

# TENNIS BYELAWS

**During the winter months access to all tennis courts is via the footpath around the perimeter of croquet lawn 1.**

Clubhouse keys may be purchased from the membership secretary (membership@rydelawn.co.uk) for a £10.00 deposit refundable on return.

The quorum for any meeting shall be 50% of the committee.

## **1. WEEKLY ORDER OF PLAY**

### **1.1 MIX-IN TENNIS**

Please see the Summer and Winter tennis schedules for mix in times.

All participants are expected to mix-in and make up fours. All adult players, approved juniors over the age of 12 years and prospective members are welcome. **Short sets** (tie break sets) should be played. Private play is permitted on the two grass courts during the summer months, at all times.

### **1.2 MATCH PRACTICE**

Please see the tennis schedule for match practice times. Match practice sessions are by invitation only. Priority for the use of all courts will be given to match practice players. Tennis Captains have total authority for the activities they are organising.

### **1.3 JUNIOR COACHING**

Saturdays from 9am to 12.30. All AstroTurf courts will be allocated to Junior Coaching sessions. Please see the seasonal schedule for Junior Coaching and court availability which will vary throughout the year. Courts will be released for booking if they are not required.

### **1.4 PRIVATE PLAY**

Private play sessions are when members arrange their play in advance (singles or doubles). Private play sessions **must be pre-booked** through the ClubSpark Booking facility which shows when courts are free for private play.

During the Summer months the two grass courts will be available for private play at all times.

## **2. USE OF THE COURTS**

### **2.1 CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ACCESSORIES**

Tennis players must wear recognised tennis clothing. This may be of any colour. Only recognised tennis footwear, which must be clean, will be allowed on the courts. Studs, spikes, heels or soles likely to damage the court surface will not be permitted. For your safety please see the notice board for recommended training shoe soles on artificial grass courts. Chewing gum is not permitted on court. Ensure mobiles are switched to silent on and around the tennis and croquet courts.

It is the individual player's responsibility to ensure the surface is safe for play and that appropriate footwear is worn.

### **2.2 PREPARING TO PLAY**

Please wipe your feet on the mats outside the courts prior to entering. When going on court show respect to players on adjacent courts. Please wait until a rally has ended before passing behind, or in front of players.

The height of the net is checked regularly.

### **2.3 PLAYING**

Take care not to distract players on other courts. Please keep noise levels down to a minimum.

Wait for the appropriate moment to recover stray balls.

Please shut the gate as you leave the court.

## **3. USE OF THE PRACTICE WALL**

Members may book court 3, through the ClubSpark Booking system, if they wish to use the Practice Wall.

## **4. COMMITTEE SPONSORED EVENTS**

The above Byelaws are subject to variation or suspension to accommodate Committee sponsored events e.g.

- Hampshire, Portsmouth and I.O.W. league matches
- junior matches
- friendly matches
- match practice
- tournaments

- coaching activities

## **5. COACHING**

It is necessary to clarify who may coach on the Club's courts, to control such activities and to enforce the Club's obligations under their Legal Agreement with the Club Coach. This Legal Agreement includes the phrase 'no other person may coach or train at the Club except with prior consultation and agreement of the Coach'. Also, given certain issues such as child protection, insurance, safety on court and to minimise distraction to other court users, it is essential that it is clear to members and visitors as to who is entitled to coach. Therefore: only persons approved by the Club Coach (acting on behalf of the Tennis Sub Committee) are permitted to coach at the Club – a person is "coaching" if he/she is acting in any way which may look to a casual observer as if he/she is training or teaching in a structured manner. The use of a ball basket or other container may also reinforce this impression. No-one, other than the approved coaches or those working with the approval of the Head Coach should be using a ball basket, ball machine or other container. Such use would imply that they are acting as a coach.

The Club Coach, acting on behalf of the Tennis Sub Committee may consent to club members using baskets or other containers on court when he/she is satisfied that there is unlikely to be teaching or training taking place with said containers and the activity will not be misconstrued by observers or will not lead to a breach of the Coach's Contract, lead to an undermining of the coaching ethos of the Club or endangering the interest or good order of the Club. Those without such consent may have no more than six tennis balls on their court. Any individual unhappy with the Coach's decision may appeal in writing to the Tennis Sub Committee.

Parents may hit with their own children so long as it does not constitute "coaching" as set out above or cause distraction to other court users.

Any breach of Bye Law 5 will be construed as misconduct and under Rule 17 of the Club's rules could lead to termination of membership.

### **Reviewed and amended Tennis Committee 7.2.22**