



# AVENUE LAWN TENNIS, SQUASH AND FITNESS CLUB

## TENNIS BYE-LAWS

### 1. General Court Availability and Priorities

Any member of the Tennis Committee or the Groundsman may open or close any court if they consider it is in the interest of the Club.

Play has the following order of priority:

- a) Team matches and tournaments (as may be listed in the fixture list) have priority on grass courts, or on hard courts 11 & 12 (in winter and in wet summer weather).
- b) Club tournament matches.
- c) Reserved periods – see byelaws 3 & 4 below.
- d) Doubles play involving only full tennis members.
- e) Other categories of play and members (e.g. Singles, restricted members, juniors)

N.B Except for team and tournament play, if two or more full members are waiting for a court, any current games on any court must be completed after one short set. A short set is the best of 11 games with a 7 point tie-break at 5-5.

### 2. Membership

The main categories of tennis membership are as follows:

- a) Full tennis members (including U-25 members) - may play on all surfaces.
- b) Junior members, (U-16 & U-10 members) please see byelaws 3 & 4 for court priority.
- c) Restricted tennis members:
  - may not normally play on grass courts (unless they pay a guest fee)
  - may play in closed tournaments (including on grass)
  - may play in up to two winter league matches per season only when no full tennis member is available, with the consent of the ladies or men's captain, and providing the player pays an additional £2 levy per match.

For new members wishing to participate in club mix-in, a session with the Club Professional is required to advise on their appropriate level of play.

**Note: All members must display the club's shoe tags whilst playing tennis.**

### 3. Guests

Guests may play only if accompanied by a member, who is responsible for payment of the appropriate fee, and for signing in the guest into the appropriate visitor's book **before** play.

Guests are allowed a maximum of five playing visits to the club per year.

Guests may join mix-ins.

#### 4. Grass Courts Availability

The grass courts will open at 12.00 noon, weather permitting.

- a) **Inter club matches:** Courts 1-3 (and occasionally courts 4 & 5) are reserved according to the fixture list (located on the notice board and normally available on the club website).  
Apart from team matches, no play may be started on grass courts 1, 2, 3 & 10 until all other grass courts are in use.
- b) **Mix-in.** All grass courts (except any needed for inter-club and club tournament matches) are reserved for 'Mix-in' (see mix in rules below) at the following times.
  - Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm and
  - Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5.00 pm (except courts 6 & 7 at certain times – see "juniors below).
- c) **Team Practice.** All grass courts are reserved from 6.00 pm on Wednesdays for team practice.
- d) **Juniors.** Juniors have priority on grass courts 6 & 7 only on weekdays from 12.00 to 6.00 pm, and on Saturdays and Sundays after 5.00 pm. However, during the month of September this weekday period for juniors is reduced to 12.00 to 5.00pm. Juniors may NOT use any other grass courts, unless given permission by a committee member.
- e) **Coaching.** Is only permitted on grass courts if all participants are full Members and the reserved courts and periods defined above are avoided.

#### 5. Hard Courts Availability

##### 5.1 Summer Play.

When grass courts are open the following rules apply:

- a) Courts 14 to 17 are reserved for Junior club play from 5.30-6.45pm on Tuesdays and 4.00-7.00pm on Fridays. Juniors also have first choice of these courts if not required for coaching.
- b) When grass courts are closed in summer due to wet weather, hard courts 11 to 14 are reserved for Mix-in on:
  - Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm and
  - Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.00 pm.

##### 5.2 Winter Play.

In winter when all grass courts are closed, the following rules apply:

Two courts (and occasionally other courts) are reserved for matches according to the fixture list (located on the notice board and normally available on the web site).

##### Mix-In.

Courts 11 to 14 are reserved for 'Mix-In' (see Mix in rules below) as follows:

1. Saturday & Sunday from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm and
2. Tuesday & Thursday from 5.00 pm on Courts 13 & 14 from 5.30pm for courts 11 & 12.

##### Juniors.

Juniors have first choice of hard courts 16 & 17. They may also use any other hard court if not required by full members. However, if four or fewer hard courts are not available to members, juniors have priority on court 17 only.

##### Floodlights.

In the evenings players must first consult the floodlight booking system for reserved periods, and then reserve a court if available.

It is the responsibility of the person who books a floodlit court to pay the fee for the whole booking period even if players do not show, unless weather prevents play.

### **5.3 Coaching etc.**

After junior priorities above, the coach will have first use of one macadam court for privately arranged individual/small group coaching or three macadam courts for academy arranged junior/adult group coaching (to fit in with other junior play on these courts) He may use any hard court(s) if not required by full or junior members, but must vacate astro courts 11 to 14 immediately if courts 15-17 are not available, or at the end of the hours coaching session if other courts are not available.

## **6. Mix-In rules**

During "Mix-in" periods, doubles matches are formed from those members having waited the longest time to play. If members are waiting to play, players must vacate the court after one short set (best of eleven games with a tie-break at 5-5).

