pairing the stronger player together for a session.
- If the numbers playing are not 'exact' then opt for switching to a 'server off' format
- If there are more than 2 courts playing server off, then have a 'mix up' after about 30 mins.
- If 2 courts are playing 'server off' and there are exact numbers (4) on other court(s) then mix up after 20-25 min

Game, match, set! Friendly, fun and approachable



Let the Rackets do the talking!

- If there are 20 or more players attending the availability of courts 1 & 2 should be checked. If either court is available, then it can be used for social play.
- It is expected that the co-Ordinator/host will themselves play during the social play sessions. Courts 3/4 are a great position to welcome players and guide them to an appropriate court.
- This is an open social and that aggressive and dangerous play is not acceptable. Any member can do this. The club needs to ensure a friendly and supportive environment as we are 'Opening Up Tennis for Everyone'
- For new members turning up for the first time the co-ordinator/host should take the time to explain how the social works and to introduce them to the existing members. If 'server off' is not being played then adjust to the new players standard and be paired with an appropriate partner for the 20 min match play sessions.
- If the co-ordinator /host needs to leave early, ask one of the remaining players to manage the session activities.
- If no co-ordinator/host is available, then a message will be sent out on the Social Tennis WhatsApp group stating that for this particular Sunday it will be a player led session.

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