

# **Canterbury Tennis Club**

## **Policy on Membership, Paying Fees and Enjoyment of Rights of Membership**

May 2022



Canterbury Tennis Club exists to provide facilities for playing tennis according to the rules of the LTA. The Club generally promotes, encourages and facilitates the playing and development of the game amongst the whole community regardless of ability and provides the other ordinary benefits of an amateur sports club.

### **1.0 Adult Membership**

1.1 Senior membership is open to all adults over the age of 18, regardless of nationality, colour, religion, political belief, sexual orientation, culture, size, employment, ability or disability, except as a necessary consequence of the requirements of the Game.

1.2 The Membership shall consist of the following categories: adult member, junior member, social member, CCCU member and any other category of member as the Board of Directors may decide on from time to time. The Board of Directors, or its delegated committee, may establish different classes of Members and set out the different rights and obligations for each class on a non-discriminatory and fair basis, with such rights and obligations recorded in the Register of Members. Save for below, the Board of Directors cannot restrict any class of Membership from having voting rights. There are different categories of adult membership with different fees, all of which will take into account CASC obligations, which may vary from time to time. An up to date list can be found on the latest joining form (as published on the club web site and noticeboards). These fees are subject to annual review. Some discounted categories may give entitlement to play but not vote (eg. CCCU staff and students, or social members).

1.3 Prospective new members must complete the application form on paper or on-line and email to the Club Administrator, or hand in at the indoor centre office. The preferred payment process for the initial membership fees will be as instructed on the form.

1.4 Fees are paid annually by 1<sup>st</sup> April each year. Membership fees for different categories of membership are given on the joining form/renewal notice. New members who join during the year pay an appropriately lower fee. There is no additional fee for booking outdoor courts. Those who fail to renew their membership will be denied access to the tennis courts.

1.5 Membership fees include registration to play in the Indoor Tennis Centre (booking fees apply for these courts).

1.6 All tennis club members must be members of Polo Farm Sports Club and a portion of the membership fee is paid to PFSC for this purpose.

1.7 The Board, or its delegated committee, may agree temporary membership for up to four months but only if special circumstances apply. This does not generally apply to students.

1.8 The Club commits to timely and regular communication with members. In almost all instances communication is by email. Those without email must make sharing arrangements with another member to forward information.

1.9 Honorary Life Membership may be given by the Board to members who have given outstanding service to The Club over a long period of time. Honorary members have the same voting status as other paid up senior members. The Board may also reward service by appointing club Vice Presidents. Vice Presidents will not be entitled to vote unless they are also club members.

## 2.0 Non-voting Adult Memberships

2.1 Social Members are those who pay a reduced Membership fee of no more than 10% of the full Membership fee. Social Members may use the Club's premises for social purposes, but they are not entitled to use the premises or the Club's equipment to participate in the Game.

2.2 CCCU Members will be fully entitled to use the Club's premises but, as a result of their reduced Membership fee, will not be entitled to vote.

## 3.0 Junior Membership

3.1 Junior Members will be fully entitled to use the Club's premises but, as a result of their reduced Membership fee, will not be entitled to vote. Junior play is managed and junior memberships are administered by the Canterbury Tennis Academy. Canterbury Tennis Academy follows

LTA guidelines in developing tennis skills. The club takes seriously ensuring the safety and welfare of children, especially the younger children, for whom the Academy recommends playing time limits according to age.

3.2 Parents who are members are encouraged to support their children with family play. Coaches may give parents some guidance about how best to help their children but parents must not attempt to coach them. Members should have no more than four balls in play to avoid disruption on adjoining courts. Details about parents and the rules for using outdoor courts can be found in the Club Policy for Parents of Junior Players.

3.3 Junior Membership runs from 1 September every year and new members must complete the application form. Payment instructions can be found on the website or by application to the indoor centre office. Pro rata payments are available to new U18 and U11 members joining part way through the year from January. There is no pro rata available for U8 members.

