



CHESHAM 1879 LAWN TENNIS AND SQUASH RACKETS CLUB CONSTITUTION

Name

- a) The Club, established in 1879 is called Chesham 1879 Lawn Tennis and Squash Rackets Club, often shortened to Chesham 1879 LT & SC.

Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the Club shall be to provide facilities for the support and playing of Tennis, Padel Tennis, Squash, Racketball and a Clubhouse for the Members, from Chesham and the surrounding area, and their guests, to engage in sporting, social and fund-raising activities for the benefit of the Club.
- 2.2 The Club shall be affiliated to the County (Bucks) Lawn Tennis Association (CLTA) and, through the CLTA, to the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) and to the County Squash Rackets Association (CSRA) and England Squash and Racketball (ESR). The Club shall, where possible, comply with and uphold the Rules and regulations of the CLTA as amended from time to time and the LTA Rules and LTA Disciplinary Code.

General

- 3 The Club is a non-profit making Members Club with Trustees. All profit and surpluses arising from normal operations of the Club will be used to maintain or improve the Club's facilities, players, or playing and spectator experience. No assets or surplus funds will be distributed to any Members or third parties or to any other organisation which is not itself constituted as non-profit making or a charity.

Membership

The Club shall consist of the following types of Membership

For Tennis or Squash/Racketball:-

- Family (as defined by the Club Committee)
- Full (Adult , Senior Citizen, Over 18/Under 29, Student (living away from home during term time)
- Off Peak (Adult, Senior Citizen)
- Junior (U18 in full time education)
- 3 month introductory Membership
- Corporate
- Honorary

For Tennis AND Squash/Racketball

- Full (Adult & Senior Citizen)
- Off Peak (Adult, Senior Citizen)

Other types

Social – Adults only, non-playing and non-voting

The Club Committee may vary membership types from time to time, as they see fit.

- 4.1 Persons of either sex are eligible for adult membership (provided they are at least 18 years of age) with voting rights and junior membership (under 18 years of age) with no voting rights. Age is determined at the beginning of the membership year. A parent or guardian must sign applications for junior memberships.
- 4.2 Membership of the Club is open to any person(s) completing a membership application form and paying the relevant subscription fee as determined by the Club Committee from time to time. The Club Committee shall ensure that fees set by them do not preclude open membership to the Club.
- 4.3 No person shall be denied membership of the Club on the grounds of race, ethnic origin, creed, colour, age, disability, sex, occupation, sexual orientation, religion, political or other beliefs.
- 4.4 A Member may introduce a visitor who may not play more than three times in any year at a charge specified by the relevant Committee. The name of the guest must be registered and the fee paid by the Member.
- 4.5 All Members of the Club shall be deemed to have accepted and to be bound by the Club's Constitution for the time being in force. The latest versions of the Club's Constitution will be posted on the Club's website and a hard copy will be available in the Clubhouse.
- 4.6 All Members of the Club shall indemnify the Club Committee and any Officer or other Member of the Club and the Trustees, whether acting on the authority of the Club Committee or under powers delegated by it, against any loss or liability whatsoever or howsoever caused provided that the Members shall in no circumstances indemnify the Club Committee or any Officer or Member of the Club or Trustee against any loss or liability arising from his/her or their wilful misconduct or from activities not reasonably in the interests of the Club, or to the furtherance of its Objectives.
- 4.7 Subject to the remaining provisions of this rule, the Club Committee shall have power to refuse membership or expel a Member only for good and sufficient cause, such as conduct or character likely to bring the Club or the Game into disrepute.
 - 4.7.1 A Member shall not be expelled unless they are given [14] days' written notice of the meeting of the Club Committee at which their expulsion shall be considered and written details of the complaint made against them.
 - 4.7.2 The Member shall be given an opportunity to appear before the Club Committee to answer complaints made against them. The member must not be expelled unless at least [two-thirds] of the Club Committee then present vote in favour of their expulsion.
 - 4.7.3 The Club Committee may exclude the Member from the Club's premises until the meeting considering his expulsion has been held. For the avoidance of doubt, the member shall be entitled to attend that meeting for the purpose of making their representations.

- 4.7.4 The Member may appeal against the Club Committee's decision by notifying the Club Committee who shall put the matter to the Club's members in general meeting and decided by a majority vote of members present and voting at such meeting.

