

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

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1. Organisation

a. Committee

Your committee members, with their area of responsibility, are all shown on the main club website under Contact Us.

The club A.G.M. is held in February/March and volunteers for the committee are always welcome. Please contact any committee member to discuss this.

b. Website and Club Documents

The public website is at <http://www.veybridgeltc.com>.

Copies of the Club Rules, Policies and other items indicating how the Club meets its obligations are included under 'Club Information' on the website. In particular, we would like to draw your attention to the 'Club Notices' section and the following documents:

- Privacy Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- Diversity and Inclusion Policy

The Club Welfare Officer is: Frances Bayton-Clark

- Phone: 07751 315092

- Email: WelfareOfficer@Weybridgeltc.com

Website Members Area: As a member you may see additional information, book courts, find playing partners and more by registering at the Members Area in the above website. Simply register with the email name you gave at the time you applied for membership and then choose your own password.

c. Etiquette

- Please do not collect a ball from an adjoining court while play is in progress.
- The knock-up is to help you and your opponent "get your eye in". Start gently; there are no prizes for winning the knock up!
- Return the balls to the server.
- Put the balls together at the end of your set. If you are likely to be the last people on court, collect the balls and return to the baskets in the club house.
- Balls hit out of court should be retrieved as soon as practicable. If you leave it until the end of the set you will invariably forget.
- Tennis can be both exciting and frustrating. Please have consideration for players on adjacent courts & others in the vicinity.

d. Dress code

We do not insist on all white, but recognised tennis clothing must be worn on court. Proper tennis shoes with **non-marking soles** must be worn. If in doubt, please ask.

e. Last to leave

When leaving the club, check if you may be the last and then please ensure

- All balls are retrieved and stored in the club room
- All doors (including the toilets) are closed and locked securely.
- Gates to Courts 1 and 2 (Clay courts) are closed and padlocked

f. Visitors

Guests of members are welcome to play at the club. The fee is £5 for an adult and £2 for a Junior. Please enter your name and the name of your guest in the visitors' book before you play. You may pay the fees online direct to the club bank account or you can pay the chairman, treasurer, secretary or membership secretary when you see him/her.

NOTE: No visitor may play more than 6 times per year.

2. Associations & Partners

a. British Tennis (LTA)

All members are encouraged to sign up to British Tennis. British Tennis 'Lite' membership is free to club members and gives many advantages including entry to the Wimbledon ballot. For a discounted fee of £20.00 (from £30.00), members can be up-graded to 'Team' membership which offers further advantages. Refer to the LTA website for details:

<https://www.lta.org.uk/member/>

WLTC is a British Tennis Registered Venue.

b. Wimbledon Tickets

The club receives an annual allocation of tickets throughout the 2 weeks and across multiple courts. A ballot is held each year and run by the LTA to allocate these tickets. **Only members of British Tennis who have explicitly opted in at the LTA website will be entered in the draw.** As a BT Member you will receive an email towards the end of the calendar year inviting you to opt-in to the draw. Once you have opted-in you do not need to do anything else. If you are successful, you will be notified directly by the LTA and asked to pay for your tickets. If you do not wish to take up the tickets or you do not pay, then these tickets will be re-allocated randomly to another WLTC member.

NB: You may not under any circumstances whatsoever resell any tickets acquired through this draw.

c. Weybridge Sports Shop

Weybridge Sports shop in Weybridge High Street offer a range of tennis sporting goods and also a racket re-stringing service. Members of WLTC are entitled to a 10% discount on all shop goods (not racket restringing). Just tell them that you are a member of WLTC. You can follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/weybridgesports>

3. Facilities

a. Courts

We have 5 all weather courts. Two of them are laid with artificial clay, 3 are laid to tarmacadam.

New balls are usually provided (subject to usage and weather conditions) on Saturday afternoons, Sunday mornings and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

b. Court bookings

When you log in to the Member area at the club website you can book courts for up to 2 hours in 30 minute segments. Courts will be automatically booked in your name and it is your responsibility to delete the bookings if you are unable to play (Click the red X). When you arrive and find that someone is playing on a court that you have booked, then you may POLITELY ask them to vacate the court.

c. Court timetable

Regular bookings for court times are shown in our website at:

<http://www.veybridgeltc.com/court-availability/>

Notes on the court timetable:

- In all cases Club matches against other clubs have priority. Fixtures are in court bookings.
- BANK HOLIDAYS: As Sunday mornings unless there is a tournament in the afternoon.
- At all other times courts are available for free play and may be booked for a period of an hour, or in the case of a tournament match, for the duration of the match. Bookings should be made online in the Member Area of the club website.
- In the case of free play when no court has been booked, members should vacate the court after one hour if other members are waiting.

d. Floodlights

- All 5 courts are floodlit.
- Tokens for the floodlights are available from nominated members (currently Alison Wade and Martha Hearl) at £2 each which buys one hour. Courts can be booked as above
- Planning restrictions forbid use of the lights after 10 p.m.
- Please do read the instructions posted by the meters in the club house.

