

HILDENBOROUGH TENNIS CLUB

Constitution/Rules

- 1a. The name of the club, which owns the tennis facilities on the recreation ground in Riding Lane Hildenborough on land formally leased from the Hildenborough Parish Council, shall be the called Hildenborough Tennis Club (“The Club”). The lease was for an initial period of 25 years commencing on the 1st April 1991 and was subsequently renewed on 16th November 2011 for a further 25 years.
- 1b. The purposes of the Club are to promote the amateur sport of tennis in Hildenborough and encourage community participation in the sport.
- 1c. Membership is open to all without discrimination provided they abide by the rules.
- 1d. The Club is non-profit making. All surplus income or profits are reinvested in the Club. No surpluses will be distributed to members or other third parties.
2. The honorary principal officers of the Club (“the Officers”) shall be a Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer who shall be ex-officio members of the management committee (“the Committee”).
3. The Committee shall comprise the Officers plus up to four other members, two of whom shall normally be the Membership and Match Secretaries. The Committee shall meet as circumstances require and five members shall constitute a quorum. Decisions shall be reached on the basis of a simple majority vote with the Chairman only voting should the need arise for a casting vote. The Committee may co-opt additional members for special reasons, but such members shall not have voting rights.
4. The Officers and other Committee members shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting (“AGM”). Candidates must be proposed and seconded by members of the Club and confirm their willingness to serve; any written nominations from members not able to attend the AGM, must be with the Secretary three weeks before the meeting.
5. The Officers and other Committee members of the club would normally serve for a term of 2 years (not binding) after which they can stand down or offer a further term which will be voted for at the appropriate AGM.
6. The AGM shall be held each year during the month of October or November. The Secretary shall send advice of the meeting, together with a copy of the agenda, to every member at least 14 days beforehand. The business of the AGM shall be: the confirmation of the minutes of the previous AGM and any subsequent extraordinary general meetings; the consideration of the Committee’s report and the Treasurer’s accounts for the most recent year; the appointment of an Independent Reviewer of the accounts; setting fees and any other items of which due notice has been given in the agenda. Any other business may be accepted at the discretion of the Chairman. At any AGM, ten adult members shall constitute a quorum; every member shall be entitled to be present and, with the Chairman’s permission, speak on any issue. However only adult members will be entitled to vote on any motion through a show of hands, with decisions being taken on the basis of a simple majority except for any resolution to dissolve the Club or for any changes to these rules – see paras. 15 and 23.
The Chairman shall only vote if the casting vote is required.
7. The Committee shall call an Extraordinary General Meeting at their discretion or within one month of receipt by the Secretary of a written petition signed by twenty adult members stating the proposed business to be transacted. Apart from the business the rules applying to an AGM shall apply.

8. The financial year shall commence on the 1st September and end on the 31st August. The banking arrangements shall be at the discretion of the Committee, who will authorise any changes to the signatories and registered users of the bank account as and when necessary.
9. The classes of membership shall be:
 - Single Adult
 - Family (2 adults, & children under 18 on the 1st April)
 - Legacy Senior member on the 1st April 2012
 - Legacy Husband and Wife Senior Club members at 1st April 2012
 - Junior (under 12 on 1st April)
 - Junior (12 and over on 1st April) and Students in FT education
 - VisitorThe conditions for membership will be at the discretion of the Committee.
10. The annual subscriptions and joining fees shall be reviewed and agreed at each AGM and shall be due for payment on the 1st April each year. Fees shall be set at a level that does not pose a significant obstacle to membership. Membership shall lapse if a member's subscription is not paid by the 30th June each year, unless the Committee finds special reasons for relaxing this rule in any individual case.
11. Visitors may be introduced by any member who shall be responsible for collecting the appropriate visitor's fee. No visitor may play more than 4 times in any subscription year except with special permission of the Committee.
12. Appropriate tennis clothing and footwear must be worn when using the courts. Other types of footwear that might damage the court surfaces are banned.
13. The arrangements for the acceptance of new members and the utilisation of the courts shall be at the discretion of the Committee subject to any direction from a General Meeting.
14. The Committee may establish a sub-committee for any special purpose with clear written terms of reference.
15. The Club shall be dissolved on the passing of an appropriate resolution at a General Meeting after due notice by a majority of two thirds of those present and entitled to vote. Such a meeting shall establish a sub-committee with clear terms of reference to wind up the affairs of the Club. **Upon dissolution any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another community body or another CASC registered charity.**
16. All members must abide by these rules.
17. Members or visitors leaving unattended rackets, clothing or other property at the Club do so at their own risk and the Club shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury from this or any other cause. Unattended clothing or other property will be disposed of by the Committee if not collected within 4 weeks.
18. Vehicles should be left in the recreation ground car park and NOT in the surrounding roads.
19. The Club and all members shall accept and shall be bound by the Rules and the Disciplinary Code ("the LTA Rules") of the Lawn Tennis Association Ltd ("the LTA") and the General Rules and Constitution ("the County Rules") of the Kent County Lawn Tennis Association ("the County") in force from time to time including amendments made hereafter, insofar as the same are relevant to the activities of the Club.
20. All unlicensed and unregistered coaches and all visitors to the Club for the purpose of playing tennis will so far as reasonably practicable be required to accept and be bound by the LTA Rules and County Rules.
21. All members shall accept, and all members mentioned in (20) above shall so far as reasonably practicable be required to accept, that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 shall apply to the agreement between themselves and the Club, and that the LTA and the County may enforce any breach thereof, but only insofar as it relates to a breach of the LTA Rules or the County Rules.

22. The Committee may refuse membership or expel from membership only for good and sufficient cause, such conduct or character likely to bring the Club or sport into disrepute. Appeal against such a decision may be made to the Club's members and decided by a majority vote.
23. These rules shall not be amended except at a General Meeting after due notice and then only by a majority of two thirds of those present and entitled to vote.

November 2020