Subscriptions

- 5.1 The subscription year shall be from 1 April to 31 March.
- 5.2 Subscriptions are due and payable thirty days before the due date to which they apply, or in the case of a person joining after the beginning of the season, on joining. A discount as agreed by the Club Committee may be granted for prompt payment.
- 5.3 Any Member whose subscriptions are unpaid on 1 April shall have deemed to have resigned and shall no longer be entitled to the privileges of the Club.
- 5.4 All Members (Except for Honorary Members) shall pay an annual Club subscription unless waived by the Club Committee.
- 5.5 Any Member ceasing to belong to the Club shall not be entitled to a refund of any part of his/her subscription otherwise than at the discretion of the Club Committee.

Management

- 6.1 The Club shall be managed by a Club Committee consisting of:

- President
- Club Chairman
- Club Treasurer
- Tennis Section Chairman
- Squash/Racketball Section Chairman
- Club /Membership Administrator
- Amenities Officer
- Other Members elected annually at the Annual General meeting.

Members of the Club Committee, Tennis and Squash/Racketball Committees are elected/re-elected at the Annual General Meeting each year.

- 6.2 The Members of the Club Committee have the overall responsibility to manage the Club, including financial, and to provide forward plans and budgets as required. Any decision involving a planned major capital expenditure, the borrowing of money, the sale or transfer of any of the Club's assets, or any similar undertaking any of which shall exceed one-quarter of the total annual Membership subscriptions for the year then current shall be referred to a General Meeting after due notice specifying the proposition and any such decision may only be made and implemented after the passing of a resolution to that effect at such meeting by two-thirds of the Vote. Additionally any such decision referred to in this paragraph may only be implemented subject to the written approval of all guarantors who may be replaced by willing guarantors, subject to the consent of the loans authorities concerned, to achieve such approval.

- 6.3 The Club Committee shall act in accordance with the Club Rules as well as the rules of the relevant CLTA, LTA, CSRA and ESR.
- 6.4 The Club Committee shall have power to co-opt Members to fill any vacancy in the Officers of the Club: each Committee shall have like power to fill any vacancy on its Committee. The term of office shall expire at the next Club Annual General Meeting.
- 6.5 The Tennis and Squash/Racketball Committees shall consist of a Chairman and not fewer than four additional Members, as may be decided upon by each Playing Section.

Subject to the general management of the Club Committee, the Tennis and Squash/Racketball Committees are responsible for supervising and directing their respective games within the Club.

The Tennis Committee has the duty to manage the actual playing of tennis at the Club including (but not exclusively) match play, competitions, general social play and tennis coaching.

The Squash/Racketball Committee has the duty to manage the actual playing of squash/racketball at the Club including (but not exclusively) match play, competitions, general social play and squash/racketball coaching.

- 6.6 The number of voting Members specified in each case shall be considered to form a quorum:-

- Club Committee meetings 5
- Tennis and squash meetings 4
- Tennis and Squash AGM 15
- Club General Meetings 30 or one fifth of the total number of voting members (whichever be less)

Attendance at such meetings shall be in person or at the discretion of the appropriate committee by suitable electronic on-line media platforms. For the avoidance of doubt this shall include any Club General Meeting

If a quorum is not available at the start of the meeting that meeting cannot take place and should be postponed to another date. Any postponement of the Club AGM must be for 14 days. The quorum numbers must be met at the time of the vote on a particular matter.

- 6.7 The Club Committee shall meet at least four times a year and additionally as circumstances require. All decisions shall be taken on a simple majority vote and the Chairman shall have only a casting vote. In the absence of the elected Chairman at any Committee or General Meeting, and where a quorum is reached, that meeting can elect a temporary Chairman who shall have the casting vote.
- 6.8 The Club Committee has the power to employ any person into a role within the Club and to establish the terms and conditions of service of such employees.
- 6.9 Only the Club Committee has the power to contract with any person/company to provide services to the Club and its Members and to establish the terms and conditions of service of such persons.
- 6.10 The Club Committee has the power to make rules, regulations, general bye-laws and set up standing orders concerning the operation of the Club and shall maintain policies and

procedures in relation to the operation of the Club for example, health and safety, child protection, rules for Club Competitions etc.

