

# AVENUE LAWN TENNIS, SQUASH AND FITNESS CLUB

## TENNIS BYE-LAWS

### 1. Introduction

1.1 The Club has ten grass courts and seven all-weather courts (four synthetic clay and three artificial grass).

1.2 The grass courts (numbered 1-10) are open from mid-April / early May until early October each year with play commencing at 11.00am and finishing at dusk. These courts can only be opened or closed by a member of the Tennis Committee or the Groundsman.

1.3 The all-weather courts (nos 11-17) are open all year round from 7.30am to 9.30pm every day.

1.4 Court Priorities: Play has the following order of priority -

- a) International / National tournaments (Seniors Open Tournament in late June and County Week in late July).
- b) Inter-Club Team matches.
- c) Junior Tournaments.
- d) Club Tournament matches.
- e) Team Practice on Wednesday evenings.
- f) Social Tennis (Mix-ins) on designated days and times.
- g) Arranged doubles games.
- h) Arranged singles games.
- i) Coaching.
- j) Havant Singles league matches.
- k) Any others.

### 2. Grass Courts

2.1 Restrictions:

- a) Apart from team matches, no play may be started on grass courts numbers 1, 2, 3 and 10 until all other grass courts are in use.
- b) Hard court tennis members may only play on the grass courts if they pay the appropriate guest fee (see Section 6). This is limited to 3 occasions per season. However, hard court members may play on the grass if taking part in the Club's closed tournament.

2.2 When courts are full: 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 with a tie-break at 5-5.

2.3 Inter-Club matches: Courts 1-3 (and occasionally courts 4 and 5) are reserved for these matches according to the fixture list (located on the notice board and available on the Club's website).

2.4 Team Practice: All grass courts are reserved for team practice on Wednesday evenings from 6.00pm.

2.5 Social Tennis (Mix-in): All grass courts (except any needed for inter-Club and Club Tournament matches) are reserved for Social Tennis at the following times:

a) Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1.00pm to 4.30pm.

b) Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5.00pm until dusk (except courts 6 and 7 at certain times – see para 2.6 below).

2.6 Juniors: Priority is given to Juniors on courts 6 and 7 on weekdays from 12.00am to 6.00pm and on Saturdays and Sundays after 5.00pm.

2.7 Coaching: Coaching is permitted on grass courts if all applicants are full members and the reserved courts and periods defined above are avoided.

### **3. Hard Courts**

3.1 Booking System: The booking system in place for the hard courts all year round allows the Club to generate statistics on court usage and generally guarantees that there is a court to play on. Any tennis member or coach can book courts (including juniors) up to a maximum of 4 consecutive half hour sessions in one go. If persons who have booked a court fail to turn up other members waiting may play on that court.

3.2 Floodlights: The booking system allows floodlights to be booked when required. Payment is made online, through the office or by using the kiosk in the Clubhouse just inside the front door. It is the responsibility of the person who booked a floodlit court to pay the fee for the whole booking period unless bad weather prevents play.

3.3 Detailed instructions on use of the booking system including floodlights are on the Club's website.

3.4 Free Floodlights: These are provided on certain courts for Tuesday and Thursday evening Social Tennis and Wednesday evening Match Practice.

3.5 Block-Booking: All Team Matches in the winter, regular group coaching sessions, Winter Tournaments and Social Tennis are block-booked in advance.

3.6 Summer Play: When grass courts are open the following rules apply -

a) Two courts (nos 11 and 12) are reserved for Junior Club play from 4.30pm to 9.00pm on Tuesdays. 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, Social Tennis can take place on four hard courts (nos 14 to 17) if not already booked. Times are:

- Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1.00pm to 4.30pm.
- Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.00pm to 9.00pm.

3.7 Winter Play: In winter the following rules apply –

a) Five courts (nos 11 to 15) are reserved for **Team Practice as follows**:

- Wednesday evenings from 6.00pm to 9.00pm.

b) Four courts (nos 14 to 17) are reserved for **Social Tennis** as follows:

- Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 1.00pm to 4.30pm.
- Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 4.30pm to 8.30pm.

3.8 All year round play: Courts are reserved for **Daytime Social Tennis** on week days as follows:

a) Two courts (nos 15 and 16) for **Ladies Seniors Mix-in**:

- Monday and Wednesday mornings from 9.00am to 11.00am.

b) Four courts (nos 13 to 16) for **Daytime Mix-in**:

- Wednesday mornings from 10.00am to 12.00am (nos 13 and 14) and 11.00am to 12.00am (courts 15 and 16).

c) Four courts (nos 14 to 17) for **Ladies Intermediate Mix-in**:

- Thursday mornings from 9.00am to 11.00am.

d) Three courts (nos 15 to 17) for **Midday Mix-in**:

- Thursday midday from 11.00am to 1.00pm.

e) Five courts (nos 13 to 17) for **Daytime Mix-in**:

- Friday mornings from 9.00am to 12.00am

## 4. Social Tennis rules

4.1 During Social Tennis periods, doubles matches are formed from those members who have waited longest. Players must 'mix in' after playing one set. If the courts are full and players are waiting a short set shall be played with a tie break at 5-5.

4.2 Guests may join in Mix-ins (see Section 6).

## 5. Coaching

5.1 Courts 11 and 12 are block booked for coaching in accordance with the agreed coaching programme (group lessons). Members are free to book these courts when not required for coaching.

5.2 Additional coaching requirements (ie private individual coaching) must be booked in the normal way by the coaches utilising any courts that are free.

## **6. Guests**

6.1 Guests may play only if accompanied by a member. The member is responsible for payment of the appropriate fee, and by signing in the guest **before** play. The guest book is located outside the office (instructions on payment are in the book).

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

6.3 Guests may attend coaching sessions (individual or group) but must pay the appropriate guest fee.

## **7. Dress**

7.1 Members and their guests are expected to dress appropriately.

7.2 Only approved tennis shoes may be worn.

7.3 Shoe tags should be worn or at least be visible.

## **8. General**

8.1 The rules of the game shall be those adopted by the Lawn Tennis Association.

8.2 At all times members and their guests must observe the general principles of 'tennis etiquette', in particular respecting the privacy of our neighbours, avoiding foul and abusive language and avoiding walking behind or shouting across a court whilst a rally is in progress.

8.3 Paid coaching, other than that approved by the Tennis Committee is prohibited.

8.4 Members' children under the age of 7 years may play tennis on the hard courts if not required by other members, provided that they do so with their parent(s).

8.5 Dogs must be kept under control whilst on Club premises.

8.6 Mobile phones should be switched off or set to silent whilst members are on court.

**Tennis Committee**

**January 2018**