

## **Somerton Tennis Club - About League Tennis:**

County and district leagues are hugely popular across Great Britain and it is estimated that around 100,000 players compete in local leagues.

Somerton competes in the Yeovil & District "Summer & Winter" Tennis Leagues (Y&DTL). The league was founded in January 1969 with 15 teams spread across 2 divisions, men's and mixed. There are now 123 teams playing during the summer or the winter.

Matches are all played in doubles format, with the possibility to enter men's, women's and mixed teams into the summer leagues and only mixed teams into the winter leagues.

Competitive tennis allows us to challenge ourselves outside of the normal confines of club play. We are not competing for money, playing should be for enjoyment and to aid our tennis development; of course, there is pride when we win too!

Prior to the summer and winter leagues, Somerton's committee will email club members to determine the number of players interested in playing matches and being team captains. This information will then be used to decide on the number & type of teams to enter in each league and to select captains for the teams.

Team captains' responsibilities include consulting members to determine player selections, coordinating refreshments & travel plans, collecting match fees, in addition to communicating details with players and away captains, plus submitting league results after each match.

### **Yeovil & District Summer League**

Somerton enter a combination of men's, women's & mixed teams into the Summer League, dependent upon the interest of those wanting to take part. We play each team in our respective division home and away, with four players needed in each match.

Generally, the two teams scoring the most points in each division are promoted and the two teams scoring the fewest points are relegated.

Men's home matches are played weekday evenings on Monday's and Friday's, with women's on Thursday's, all starting at 6:15 (meeting on-court at 6:00pm to start our warm-up) from late April through July. Away matches are played on different weekday nights, dependent upon the clubs defined home match night.

Players taking part pay match fees for home and away matches of £3.50 each per match (22 season, this may vary each year, so please double-check with the team captains), which covers the cost of balls and floodlights throughout the season.

Summer League matches consist of 4 rubbers, in which each pair plays both pairs of the opposing team, in the best of 3 sets; if scores are level at one set all the third set is played as a championship tie-break (first to 10 points, clear by 2). Each visiting pair plays both of their

rubbers on the same court to negate home advantage. Each set won counts as one point and the team with the most points is the winner. The winning team receives two bonus points. If sets are even, the winner is the team that has won the most games. If games are also even, points are shared.

Following the match, which normally takes around 2.5 hours to complete, the home team typically provides food and drink for both teams in a local hostelry, the cost of which is shared by the home team players. Away teams normally offer to buy the home team a drink as well, prior to departure.

For the latest results, [please click here](#).

## **Yeovil and District Winter Tennis League**

The winter league has four mixed divisions, with Somerton typically entering 2-3 teams each season. We play each team in our respective division home and away, with four players needed in each match: two men and two women.

Generally, the two teams scoring the most points in each division are promoted and the two teams scoring the fewest points are relegated.

Winter league matches are played outside (weather permitting) during the afternoons on weekends, from late November to March, with most matches starting at 13:30; some start earlier, where clubs do not have floodlights etc.

Players taking part pay match fees of £3.50 each per match (22/23 season, this may vary each year, so please double-check with the team captains), which covers the cost of balls and floodlights throughout the season.

Winter league matches comprise four mixed doubles with one set per rubber, followed by men's doubles and women's doubles with two sets per rubber. Unlike the summer league, there are no championship tie break sets played if the men's or women's doubles matches end one set all. Each set won counts as one point and the team with the most points is the winner. The winning team receives two bonus points. If sets are even, the winner is the team that has won the most games. If games are also even, points are shared.

Following the match, which normally takes around 2-2.5 hours to complete, the home team typically provides tea and cake for both teams, the provision of which, is shared by the home team players.

## **League Rules:**

To download a copy of the Y&DTL rules, please click [here](#).