

RULES OF SODBURY TENNIS CLUB



VERSION: ISSUE 1 MARCH 2022 – UPDATE AUGUST 2022

Date: March 2022

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1. Membership

- 1.1. A member shall be entitled to all rights and privileges of membership once a completed membership application has been received and accepted by the Membership Secretary and the appropriate fees have been paid.
- 1.2. The applicant has given the right for the club to save personal details associated with the application. This information will be stored on Clubspark.
- 1.3. It is the responsibility of the member to inform the Membership Secretary of any changes to those details.
- 1.4. The club shall share personal details with the LTA unless otherwise instructed by the member.
- 1.5. Memberships are accepted on the basis that the member has decided that they are fit to play and are not playing against the advice of GP or a Hospital Doctor.
- 1.6. Members must abide by club rules and policies.

2. Access to Courts, Club House and other Facilities

- 2.1. The Member, and Friends of Sodbury Tennis Club, shall access club facilities in accordance with the category of membership applied for and granted.
- 2.2. Courts should be booked for use through Clubspark. If the court booked cannot be used for whatever reason the member should cancel the booking as soon as possible.
- 2.3. The Management Committee will decide on the lengths of session, the number of times a week a member can book courts, and how far in advance courts are bookable.
- 2.4. Members will only book courts for their personal use and not book courts in their name for others to use.
Members with an appropriate category of membership can play under floodlights until 11pm at night on courts 1 to 3 and 10pm on court 4 and the mini court. After this time all play must stop. NB Play can continue on court 4 under floodlights until 11pm for matches only which does not exceed the terms of the planning permission.
- 2.5. Members are responsible for paying for the use of Floodlights unless the Committee has informed the membership that free floodlights are available for a particular event or session.
- 2.6. The clubhouse and the bar facilities can be used in accordance with the Bar Licence granted to the premises.
- 2.7. Any use of Club facilities after 11pm must be done with consideration of residents living close to the club.
- 2.8. Changing rooms are available for use by visitors and members. They must be used in accordance with Safeguarding policies. Visitors and members are encouraged to remove their belongings after changing and to keep the area tidy, so it can be used by other members.
- 2.9. Whilst members are entitled to use the food preparation and bathroom facilities, the Club must not be used by members as a place of residence.
- 2.10. Members should make every effort to tidy up the club before leaving. Heating and lighting should be turned off, windows and doors locked and the alarm set.
- 2.11. Requests by members to rent the clubhouse and bar for personal use can be made to the Management Committee. The Management Committee can authorise the request and charge a suitable fee.

3. Visitors to the Club

- 3.1. Members are allowed to invite visitors to the Club in line with Club policy, see Appendix 1.
- 3.2. Players from other clubs who are involved in League Matches are deemed to be visitors, but are exempt from the visitor rules outlined in Appendix 1.
- 3.3. Visitors receiving group coaching on a regular basis shall pay the adult or junior visitor fee, as appropriate. It will be the responsibility of the Head Coach to collect this fee for the club, and to

record the visitor details in the visitor's book. Such visits will not be construed as one of the limited number of visits allowed by visitors to the club, outlined in Appendix 1. Visitors/non members receiving 1:1 coaching can have a maximum of 5 sessions before being required to join the club.

3.4. Members are allowed to bring non-playing visitors to the club, to watch or attend social events. The Member is responsible for the visitor and any unpaid bills associated with the visit.

4. General Behaviour

- 4.1. Members will behave in a considerate and courteous way to all other members and visitors both on and off court, and will adhere to the club code of conduct found in the equality and diversity policy.
- 4.2. Members will follow the rules of tennis outlined by the International Tennis Federation unless modified by a competition, or a club event. This includes spectators/parents who must adhere to the LTA parental guidelines and fair play.
- 4.3. Members and visitors are encouraged to watch and be supportive of players when matches are being played. However, support should be positive and should not be negative towards any of the players. Members and visitors who are watching a match will not get involved in any contentious issues and allow the players to resolve any issues, such as line calls, score or a dispute over rules
- 4.4. Members should be aware of the language they use both for content, tone and volume.
- 4.5. Behaviour resulting in equipment being damaged is not acceptable, the member will be expected to make good any such damage if requested to do so by the Committee.
- 4.6. On entering and accessing courts members should be considerate of other players. Walking across courts when a game is in progress should only be done with the permission of the players on court. Please remember court etiquette and behave in a way that does not interfere with play.
- 4.7. Suitable sports clothing must be worn at all times. If clothing needs to be changed the member is encouraged to use the club house changing rooms.
- 4.8. On court suitable tennis shoes must be worn by players.
- 4.9. Members are responsible for the state of their own equipment.
- 4.10. Dragging of the court surface before should be undertaken when necessary to remove any debris, thus extending the life of the playing surface.
- 4.10. Cycles, scooters, etc are not allowed on the courts.
- 4.11. Members are expected to leave the court on time. If people are waiting to use the booked court please ask for their permission to continue until the end of the current game, and then vacate the court.
- 4.12. Where an injury has occurred, members are expected to record details of the injury sustained on the forms provided, located in the First Aid box.

