

THE BURNHAMS TENNIS CLUB CONSTITUTION 2022

1. NAME AND OBJECTIVES

The Club founded in 1988, shall be named 'The Burnhams Tennis Club' and the main purposes of the club are to provide facilities for and to promote participation in the amateur sport of tennis in Burnham Market.

2. CONSTITUTION

The Club is constituted by these rules as a non-profit making Members' Club. In no circumstances during the continuance of the Club, nor at, not after, its dissolution, shall any assets or surplus funds be distributed to any Member or third parties. Nothing in this clause shall prevent the Club from entering an agreement with a member for the supply by him to the Club of goods or services or for his employment by the Club, provided that such arrangements are approved by the Committee (without the member being present) and are agreed with the member on an arm's length basis.

Any property remaining on a winding up or dissolution of the Club after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Club, but shall be given or transferred to one or more of the following sporting or charitable bodies (i) the LTA for use in community related initiatives for the Game; (ii) another registered community amateur sports club for the Game; or (iii) a registered charitable organisation.

3. AFFILIATION

The Club shall seek affiliation to the Lawn Tennis Association through the Norfolk Lawn Tennis Association and shall adopt and conform to the rules of these organisations in so far as they can apply.

4. MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the club shall be open to anyone interested in the sport on application, regardless of sex, age, disability, ethnicity, nationality, sexual orientation, religion or other beliefs, except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of tennis. The club may have different classes of membership and subscription on a non-discriminatory and fair basis. The club will keep subscriptions at levels that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating. The club committee may refuse membership, or remove it, only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against refusal or removal may be made to the members.

There are the following classes of membership:

- Adult
- Junior
- Student
- Family
- Social

Membership rates and Court hire fees shall be set by the Committee annually. The subscription year will run from 1 March to 28 February. Family membership is defined as consisting of parent(s) plus children under 18 or in full-time education.

5. ACCOUNTANCY YEAR

The Club financial year shall run from 1 October to 30 September and the accounts submitted to the Annual General Meeting shall be prepared accordingly.

6. ELECTION OF MEMBERS

A candidate shall be proposed and seconded by Members over 18 years old on a form to be provided for this purpose. The Committee reserves the right to refuse membership if to do so would be contrary to the best interests of the sport or the good conduct and interests of the Club.

7. SUSPENSION OR EXPULSION

The Committee shall have power to terminate or suspend membership of a Member or to exclude any Member or visitor whom they consider guilty of a breach of these rules or of misconduct or offensive behaviour to any other Member, court user, visitor or neighbour.

8. INJURY, LOSS OF PROPERTY

Members or visitors leaving unattended vehicles, racquets, clothing or other property at the Club do so at their own risk and the Club shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury resulting from this or any other cause.

9. VISITORS, GUESTS AND COACHING*

Visitors may be introduced by the Honorary Secretary or any other Members. Visitors must pay the court fee at the time of booking the court and before playing. A visitor may not play more than ten times in a season without permission from the Committee. Every member of a visiting team, or competitor in a tournament, shall be Honorary Members for the duration of the event.

**ADDENDUM TO CLAUSE 9 (26.10.18)*

CLUB MORNINGS: Guests are required to sign in. Play is free of charge for the first three visits in any one Club year. After three visits guests are invited to join the Club or make a donation for each subsequent visit to cover overheads. Guidance on donation rates will be provided by the Committee.

VISITING CLUBS ON FLOODLIT EVENINGS: Visitors pay a donation per visit to cover overheads. Payable in the honesty box. Guidance on donation rates will be provided by the Committee.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS ON OTHER OCCASIONS: Guests accompanied by playing members are not required to sign in but after three visits, invited to join the club or make a donation per visit to cover overheads. Payable in the honesty box. Guidance on donation rates will be provided by the Committee.

MEMBERS' COACHING: Members receiving coaching, book the court in the usual manner Free of Charge but visiting coaches other than those affiliated to the Club, will be charged per session at rates to be determined by the Committee

NON-MEMBERS' COACHING: Non-members receiving coaching, book and pay for 'A COACHING SESSION COURT' at a rate determined by the Committee in recognition of the Club's facilities being used in a commercial transaction. This court fee does not include the coaching charges to be arranged privately.

All coaches must be fully insured and comply with current LTA best practice rules and guidelines. The Club accepts no responsibility for loss or personal injury.

10. MANAGEMENT

The management of the Club shall be in the entire control of the committee of up to 15 paid-up members. The Committee will have the following ex-officio members: Chairman, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary. All Committee members shall be elected for the year at the Annual General Meeting except that the elected committee shall have the power to fill any casual vacancy. The Committee shall elect members in accordance with Rule 5 and shall, from time to time, make and revise the club regulations and have the power to decide any matters not covered by these rules and current regulations. They shall meet at least four times in every year and additionally as required. The quorum at a Committee meeting shall be four members and in the event of equality of voting, The Chairman shall have an additional casting vote.

Each member of the Committee must satisfy HMRC's fit and proper person test to be involved in the general control, management and administration of the Club and must declare that he is a fit and proper person prior to being elected.

11. GENERAL MEETING

An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year for the benefit of all paid-up members, between 15th October and 30th November inclusive. The Committee shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting at their discretion or within one month of a requisition of one-fifth of the members stating the business proposed to be transacted.

All members will be sent at least seven days' notice of any General Meeting.

The Annual General Meeting agenda shall include at least the following:

- Minutes of the previous AGM
- Chairman and Committee's report
- Treasurer's report
- Election of officers and committee
- Appointment of honorary Auditor
- Plus any items requested for the agenda by any member.

Every member over 18 shall be entitled to speak and vote on any item.

Chairman has a casting vote.

A quorum for a General Meeting shall be 25% of paid-up members over 18 years of age. If insufficient members are present to form a quorum, then the members that are present can vote by a simple majority to dispense with the need for such a quorum.

12. RULES AND REGULATIONS

A copy of these rules and regulations made by the Committee shall be displayed on the Club notice board and all members shall be deemed to be conversant with them.

The Rules shall not be altered except at a General Meeting after due notice, and then by a two-thirds' majority of those voting.

The Regulations shall be made and changed as appropriate from time to time by the Committee.

13. DISSOLUTION

The Club shall be dissolved on the passing of a resolution to that effect by a two-thirds majority of a General Meeting. A Committee shall be appointed at such a meeting to dispose of the assets in accordance with Rule 2.