3.4 Junior members of the appropriate standard are encouraged and welcome to join the seniors in social and competitive play.

#### 4.0 Joining Process

4.1 The Club shall admit to Membership an individual or organisation which:

- applies to the Club using the application process approved by the directors (this application process is to be open and non-discriminatory); and
- is approved by the Board of Directors or any committee to which they have delegated authority.
- An email shall be sent to each successful applicant confirming their Membership of the Club and the details of each successful applicant shall be entered into the Register of Members. The Register of Members will be GDPR compliant (see Privacy Policy).
- The board or any committee to which they have delegated authority may refuse Membership only for good cause such as conduct or character likely to bring the club or the game into disrepute. Appeal against refusal may be made to the Board of Directors.

- The board may from time to time fix the levels of entrance fees and annual subscriptions to be paid by the different categories of members provided that the board shall maintain an open membership and ensure that the fees and subscriptions are non-discriminatory, fair and set at a level that will not pose a significant obstacle to people participating. In particular the board will have regard to the CASC Regulations relating to the costs of participation and the maximum allowable cost of participation.

4.2 At any one time, the Membership will not consist of more than 50% of Members that are not actively participating in the Game.

## 5.0 Conditions of Membership

All members, and their guests, must abide to the Club's published Code of Conduct and club policies (see website [www.canterburytennisclub.co.uk](http://www.canterburytennisclub.co.uk) or the Club Manual located in the tennis pavilion).

## 6.0 Cessation of Membership

6.1 There are no refunds if members leave during the year unless there are exceptional circumstances. Such requests are referred to the Treasurer.

## 6.2 Resignation of Member

A Member may withdraw from Membership of the Club on 30 days' clear notice to the Club. Membership shall not be transferable in any event and shall cease immediately on death or dissolution.

## 6.3 Expulsion of Member

6.3.1 Following completion of the club's disciplinary procedure the Board of Directors (or any such committee to which they delegate) may terminate the Membership of any Member without their consent by giving the Member written notice if, in the reasonable opinion of the Board of Directors (or any such committee to which they delegate), the Member:

- is guilty of conduct which has or is likely to have a serious adverse effect on the Club or bring the Club or any or all of the Members and Board of Directors into disrepute; or

- breaks club, LTA, Kent Tennis or Polo Farm rules or whose behaviour does, in the opinion of the Committee, render them unfit for membership as set out in the Club's Code of Conduct;

- has acted or has threatened to act in a manner which is contrary to the interests of the Club as a whole; or

6.3.2 Following such termination, the Member shall be removed from the register of Members.

6.3.3 The notice to the Member must give the Member the opportunity to be heard in writing or in person as to why their Membership should not be terminated. There is a Complaints club policy that also sets out disciplinary processes. The Board of Directors (or any such committee to which they delegate) must consider any representations made by the Member and inform the Member of their decision following such consideration. There shall be no right to appeal from a decision of the Board of Directors to terminate the Membership of a Member.

6.3.4 A Member whose Membership is terminated under this Rule shall not be entitled to a refund of any subscription or Membership fee and shall remain liable to pay to the Club any subscription or other sum owed by them.

7.0 Imposition of Conditions limiting a member's normal rights to play tennis

7.1 The Committee may impose appropriate conditions if the member breaks Club, LTA, Kent Tennis or Polo Farm rules or whose behaviour contravenes the Club's Code of Conduct.

7.2 Before such actions, reasons will be clearly communicated in writing to the member. The member may appeal in writing to the Board of Directors.

8.0 Members' guests

8.1 Members are responsible for their guests' fees and their guests' behaviour. Guests must adhere to the Club's Code of Conduct. Members must pay a fee for each guest (see website for details). The fee may be varied by the Board or one of its committees (see website for current prices).

8.2 Members may invite not more than two guests to play on the outdoor courts at any one time. There is a limit on how often the same guest may play. This is currently four times a year.

8.3 As there are booking fees for indoor courts guest fees do not apply. However there must be at least one registered Indoor Centre user or Club member on court.