5. Representing the Club in Competitions

- 5.1. The Management Committee shall decide upon which competitions and the number of Teams the Club shall enter into any event.
- 5.2. The Management Committee shall be responsible for setting match fees associated with any competition.
- 5.3. Only members with an appropriate category of membership will be allowed to represent the Club in competitions
- 5.4. Membership fees must be paid as well as any past debts, eg unpaid match fees must be paid, before a member can represent the club.
- 5.5. Club Captains are responsible for player and team selection, and will select in accordance with the competition rules.
- 5.6. Club Captains will brief Team Captains on venues and dates/times. They will also inform the Team Captain of their responsibilities for such things as match balls, refreshments, provision of first aid kits, ensuring rules are followed when transporting juniors and collection of match fees.

- 5.7. Balls provided are the property of the Club and should be returned to the Club.
- 5.8. If junior players are representing the Club's Safeguarding Policies must be followed.

6. Provision of New Balls

- 6.1. The selection and purchase of club balls shall be undertaken by representatives of the Management Committee.
- 6.2. Selection shall be based upon the criteria of cost, availability and playability the latter being defined by the Club Captains.
- 6.3. New balls shall be provided for all Competitions such as Summer league etc...
- 6.4. New balls can be provided free of charge on club nights or at match practice if a member of the Committee believes the balls available are not of sufficient quality.
- 6.5. All balls provided for all purposes are the property of the Club and should be returned to the Club and stored either on the racks or close to the racks, in a safe manner.
- 6.6. The disposal of used balls shall be decided on by the Committee.

7. Juniors

- 7.1. A person is eligible for Junior Membership if they are aged under 18 years old on the 1st of April of the membership year (1st April to the 31st March of the following year).
- 7.2. Juniors are welcome at the Club and are allowed to book courts and invite visitors, in accordance with the restrictions of their membership category.
- 7.3. Safeguarding policies must be applied at all times when Juniors are in attendance.
- 7.4. A Junior player who has developed to a standard where they could benefit from attending club sessions can become an "Invited Junior".
- 7.5. Recommendations for Invited Juniors should be made to the Coaching Liaison Officer who after discussion with The Head Coach, and the Club Captains, or acceptable delegates where there is a conflict of interest, will bring a recommendation to the Committee. Committee Members who are not conflicted shall vote upon the recommendation.
- 7.6. Where a Junior is felt to be close to the standard required he/she may be granted a trial attendance at agreed Club Sessions. This attendance shall be limited to 5 sessions and feedback sought about the progress of the player.
- 7.7. All such decisions should be taken in consultation with the parent/guardian of the junior.

Appendix 1. Visitor Policy

Members are allowed to bring a maximum of 3 visitors to the Club, for playing purposes, at any one time. The member is responsible for recording the attendance of the visitor(s) and ensuring the visitor fee(s) are paid.

Before taking to the court, the visitors' book, which is located on the windowsill on the veranda, should be fully completed, and the appropriate fee placed in an envelope in the post box on the clubhouse gate or in the safe in the changing room. (A pen and envelopes are provided with the visitors' book.) The current fee (March 2022) for adults is £3 per person per session, and for juniors, £1 per session.

The Management Committee has discretion over the fee and can change it at any time. A visitor can visit the Club a maximum of five times per year (1st April to 31st March). After this, a visitor must join the club as a member to continue playing.

Any visitors' fees paid in the month of joining will be deducted from the membership fee. Only potential members may play as visitors on club nights, visitors must also pay additional costs associated with a club night or competition.