



SONNING LAWN TENNIS CLUB

CLUB ETIQUETTE & CODE OF CONDUCT

CLUB ETIQUETTE

- Our club welcomes players of all ages and abilities and provides lots of opportunities to take part in competitive and social tennis.
- Established members should welcome new members by trying to introduce them to others and to include them in games.
- Derogatory remarks, swearing and bullying will not be tolerated on or off court. Persistence may result in membership being revoked.
- In respect of our neighbours, no play is allowed before 8.30am Mon. to Sat. or before 10.00am on Sunday.
- Please refrain from entering Court 1, or walking across or walking behind a court whilst play is in progress. Please wait for a suitable moment i.e., between points. Please consider waiting until in between games unless invited to enter by the players.
- Try to avoid distracting players on other courts.
- Keeping noise to a minimum.
- Members should avoid using mobile phones on court and ensure they are turned to silent to avoid disruption to other players. In exceptional circumstances this rule can be waived e.g., member is expecting an important call. Please aim to let your playing partners know before play commences if this is the case.
- Ball machine should not be used in wet or damp conditions.
- Members are requested to remove all equipment from the court at the end of play and lock the courts, if last to leave.
- Please leave the clubhouse tidy when you leave.
- Please ensure any crockery used is washed and the kitchen is tidy.
- Please take unused food/drinks with you when you leave – please don't leave half used food/drink in the club fridge.
- Please only use the bins in exceptional circumstances – the club does not have a rubbish collection service, so please aim to take your rubbish with you when leaving the club.
- If last to leave the site, members should ensure the courts, toilet, shed, club hut and main gate are secure before leaving and that the toilet and shed keys are put back on the hook.
- Club balls may be used for club sessions, league matches and club championships.
- Parking on the grass adjacent to Court 1 is discouraged in Autumn/ Winter as the ground becomes wet and soft and cars may become stranded.
- Please use the turning area for turning only – no parking is permitted on this area.
- If the courts have debris on them due to weather, please use the brushes in the shed or the leaf blower ahead of play. The key to the shed is on the wall in the clubhouse.

DESIGNATED CLUB SESSIONS

- These are mix-in sessions. Be prepared to include everyone who comes to the session in the games, regardless of standard.
- Order of play should be in line with rule 12.3 of the Club's constitution i.e., 'the right of playing is in the order of arrival in the ground'. For clarification, members arriving late should expect to play after any member(s) already waiting out. Even if those members have already played.
- All matches should generally be a maximum of 5 games in consideration of members waiting to join in the session.

- Balls are provided for club sessions. New balls can be obtained from the shed if necessary. If possible, avoid using new balls in wet conditions. Balls that are beyond good use should be placed in the crate marked for recycling. The club send the balls for recycling for which we receive a payment.

SOCIAL/ PRIVATE PLAY

- Members are encouraged to use the courts for private/ social matches anytime there is no club session, coaching course or league match (see website for info).
- Courts should be booked via the club's online booking system.
- Members should bring their own balls for social matches.
- Members may bring guests to play (max. 5 visits per year) on payment of a guest fee of £2.50 per hour per guest on court. Please register guests in the club's court booking system and pay the appropriate fee via the online booking system.

LEAGUE MATCHES (INTER CLUB)

- 2 courts are needed for league matches and take precedence over club sessions by prior arrangement and over social matches. The match schedule is available on the website.
- Social tennis is allowed on the 3rd court whilst matches are in progress, but members should be respectful of the match in progress and not interrupt.
- Please do not use the ball machine on adjacent courts when league matches are in progress

JUNIOR MEMBERS

- Full junior members (13+) may use the courts unsupervised – their parents are responsible for ensuring they obey the club rules.
- Juniors may use club equipment and should return it to the hut at the end of play.

BALL MACHINE

- When using the ball machine, please take care not to disrupt other players, especially when they are playing a competitive match.
- The club ball machine must not be used in wet or damp conditions.
- The ball machine can be booked via the club's ClubSpark website court booking system for £3 per 30-minute session. You can reserve the ball machine in the same way that you would book a court (please book a court as well as the machine).
- Please ensure that you have had an 'induction' with a Committee Member or Club Coach before using the machine for the first time.
- Please book one 30-minute session per day so others can use the machine too and always put the machine back in the clubhouse and on charge when you finish.
- See safety and usage notes on the Club's website and with the machine.

CODE OF CONDUCT

SEE SONNING LAWN TENNIS CLUB'S DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION POLCY – PAGES 10 & 11

USEFUL CONTACTS

Email: safeguarding@lta.org.uk
LTA: 0208 487 7000
NSPCC: 0808 800 5000
Emergency Services: 999

Sonning LTC Welfare Officer

Contact Details:

welfare@sonningtennis.com

David Beilby: 07831 566220

Wokingham Borough Council Children's Services: Weekdays: 0118 9088 002 – Out of Hours: 01344 351 999

Other Useful contacts

LTA safeguarding@lta.org.uk

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000

Childline 0800 1111 / www.childline.org.uk

Kidscape www.kidscape.org.uk

Anti-Bullying Alliance www.antibullyingalliance.org

NOTE

Note: You should inform the parent/ carer of the concern unless you believe it would put the child/adult at risk, yourself or others at risk.

LTA ONLINE CONCERN FORM

<https://safeguardingconcern.lta.org.uk/>