Membership

Membership of the Brentham Club Tennis Section is required before court access is allowed.

Members must pay the new season’s subscription and all other fees in full by 30 April each year.

Membership will lapse unless all fees have been paid by the due date.

Play

Play during Club Times:

* As the aim is to play with a mix of members, pre-arranged social games are not allowed. For matches, see below.
* Members must vacate the court after playing one short set (max 7–5 or 6–6).
* Doubles games take precedence over singles games.
* Knocking-up time is limited to 5 minutes.
* The peg-board system will be used when appropriate.

Please note that Club Times are:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Thursdays | 6.00pm to 10.00pm |
| Saturdays (1 April to 31 October) | 2.00pm to 5.00pm |
| Saturdays (1 November to 31 March) | 1.00pm to 4.00pm |
| Sundays | 10.00am to 12.00pm |

AAll informal matches must cease before Club Time on Thursdays and Sundays.

Note: If the grass courts are in play during Club Time, an internal tournament match may be played on the hard courts.

During Club Time, a maximum of two internal tournament matches may be played but the participants must vacate the court after completion of each set if others are waiting.

In addition to Club Time, there are two Social Sessions on Wednesdays 10 - 12 am and Friday 10 - 12 am, when members may play on a similar basis to Club Time on two courts reserved for the purpose. The Friday morning Social Session is also open to non-members. If numbers are high and additional courts are needed, the additional courts have to be vacated as per usual rules if others are waiting. Note that Social Sessions differ from Club Time insofar as others playing in this period do not need to join in with this group, ie, privately arranged matches are still allowed on the other courts.

Play outside Club Times:

* Unless playing an internal or external match, Members must complete the current set
(max 7–5 or 6–6) and vacate the court when other players are waiting (subject to Rule 4.5). However, with regard to internal matches and personal external matches (eg, postals), Section 4.4 takes priority.
* When Members are waiting, knocking-up time is limited to 5 minutes.

Competition Matches

**External Matches**

Anyone who represents Brentham Lawn Tennis Club in any team must be a current member of the Tennis Section and must have a British Tennis membership number.

Details of all external Club matches will be publicised in advance on the tennis notice boards.

External Club matches will have priority over internal tournaments.

Individual Members' external matches (such as postal tournaments) may only be played on the hard courts.

Individual Members who wish to play external matches must:

Check the noticeboards for court availability before arranging the match.

Schedule the match so that it ends before Club Time.

Note: If the grass courts are in play during weekend Club Times, an external match may be played on the hard courts.

Court Availability

Court 11 is the designated Junior Court, where Junior Members have priority at all times. Players must vacate the court after completion of one set if other Members are waiting to play. However, waiting Junior Members will still have priority. The exception is when three or more courts are being used for coaching or for an external tournament.

The Club Coaches have priority use of one court, Court 11, if no juniors playing, at set times – see weekly schedule on the Brentham Web-site .

When the grass courts are in play, at least two grass courts and two Tiger Turf courts must be available for social play.

When the grass courts are out of play, at least two Tiger Turf courts must be available for social play.

When members are waiting to play and all courts are busy, members should not go on court until they have their full complement of players.

When members are waiting for courts, they can elect to play or not to play on the hard court.

# Grass Courts

The Head Groundsman or a Tennis Committee Member will determine when the grass courts are playable (please refer to notices placed by the entrance to the grass courts or on the courts).

Play must cease when the Head Groundsman or a Tennis Committee Member considers the courts unfit for play or when the courts require maintenance.

Any member of the Tennis Committee can determine whether any grass court needs to be taken out of play and, when appropriate, they will also determine the order in which the grass courts will be used.

All Members may complete one short set (max 7-5 or 6-6) and must then vacate the court when others are waiting.

Junior members can play on the grass courts unless/until the courts are needed by an adult.

In addition to 5.5 above, when any Adult members ask Juniors to vacate a grass court, they must do so at the end of the current game, even if their set is incomplete.

Service practice and prolonged hitting on the grass courts is not allowed (other than a 10 minute knocking-up period prior to playing a short set).

Use of the ball machine on the grass courts is not allowed.

Junior tournaments will not be played on the grass courts.

Junior Play on the Tiger Turf Courts

Doubles games take precedence over singles games on Court 11 (the designated Junior Court).

Knocking-up time is limited to 5 minutes when others are waiting.

Junior Members should vacate the court after knocking up for 15 minutes or after playing one short set (max 7–5 or 6–6).

If there are no Juniors waiting, Adult Members may complete a short set (max 7-5 or 6-6) on Court 11. (Note: adult matches should not be played on Court 11).

Juniors have priority on Courts 9, 10 and 11 between 4.00pm and 6.00pm on weekdays, but must vacate Courts 9 and 10 at the end of a short set (max 7–5 or 6–6) if other Juniors are waiting.

If there are Adults waiting, Junior Members may complete a short set (max 7-5 or 6-6) on any Tiger Turf court.

Visitors and Non-Members

Any members are allowed to have visitors, who must be signed in and must pay a fee of £5

The visitor’s fee of £5 per person per visit must be paid before play starts and a receipt must be obtained as proof of payment.

Visitors’ fees can be paid in the Upstairs Bar or the Coffee Shop, or can be paid to any Tennis Committee Member. The visitor’s and member’s names along with the date of the visit should be recorded in a book held for the purpose in the Coffee Shop.

A visitor may only play once during any calendar month. Any visitor who wishes to play more frequently than this must join the Tennis Section of The Brentham Club.

Any member can only bring up to three visitors at a time and is expected to play with them.

If a member believes he/she has justification for flexibility on the above rules eg a long distance visitor who wishes to play twice over a weekend, the member must gain approval from a committee member in advance

There are a number of organised sessions during the week that are open to non-members. Attendance by non-members is limited to once a week. These non-members cannot then take advantage of the visitor rule to play once a month in addition

Court Etiquette

Good manners are expected at all times. Please refer to the separate sheet regarding court etiquette.

Clothing and Footwear

For your safety and to avoid damage to the playing surface, appropriate tennis footwear for the hard courts and the grass courts is essential.

Recognised tennis clothing must be worn on all courts.

Club Tournaments

Every tournament will have a designated Tournament Organiser, whose decisions on all matters relating to that tournament are final.

Tournament Rules will be placed on the notice board in the Tennis Hut.

# Floodlight Play

Courts may ONLY be booked for external matches and coaching. The booking sheets are kept on the noticeboard and by Nov ’18, on the Brentham web-site. In the evenings, coaches may book the floodlit courts only on Monday and Friday and then only when there are no scheduled club matches.

All members may insert tokens for up to 1 hour (2 tokens).

If there are no players waiting to use the courts a further token may be inserted.

Tokens can be purchased in the upstairs bar or coffee shop.