



# **MINEHEAD LAWN TENNIS CLUB**

## **Membership Terms and Conditions and Code of Conduct**

### **General**

1. It is a condition of membership that the membership Terms and Conditions and Club Code of Conduct are read and agreed by the member / prospective member.
2. The Committee shall determine the Terms and Conditions and Code of Conduct for the use of the Club and is empowered to make, repeal and amend them, and also to delegate their operation to the Club's Head Coach.
3. A copy of the Terms and Conditions & Club Rules will be displayed in the Clubhouse.

### **Membership**

1. Membership commences when the member has agreed to the Terms and Conditions and payment has been received.
2. Membership starts on the Inception Date agreed by both parties and expires on the Renewal Date. These are specified by the online payment system. Membership cannot be suspended or temporarily cancelled during this period irrespective of a change to personal circumstance. Exceptions to this are at the discretion of the Membership Secretary and, where necessary, the Club's Committee.
3. Membership, of varying types, is open to all. The Club requires all those taking part in tennis social tennis or competitive matches to become Club members, except for specified introductory offers.
4. The benefits of membership are not transferable and must only be used by the registered member. Any misuse will result in the membership being terminated.
5. The Committee reserves the right to cancel any membership if the member is in breach of rules or if their conduct, in the view of the Committee, is offensive to members and/or the public, or represents a health and safety danger or brings the club's standing into disrepute.
6. Membership entitles a member to full use of the club facilities during opening hours associated with the type of membership they have undertaken.

7. Categories of membership and subscription rates shall be determined by the Committee, details of which are available on the website.

## **Terms of Membership Agreement (including fees and charges)**

1. The membership fee is due from the member to Minehead Lawn Tennis Club (MLTC) and is payable upon inception of the membership. Any portion of the membership fee will only be refundable in the event of MLTC being unable to provide the member with the membership services. Such refund would be calculated on a pro-rata basis to the break in services experienced.
2. Changes to existing membership fees are the final decision of the Club's Committee. Wherever possible, changes to membership fees will take place on 1 April with at least 3 weeks' notice given. Members reserve the right to immediate termination of their Club membership when an increase to their membership fees takes effect.
3. Members' subscriptions and coaching fees shall be paid on or before the due date. Failure to make payments on time could result in access to the facilities being withdrawn.
4. It is the final decision of the Club's Committee on when and to whom promotions are offered.
5. The member will ensure any change to their personal details is updated through their online profile immediately and in a timely manner.
6. The member agrees to comply with the rules of membership. The committee of MLTC may make reasonable changes to these rules at any time.
7. The MLTC committee reserves the right to make changes to any memberships, court bookings, coaching groups or classes, where it is beneficial to the running of the club.
8. The membership terms and conditions is governed by English Law.

## **Facilities and Services**

1. Members may not loan their membership or permit its use by anybody else.
2. The MLTC committee reserves the right to close the club or areas of the club from time to time e.g. for maintenance repairs, refurbishment, cleaning, local emergencies and public holiday periods.
3. Opening hours are subject to change by the MLTC committee giving advance notice to members where reasonably practicable.

## **Limitation of Liability**

1. Members are responsible for the safekeeping of their personal belongings at all times whilst using the Club's facilities. MLTC, its Committee, agents or sub-contractors, will not be liable for any loss, damage or theft of any property brought onto MLTC premises.
2. Members are responsible for ensuring their correct operation or use of any MLTC facilities and/or equipment (including adjusting levels or settings of equipment). If a member is in any doubt about how to correctly operate any equipment, the member must consult a member of Committee before use.
3. Coaches operate in our club on a self-employed basis. Any service they provide to you constitutes a contract between the Coach and the member. MLTC accepts no responsibility for breach of contract or negligence caused by a self-employed Coach.
4. The Club holds personal liability insurance with the LTA which is on display on a noticeboard in the Club House.

## **Conduct**

1. MLTC deems that any act of violence, threatening behaviour or abuse against its members, coaches and anyone using the facilities is totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated by the Club. Whenever any such behaviour occurs, the Club will take reasonable and appropriate action.
2. Members will not abuse the facilities or equipment at MLTC and will be required to pay for any damage to property where they have wilfully or negligently caused such damage.
3. Appropriate clean clothing and shoes must be always worn in the club (and during classes unless specifically otherwise advised by an instructor).

