

Brentham Lawn Tennis Club -Rules on Court Usage



1. Membership

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

The new season's subscription are due on 1st April each year.

2. Court Booking Rules

The all weather courts open from 8 am until 10 pm. The Tiger Turf (TT) and Ct 12 (caged court) all have lights, as noted on the court booking system (Mycourts) but Ct12 lights are only available until 8 pm. Grass courts open from May till September, bookable starting between 9.30-11 am depending on the month, when fit to play.

2.1 Adult members and juniors in the 11 yrs and over categories have the right to book in advance up to 1.5 hrs and can invite other members to play, singles or doubles. Juniors who have paid a membership fee for under 11 yrs can book and play as an opponent, for a max of 1 hr. Coaches at Level 2 and above can book longer periods, for coaching, but subject to the rules below including 6.2 .

2.2 You can book an extra hour on the day of play, if courts are available.

2.3 No pair (if singles) or group of players (if doubles) can play for more than 2 consecutive hrs with the same members. They can play with different players.

2.4 The practice hitting wall on Court 12 may not be used after 8pm.

2.5 TT, grass and clay courts can be booked from 4 days in advance (see additional booking rules within MyCourts). Court 12 can only be booked on the day. Fully qualified club coaches (ie LTA level 2 and above) have earlier access on some courts- see Para 6 below

2.6 You must cancel your booking if you will not be playing, whatever the reason, as someone else may want the slot. **Ideally, cancel at least 24 hrs before the start time.** Note the 'Cancelled courts alert' option on the booking sheet, if you are looking out for a cancellation. The committee will aim to do the same with any block bookings.

2.7 All player names must be added to the booking system as soon as possible after booking. There should be no single names. Parent members playing with under 8 yrs junior members who wish to keep their details confidential can choose the option 'Junior member under 8 yrs'.

The committee reserves the option to retrospectively charge £5/30 mins for any booking which did not have an opponent listed.

2.8. Play on all weather courts During Peak Hours (Weekdays: 6-9pm; weekends: 8 am-6pm)

The following are NOT allowed in peak time

- personal, external matches, choosing 'external match' as the opponent, which allows free access for the opponent. If such matches are planned during peak times, the opponent must be paid for with a guest fee
- service practice (with the exception of Ct 12) (max 1 hr allowed in non-peak times)
- Coaching of non-members.

3. Club Times and Social Play

3.1 Club Times

Timings are shown below. Book attendance on Mycourts, under 'Club Sessions'. The aim is to play with a mix of members, therefore pre-arranged pairings is not allowed.

Juniors who are 13 yrs or over, and competent to play with adults (head coach opinion) can join Club Time. By exception those under 13yrs can play, but a guardian must be present (see 4.3), for safeguarding.

Thursdays	7.30 to 9.00pm
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Sundays	10.00am to 12.00pm
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3.2 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 this purpose. The Friday morning Social Session is also open to non-members (£5 charge). These sessions are booked via WhatsApp groups – contact a committee member to be added or message tennis@brenthamclub.co.uk.

Club and social times may be varied by the committee as circumstances require or as might seem advantageous.

4. Juniors

4.1 Junior members who are beginners, whether playing with other juniors or adults, are asked preferentially to book Court 12 or, if not available, court 7 or 11. They are however allowed on other courts.

4.2. Juniors who have paid a membership for those under the age of 11 yrs can only book and play a max of 1 hr on any day, plus any group coaching session they have paid for.

4.3 Juniors under the age of 13 years should be supervised by a parent/carer when at the club, outside of any coaching session or camp. This is aligned with LTA guidance. The parent/carer must be nearby, in the grounds. They can only play on court if they are a member or in accordance with guest rules.

4.4 Parents can only play with juniors if the parents are members,

4.5. Juniors under 11 yrs are not allowed guests ie cannot book to play with a guest

5. Competition Matches - External Matches

5.1 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.

5.2 External Club matches will have priority over internal tournaments.

6. Maximising Tiger Turf and Clay Court Court Availability

6.1 Only members can be coached in peak times (Sat/Sunday 8 am – 6pm, weekday evening, 6-9 pm)

6.2 We endeavour to have at least 3 TT and 1 clay court available for member play

6.3 If 2TT courts are block booked eg for group coaching or a match, then all club coaches can only book the TT for 1 to 1 lessons with adult members or juniors members who have joined in the 11 yrs or older categories.

Fully qualified Club Coaches (defined as LTA level 2 and above) can book courts 7 and 12 for coaching, not personal use, up to 14 days in advance. However in the circumstances of 6.2 above, they must only book 4 days in advance **and 1.5 hrs, ie** on the same basis as all other members.

6.4. Only 1 clay court can be used for coaching at any one time.

6.5. Avoid late cancellations ie please cancel more than 24 hrs of the booking

7. Grass Courts

Can be booked via MyCourts 4 days ahead. Please avoid late cancellations on the TT, if you move to the grass. Ideally make the change at least 24 hrs ahead.

We will no longer have a regular 'resting period' for any of the grass courts, so all 3 will be open routinely. However, if the head groundsman or Grounds Sub-committee determine that a court is wearing down too quickly then a temporary 'rest' will be applied. ie the court will be closed.

Juniors are asked to preferentially book Court 5 (used to be labelled Ct 6), next to the football field.

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Note that the grass may be closed with no notice eg if it has rained / they are damp. It's not feasible for the committee to reflect such changes on the booking sheets, so in these circumstances your booking will be lost

7.1 Members must use their judgement on whether the courts are playable and only play on the grass if it's not damp and is safe. Ask a Committee member if you want help deciding

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

7.3 Any member of the Tennis Committee can determine whether any grass court needs to be taken out of play and, when appropriate.

7.4 Junior members can book and play on the grass courts.

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

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

7.7 Junior tournaments will not be played on the grass courts, unless agreed with the Committee.

7.8 Coaching cannot be carried out on the grass courts, with the exception of Court 5.

The Head Coach may however run junior coaching groups on the grass.

8. Court Etiquette including Clay Court brushing

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

8.2 Members must brush the artificial clay courts after use, in order to leave them in good condition for the next players. The principle booker of the court is responsible for ensuring this happens. For anyone who is reported to the committee as regularly failing to brush, the Committee reserves the option to temporarily limit their booking of the clay courts.

9. Clothing and Footwear

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

9.2 Recognised tennis clothing must be worn on all courts.

10. Club Tournaments

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

11. Floodlight Play (Tiger Turf and Court 12)

11.1 MyCourts will charge members £2/30 mins for lights starting from the first 30 min period in which sunset falls. Lights can be manually turned on and must be turned off after use.

11.3 Court 12 lights may not be used after 8 pm

The committee reserves the right to charge any member at the rates above, for lights used if the court had not been booked.

11.4 Please ensure the floodlights are turned off if there is no-one booked to play after you.

12. Visitors

12.1 Only members from 11 yrs of age are allowed to have visitors

12.2 The visitor fee of £3 per person per 30 min session must be paid when making the booking via MyCourts, selecting 'guest' as your opponent(s). See instructions within the MyCourts booking rules.

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12.3 Any individual visitor may play only once during any calendar month. Visitors who wish to play more frequently must join the Tennis Section of The Brentham Club.

12.4 Any member can bring up to three visitors at a time and is expected to play with them in singles or doubles as relevant

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

12.6 Note that members who are playing with a guest as part of an official LTA competition do not need to pay a guest fee, if they play outside peak times (see above).

12.7 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.