## **7. Dress**

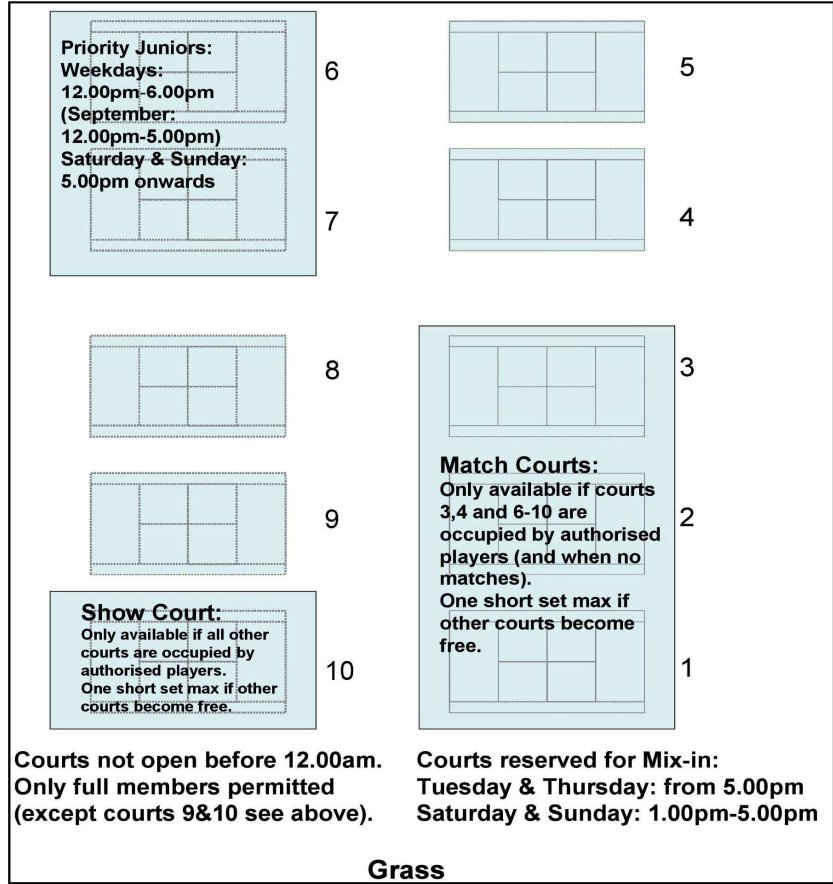
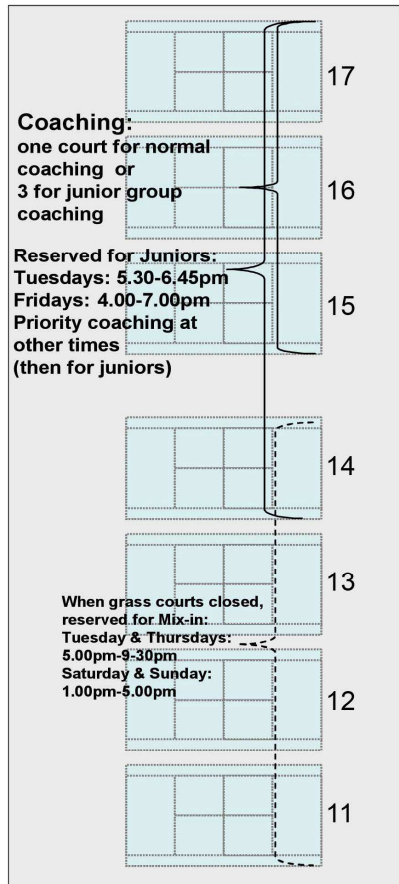
- a) Members and their guests are expected to dress appropriately on the courts. Beach shorts and tee shirts with logos, for example, are **not** considered suitable.
- b) Only approved tennis shoes i.e. non-marking and non-ridged, may be worn. Club shoe tags must be worn when on court.

## **8. General**

- a) The rules of the game shall be those adopted by the Lawn Tennis Association.
- b) At all times members and their guests are expected to observe the general principles of tennis etiquette, in particular respecting the privacy of neighbouring premises, avoiding foul and abusive language and avoiding walking behind or shouting across a court whilst a rally is in progress.
- g) Paid Coaching, other than that approved by the Tennis Committee is prohibited.
- h) Members' children under 7 years of age may play tennis on the hard courts, if not required by other members, provided that they do so with their parent(s) and wear suitable tennis clothing and shoes.
- i) Dogs must be kept under control whilst on club premises.
- j) Mobile phones must be switched off whilst on court may only be used away from playing areas.
- k) Chewing gum must not be used on court and is to be disposed of by being wrapped in paper and placed in the waste bins.

## **The Tennis Committee**

## Summer Play Priorities



## Winter Play Priorities