- 6.11 The Club Committee shall have the power to determine any matter not provided for in the Constitution.

Trustees

- 7.1 The Club Committee shall appoint up to four persons to act as Trustees, to hold office until death or resignation unless removed from office by a resolution of the Club Committee or by a resolution duly passed at a General Meeting. The Club President from time to time is nominated as the person to appoint new Trustees within the meaning of Section 36 of the Trustee Act 1925. A new Trustee or new Trustees shall be nominated by resolution of the Club Committee and the Club President shall by deed duly appoint the person or persons so nominated as the new Trustee or Trustees of the Club and the provisions of the Trustee Act 1925 shall apply to any such appointment. Any statement of fact in any such deed of appointment shall in favour of a person dealing with the Club or the Committee in good faith be conclusive evidence of the fact so stated. The Trustees shall produce or give up all books, documents property and money of (or relating to the property of) the Club in their possession and render a full and complete account of their dealings with the Club's property vested in them whensoever's required by a resolution of the Club Committee.
- 7.2 The Trustees (and Officers of the Club and Committee Members) shall be indemnified out of the Club's property and by the Members from and against all liability, costs, expenses and payments properly incurred by them in the management of the trusts of the property and investments of the Club or in relation to any legal proceeding or which otherwise directly or indirectly relate to the performance of the functions of a Trustee (or Officer or Committee Member) of the Club.

General Meetings

- 8.1 The Annual General Meeting of the Tennis Section and the Squash/Racketball Section shall be held at such time as the Club Committee shall decide each year to coincide with the Club Annual General Meeting to transact the following business:-
- a) To receive the Section Chairman's report of the activities during the previous year.
 - b) To elect the Officers (including Chairman) and other Members of the Committees.
 - c) To deal with any other matters which the Committees desires to bring before the membership.

Fourteen days' notice shall be given to all relevant voting Members and fifteen such Members shall constitute a quorum.

- 8.2 The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held at such time as the Club Committee shall decide each year to coincide with the Tennis and Squash/Racketball Annual General Meeting to transact the following business:
- a) To receive the Chairman's report of the activities of the Club during the previous year
 - b) To receive and consider the accounts of the Club for the previous year.
 - c) To consider and, if approved, sanction any duly made alterations to the Club Constitution.
 - d) To appoint the Officers of the Club.
 - e) To appoint an auditor for the ensuing year.

- f) To deal with any motions, details of which shall have been given in the notice convening the Meeting.
- g) To receive suggestions from Members for consideration by the Club Committee and the Section Committees.

Notice of any motion to be discussed at a General Meeting shall be given to the Club Chairman in writing, seconded by one other voting Member, at least 10 days before the Meeting. The Club Chairman shall have absolute discretion to accept or reject motions of which proper notice has not been given.

- 8.3 No period greater than fifteen months shall elapse between one Annual General Meeting and the next.
- 8.4 All voting Members will be notified of any General Meeting by email and by poster in the Clubhouse not less than 14 days before the meeting. This will include a copy of the Agenda. The accidental failure to give notice to any person entitled to notice, or the accidental omission of any such details in any notice, shall not invalidate the proceedings at the Meeting.
- 8.5 At a General Meeting a Member being both a Tennis and Squash/Racketball Member shall only be entitled to one vote and a Chairman of such meeting shall have only a casting vote.
- 8.6 Nominations for the post of any Officer or Committee Member to be elected at the Annual General Meeting shall be given to the Club Chairman prior to the Meeting. Any candidates not attending the meeting shall apply in writing or by email and be endorsed by a voting Member and shall be received by the Club Chairman before the start of the Meeting. A candidate may be nominated for more than one Committee post. The retiring Officers and other Committee Members shall be eligible for re-election except that the Club Chairman shall not hold that particular post for more than three consecutive years unless that person's re-election is agreed by a majority comprising two-thirds or more of the Members present and entitled to vote at the relevant General Meeting of the Club. If the current Chairman seeks to hold post for more than 3 years, the General Meeting shall first vote on that resolution. If the current Chairman fails to command a majority of two-thirds or more, the General Meeting shall then vote on other candidates. A candidate for the post of Officer or Committee Member shall be a Member of the Club (other than a temporary Member) and shall be 18 years or over and shall be a Voting Member.
- 8.7 An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by a resolution of the Club Committee or shall be called within two months of receipt by the Club Chairman of a requisition in writing signed by not less than thirty voting Members specifying the object of the Meeting.