## **Miscellaneous**

1. MLTC reserves the right to use any photographs of MLTC facilities (which may include you, provided your inclusion is incidental) for press and promotional purposes.

## **Guests**

1. Members introducing guests to the Club to use any of the facilities shall ensure that the correct guest fee is paid to the Club and shall be responsible for the conduct of their guests.
2. Other non-members must liaise with the Club's Committee to pay the appropriate guest fees.

## **Premises**

1. The Club's Health and Safety officer ensures periodic risk assessments are carried out. Our policy can be found on the website.
2. The Club's Welfare officer ensures appropriate governance over safeguarding is in place. Our Safeguarding Policy is displayed in the Clubhouse.
3. Smoking is not allowed in the Clubhouse, on court or within 2 meters of the clubhouse door.
4. Any damage to the Club premises or its contents must be reported to a member of the Committee immediately.

# **Members Code of Conduct**

MLTC has adopted a code of conduct to be followed by all members of the club. These are seen as good practice for a club such as ours and sets out the behaviour expected by all members and visitors to the club.

The policy is to establish the standards and values of the Club and to project an image which will bring credit to Minehead Lawn Tennis Club.

The aim of this policy is to:

1. Ensure that everyone is treated fairly and with respect.
2. Inform members about the standards of behaviour and etiquette expected so that the right playing environment for individuals and the club is created.

3. Outline the complaints procedure so that, where there is a shortfall in behaviour, this can be addressed.

## Standards of Behaviour and Etiquette

Minehead Lawn Tennis Club is responsible for setting standards and values to apply throughout the club at every level. Tennis should be enjoyed by everyone who wants to play the game. This policy is fully supported by the Club Committee.

All members must treat other members, visitors, coaches and officials with respect. There must be no inappropriate actions, behaviour, comments or physical contact, which may cause offence i.e. mental or physical anxiety or hurt to an individual.

Inappropriate actions include:

- Racquet throwing.
- Swearing.
- Being abusive or aggressive.
- Intimidating behaviour.
- Questioning another person's integrity over line calls or other actions.
- Causing danger or harm to other players through your play.

Tennis etiquette covers those actions and behaviours which are traditionally considered acceptable on and around the tennis court.

## Respect and courtesy

- Opponents, partners, and others on or near the courts should always be shown respect and consideration.
- Criticism of partners' or opponents' play should be avoided. Encouragement is far more constructive.
- Members must not walk behind players whilst a game or a rally is in progress.

## Walking onto or behind courts

- Members should wait for players to finish a game, or minimally a point, before walking onto a court where play is taking place.

- When crossing a court to reach another court or leave the courts, players should wait until a game is finished and then cross as quickly as possible.
- If a stray ball comes onto a court, before returning it, players must wait until the owners are ready and then hit it to the server's end.

## **Line calls**

- Lines calls can sometimes be a problem.
- Only call the lines on your side of the net.
- Call clearly, immediately and firmly what you see and what you honestly believe to be correct.
- If a player is not absolutely certain or didn't see the ball clearly, the ball was IN and must be given in the opponents favour. When a player genuinely doubts an opponent's call, the player may ask: "Are you sure of your call?" If the opponent reaffirms that the ball was out, the call shall be accepted. If the opponent acknowledges uncertainty, the opponent loses the point. There shall be no further delay or discussion. Ultimately those players on the side of any disputed call have the final say.
- However, if in social friendly matches there is some doubt over a line call, it is polite to offer to play the point again rather than cause undue aggravation and time wasting.

## **Mobile Phones**

- Unless absolutely vital, all mobile phones and other communication devices should be switched off or set to silent mode as these can disrupt play.

## **Rubbish Collection**

- Empty cans, old tennis balls or other items of rubbish should be removed from the court when play has finished.
- Rubbish should be disposed of in the bins outside or inside the Clubhouse
- Used balls can be deposited in the black bin in the clubhouse for recycling to our charity partner, Recyclaball.