

# **GREAT SHELFORD TENNIS CLUB RULES**

**(2023)**

## **General**

1. These rules shall supersede any previous rules or constitution of the Club.
2. The Club shall be named Great Shelford Tennis Club.
3. A copy of the rules shall be displayed on the Club notice board together with the names and email addresses of the Secretary and Treasurer.

## **Membership**

4.(a) Adult Membership (hereinafter 'full members') shall be available in one of the following categories:

- i) Senior Membership – adult members with access to all club benefits and facilities.
- ii) Associate Membership (closed to new applicants) - restricted membership for those who do not wish to attend Club sessions or participate in Club competitions.
- iii) Off-Peak Membership – restricted membership for those who only wish to play at off-peak times and in off-peak open play sessions, such times and sessions to be determined by the committee. Participation in interclub competitions is not available but participation permitted in limited intra club competitions with appropriate competitions to be determined by the committee.
- iv) Student Membership - membership for those aged over 18, in full-time education and still living at home.
- v) Returning Student Membership – membership for July, August and September for those aged over 18 and in full-time education.

4.(b) Junior Membership shall be available in three categories:

- i) Youth – open to those aged 14-17 on 31 March of the current year.
- ii) Junior - open to those aged 8-13 on 31 March of the current year.
- iii) Mini - open to those aged 0-7 on 31 March of the previous year.

(c) Family Membership - If two people from the same family pay subscriptions as full members, all younger members of their family may join as Junior or Student members free of charge. Once full time education has terminated, that family member must join as a senior or off-peak member.

(d) Senior citizens – Those senior or associate members aged 65 years or greater on the 31 March of the current year are eligible for a 20% discount on their annual subscription.

(e) Honorary Membership shall be awarded to an individual who has given great service to Great Shelford Tennis Club. This person shall be nominated by the outgoing Committee and the nomination ratified by the members attending the AGM.

(f) The Head Coach contracted to the Club, and any other coach working regularly for the Club, will be granted full membership for the duration of their contract.

(g) No person shall be denied membership of the Club on the grounds of race, ethnic origin, creed, colour, age, disability, sex, occupation, sexual organisation, religion, political or other beliefs

## **Management and Organisation**

5. An Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in either February or March of each year at which full members of the Club shall be entitled to vote. A Management Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting to be responsible for the running of the Club. A quorum for Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings shall be ten full members. Where dictated by circumstance, such meetings may be held online and virtually using standard web meeting services.

6. Fourteen days' notice of any Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be given to all current adult members and guardians of youth/junior/mini members at their registered email address together with a copy of the agenda and any details of proposed changes to the Rules.

7. The club shall be managed by a Management Committee.

(a) The Management Committee shall consist of at least 10 full members elected at the Annual General Meeting. Every year it shall include a Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Men's Captain and Ladies' Captain together with a minimum of five additional committee members, whose roles will vary from year to year. The same person may not stand for election as Chairman for more than five consecutive years. The Head Coach shall be invited to sit on the Management Committee for the period they remain contracted to the club.

(b) The Management Committee may appoint any member to fill any casual vacancy on the Management Committee until the next Annual General Meeting. Co-opted members shall be entitled to vote at the meetings of the Management Committee.

(c) The Management Committee shall meet at least three times during the year. A quorum for Committee meetings shall be six members. The members of the Management Committee may exercise all of the powers of the Club for the purposes of the management of the Club.

8. At the Annual General Meeting the Club may appoint a President and/or Vice President to serve one year but any person holding these offices shall not take part in the management of the Club.

9. The property of the Club shall be vested in three trustees who shall be appointed by the Management Committee and the property of the Club shall be vested in them to be dealt with by them as the Management Committee may from time to time direct by resolution (of which an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence). Past and current Trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property. The Trustees shall hold office until death or resignation or until removal from office by the Management Committee. Where by reason of such death, resignation or removal it is necessary that a new Trustee or Trustees be appointed, the Management Committee shall nominate the person or persons to be appointed the new Trustee or Trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination the Chairman is hereby nominated as the person to appoint new Trustees of the Club within the meaning of Section 36 of the Trustees Act 1925 and he shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated by the Management Committee.