N.B. For courts 1 and 2 there is no warning that the token is about to run out. If the lights do go out, there is a delay of approx. 10 minutes before they will turn on again.

e. Coaching

The club's coach for private lessons is **Adrian Joly** 0795 646 4530. More info at the club website.

f. Club House

The club house facilities are there for members to enjoy, to relax in, to make tea or coffee or just chat.

The facilities are not managed by any staff. PLEASE wash up all cups, plates etc and put them away.

g. Ball machine

The club owns a practice machine for all members to use. Being very heavy to carry around, it's conveniently stored in the Men's changing room.

Instructions for use are posted on the outside Club notice board, but a few key points here:

- The machine is electrically powered, and an extension lead is available in the Men's room. Power point is found on the light stanchion between courts 4 and 5 or in the club house.
- There is a basket of (used) balls available for use in the machine. Do not use these balls for any other purposes.
- Avoid using wet balls. Water does not go well inside the machine.
- Balls are ejected at quite a high velocity. Juniors must be supervised.
- Do not use this machine on Courts 1 and 2 (Clay courts)

4. Social

a. Mix-in sessions

- The idea of a mix in session is to allow everyone to turn up and play.
- We have mix-in sessions for Adult Full members. To join these sessions, you will have been asked to play-in with a committee member.
- There may also be additional mix-in sessions for Adult Intermediate members who have not played-in and are typically rusty returners or just emerged from the beginner's classes.
- And finally, we have regular mix-in sessions for mid-week members.
- The "rules" for joining a game vary depending on the number of people who turn up and the nature of the group.

Adult Full member sessions, we use the following guidelines:

The objective is to make up a balanced four from those waiting. If there are sufficient people we use the *book* system, which works as follows:

- When you arrive, or when you come off court, put your name down on the list in the mix in book or on a white board.
- When four players come off court, put winners before losers, ladies before gents.
- When your name appears at the top of the list, select 3 people from the next 6 on the list. We try, if possible, not to leave someone out who has not yet played but we also attempt to assemble a balanced four which may mean a longer wait for some. Do not go below the sixth person; it is not fair on others who may have to wait a very long time.
- Play only one short set (6-5 wins). If there is nobody waiting you may play a tie-break at 5-all.
- You must vacate the court after completion of a set as people waiting to play may not necessarily be in view.

Winter Rules

When we have very popular mix in sessions in the colder weather such that all courts are in use and members are waiting for a game, then we play to the following Winter Rules:

- Each set has a maximum of 7 games
- Only play 1 deuce and then play final point with receiver's choice of serve
- If you get to 6 - 0 the set is over

Mid-week and Intermediate mix-in sessions are typically less structured.

Teams also have mix-in practice sessions on a Wednesday evening. See below for more details.

Please check the website court timetable for court allocation and times for these mix-in sessions

5. Competition

a. Singles League

A singles league runs throughout the year, and details are posted on the competitions notice board just outside the club room. Those interested should contact Alex MacHorton at alexmachorton@gmail.com

b. Teams

The club has a number of very active teams that compete in local leagues and competitions. If you wish to be considered for the teams, we have an open team practice on Wednesday evenings at 6.30pm for all team players and those wishing to join.

c. Team mix-in

Team Practice sessions will be held on each Wednesday of the month as follows:

- 1st and 3rd Wednesday – Ladies and Mixed
- 2nd and 4th Wednesday – Men only

d. Club Championship

A Club Tournament is held on an annual basis to which all full members are eligible to participate. The Finals Day is held on the Sunday after Wimbledon finals. Meaning that our finals day is typically on the 4th Sunday in July with all finals matches played under the guidance of professional umpires. Presentations of the trophies are made throughout the day and refreshments are available to all.

For more information contact

- Alison Wade at awtennis@margary-wade.com or
- Brian Chubb at brian.chubb@hotmail.co.uk