No matters shall be considered at an Extraordinary Meeting other than those included in the notice convening the Meeting.

Purchase and supply of liquor

- 9.1 The sale of intoxicating liquor on Club premises shall be strictly in accordance with current licensing laws, and shall be confined to the licensing permitted hours.
- 9.2 Liquor will be sold only to:
 - a) A Member of the Club.
 - b) A bona fide guest of such Member.

c) Persons visiting the Club for a sporting fixture.

9.3 No intoxicating liquor shall be supplied knowingly to any person under the age of 18 years. No intoxicating liquor shall be supplied for consumption off the premises except to a Member in person.

9.4 No Member at any time shall receive at the expense of the Club (or any Member) any commission, percentage or similar payment on or reference to purchases of intoxicating liquor by the Club. No Member shall directly or indirectly derive any pecuniary benefit from the supply of intoxicating liquor by or on behalf of the Club to Members or guests apart from any benefit accruing to the Club as a whole and apart also from any benefit which a person derives indirectly by reason of the supply rise or contributing to a general gain from the carrying on of the Club.

Temporary Members

10. Members may introduce playing visitors. Such visitors will become Temporary Members and shall be subject to the Club's Constitution and Playing Rules of the Club. The names of the Temporary Members must be recorded in the appropriate book and they must pay the appropriate visitors fee.

Club hours and Access to the Clubhouse

11. No tennis, squash or racketball shall be played before 8.00am nor after 11.00pm unless otherwise agreed by the Club Committee. The Club premises shall be vacated by all Members and visitors not later than midnight except for authorised personnel. Access to the main Club building shall be provided for all Members and to such persons as the Club Committee shall think necessary, on payment or free, to be determined by the Club Committee.

Data Protection

12. Data provided on the Membership application form is held on the Club's database of Members. The information is held purely for the administration of the Club and under no circumstances will be supplied to third parties for external marketing purposes. The law allows Club Members to view and correct their data on the Club's systems. The Club will use email addresses provided to distribute information concerning Club events.

Club Grounds and Courts

13. Any proposition to alter the number of:-
a) Tennis courts.
b) Squash/racketball courts.
c) The floodlighting of tennis courts.
d) The confines of the Club grounds.

Shall come before a General Meeting after due notice specifying the proposition to that effect and may only be implemented on the passing of a resolution to that effect at such meeting by two-thirds of the Vote.

Injury, Loss or Damage

14. Members or Visitors leaving vehicles, 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 resulting from this or other causes

Finance

- 15.1 All monies payable to the Club shall be received by the person authorised by the Club Committee to receive such moneys and shall be deposited in a bank account in the name of the Club. No sum shall be drawn from that account except by cheque or equivalent electronic transactions signed by two out of the four signatories who shall be the The President and three other nominated members of the Club Committee. Any moneys not required for immediate use may be invested as the Club Committee in its discretion thinks fit.
- 15.2 The financial transactions of the Club shall be recorded in such a manner as the Club Committee thinks fit by the Club Treasurer.
- 15.3 Full accounts of the financial affairs of the Club shall be prepared each year. These accounts shall be duly audited by the auditors.

Alterations

16. The Constitution may be altered only by a majority comprising two-thirds or more of the Members present and entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the Club of which notice has been duly given specifying the proposed alteration.

Dissolution

17. A resolution to dissolve the Club shall be proposed only at a General Meeting and shall be passed only if carried by a majority of at least ninety percent of the Vote. Such a Meeting shall appoint a Committee to wind up the affairs of the Club. Upon dissolution of the Club any remaining assets shall be given or transferred to another registered Community Associated Sports Club, a registered charity or the respective sports governing body for use by them in related community sports, subject to any grants loans or other financial considerations previously made to the Club being first repaid if required and in accordance with any agreement previously made by Officials of the Club.

Dated: 22nd November 2017

Revised: 15th March 2023 (Amendments approved at AGM on 26th March 2023.)