10. An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Club may be called at any time by the Committee or by any ten members, of any category of membership, providing fourteen days' notice of time, place, date and purpose are given to all current adult members at their registered email address.

11. Rules may be altered only at the Annual General Meeting or at an Extraordinary General Meeting called for that purpose. Proposals for alterations to the Rules must be notified in writing to the Secretary at least 28 days prior to any meeting to enable the Secretary to give the necessary notice and details as described in Rule 6. In order for the Rules to be changed they must be passed by a three quarters of the adult members present.

12. Each adult member present shall have one vote and resolutions at Annual General Meetings and Extraordinary General Meetings shall be passed by a simple majority of those members present and voting. In the event of a tie in voting at Annual General, Extraordinary General or Committee meetings, the Chairman shall have the casting vote.

13. An audited statement of accounts for the 12 months ending 31 December of the previous year shall be presented to the Annual General Meeting. An auditor for the current year shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting.

14. Subscriptions and Entry fees for all categories of membership shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting for the current calendar year. Membership in any category shall be deemed to have lapsed if the subscription for the year has not been paid by 1 May. In that event application will have to be made as for new membership as in Rule 15.

15.(a) New members shall be accepted at the discretion of the Committee. Applications should be submitted via the link on the Club's website. New

members shall be required to pay an initial Entry Fee to be set with the subscription rates at each Annual General Meeting.

15.(b) The Management Committee shall have power to refuse membership or expel a Member if in its sole discretion determines that it would be in the interests of the Club to do so. A member shall not be expelled unless they are given 14 days written notice of the meeting of the Management Committee at which their expulsion shall be considered and written details of the complaint made against them. The member shall be given an opportunity to appear before the Management Committee to answer complaints made against them. The member must not be expelled unless at least two thirds of the Management Committee then present vote in favour of their expulsion.

16. Guests may be introduced by members, subject to a booking being made using the booking system and the guest name given. The introducing member is responsible for ensuring that guests are aware of and adhere to club rules. A non-member may not play as a guest more than three times in total during a membership year, before becoming a member.

### **Play: Conditions and Arrangements**

17. All members and their guests shall wear soft-soled tennis shoes, without heels, on the courts.

18. The Club shall provide balls for matches, match practices, tournaments and organised Club sessions. At all other times members must provide their own.

19. The Committee shall have an obligation to ensure that fair and reasonable playing opportunities are provided for all sections of membership and shall determine and announce details of organised Club sessions, together with allocated playing times and any additional playing restrictions or rules of play that the Committee feel it necessary to introduce during any season, in the interest of the Club. These details shall be notified to members and/or displayed on the Club notice board.

20. The Club is empowered to reserve the courts for matches, match practices, tournaments, coaching and Club sessions and shall notify members via the online court calendar.

21. The Committee shall, at its discretion, have the power to:

- a) invite individual Juniors to enjoy senior membership status whilst still paying a Junior subscription.
- b) invite individual Juniors to attend specified organised Club sessions. The invitations issued in a) and b) above shall be on a season-by-season basis. During any season that a Junior has accepted invitation a), that Junior will not be eligible for Junior Club competitions.

22. All membership categories apart from Mini are permitted to book courts. A court may be booked up to 14 days in advance via the online booking system accessed via the GSTC web-site. Players shall vacate courts promptly at the end of their booking. Where a booking is no longer required members

are required to cancel the booking at the earliest possible moment. The committee shall determine and modify the duration and rules for bookings as necessary, and publish these on the web-site booking page. Mini members (or their guardians) are not permitted to book courts, but may play with other members.

23. The Club allows players to wear coloured tennis/sports clothing.

24. All adult members, and guardians of youth/junior/mini members are required to re-register annually via the club's web-site and ensure that they maintain a current email address, and to ensure they remain aware of club policies as changes are advised from time to time.

25. All communication and notices sent in accordance with these rules shall be considered validly sent when sent to the registered email address for an adult member or guardian of a youth/junior/mini member.

26. The Club will permit the reasonable use of court floodlights when required at no additional charge to club members. Floodlights must be turned off when not in use and by 10pm at the latest.