



Sway Lawn Tennis Club

Member's Handbook

Welcome to Sway Tennis Club!

Sway Tennis Club is a village club affiliated to the LTA with about one hundred and fifty members. We offer club play sessions and professional LTA coaching for adults and children.

The aim of this short handbook is to explain how the Club operates and the different sessions and activities that take place. Do join in!

We hope you enjoy being part of the Club.

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MEMBERSHIP AND CLUB STRUCTURE

If you would like to join the Club, please print a membership application from the [website](#) and send the completed form to the Membership Secretary, Rosemary Davies.

Current membership rates are shown on the website and can be paid by cheque or bank transfer. Subscriptions are paid annually for the year beginning 1 April. A 50% reduction is applied after September 30th.

The Club is run by a management committee which is elected annually at the AGM in March. The land is owned by the Parish Council and leased to the Club. The Parish Council oversees the other sports clubs on site. However, we own and maintain the courts, nets, floodlighting etc.

Clubhouse

The Clubhouse is shared with the Football Club. It has changing rooms with showers, a kitchen and a communal room. The coach currently has use of one changing room and offers racquet restringing, racquets and other accessories for sale and Club branded clothing. A fob is required to access the Clubhouse (see “Court Keys and Fobs” below).

AGM

The Club operates as an unincorporated association. The Club officers are elected, and committee meetings are held intermittently through the year.

Safeguarding

In accordance with LTA regulations, the club’s safeguarding policy is available [here](#).

PLAYING TENNIS

Booking Courts

Members can now book courts online only via the club website [here](#). Members may book one week in advance; non-members can only book on the day.

Which Courts to Use

The current carpet court surface was replaced at the beginning of September 2019. The committee would be incredibly grateful if Court 3 (the furthest away from the gate) could be used when possible as this has less wear than the others.

Floodlights

The 3 carpet courts have floodlights. They are operated by tokens, which are available from the coach. The charge is £2 per 30 minutes.

As you enter the courts there are three grey metal boxes at head height on your right. For lighting court 1, insert one or more tokens into the meter in box 1. After about 30 minutes a warning light halfway up the back-floodlight pole will come on and you

must insert another token if you want to play on. If the floodlights go out, you need to wait 10 minutes before they will light up again.

Court Keys and Fobs

The courts are kept padlocked, but members can buy a key for £6 from the membership secretary, Rosemary Davies - email: d.rosemary@gmail.com. For an additional £20, Rosemary can supply you with a FOB to enter the Clubhouse. This is only available if you are aged 18 or over. £15 is refundable if you return the FOB. If you are last to leave the courts, please ensure that the gate is padlocked.

Dress Code and Other Rules

- Trainers or tennis shoes should be worn on court at all times.
- Men are requested to wear shirts with sleeves when on court.
- Smoking of all kinds is forbidden on the courts.
- Drinking glasses must not be taken on court.

ORGANISED SESSIONS

Club Play Sessions

Members are very welcome to join the following sessions which run throughout the year and for which there is no additional charge. Club sessions are a good way to meet members. All abilities are welcome, and everyone plays by swapping in and out of pairs.

Sunday morning, 10.00 - 12.00

Wednesday morning, 9.00 - 11.00

Tuesday evening, 7.00 - 9.00, floodlit during winter

Coaching

Two qualified coaches currently operate at the Club. **Andy Mayo** is an LTA Accredited Level 3 Performance Coach (andy.mayo@swaytennis.com or 07920 498021) and has a contract with the Club. **Will Luckwell** is an LTA Accredited Level 2 coach (will_luck@outlook.com). The current coaching programme is available [here](#).

Wednesday Evening Coaching and Club Supper

Doubles coaching with Craig McEwan or Andy Mayo is available 6-7pm every Wednesday evening for £5 per person. This is followed by an optional social tennis session until 8.30pm when the Club Supper takes place until 9.30pm (see below under "Social" for more details).

COMPETITIONS

Tournaments

The Club holds an annual tournament played over the summer. Players sign up in late April/May and Finals' Day is usually a Saturday in early September. Please note that under tournament rules, you must be available to play on Finals' Day if you sign up. The annual tournament includes a Plate Competition too.....(detail needed).

Occasional, organised fun tournaments are also held on New Year's Day and some Sunday mornings.

As part of the coaching programme regular junior and adult tournaments take place throughout the year. Please see [here](#) for more details.

<https://swaytennis.com/coaching/competitions/>

Teams

The Club enters Men's, Women's' and Mixed Doubles' teams in the Dorset Leagues (Summer and Winter). The teams are managed by team captains and coordinated by Caroline St John. The teams are always keen to have new players. (caroline.stjohn@tiscali.co.uk).

SOCIAL

Wednesday Club Supper

A Club Supper is held every Wednesday from 8.30 – 9.30pm. The charge for the Club Supper is £4 plus £1 per glass of wine. Members take it in turns to provide a main course or dessert. If you would like to go to a Club Supper please sign up on the list by the Tuesday of the appropriate week. This is another great way to meet people – all are welcome so do come along. Sign up at the notice board if you wish to have supper provided).

Quiz Night

A Quiz Night is held each year, usually in November at Sway Village Hall. Members receive details by email and sign up on the Club Notice Board.

LAWN TENNIS ASSOCIATION / BRITISH TENNIS

The Club encourages every member to become an LTA member linked to Sway Tennis Club. This boosts the Club's allocation of Wimbledon tickets. Information can be found [here](#). 'Lite' membership is free of charge.

WIMBLEDON DRAW

A benefit of being affiliated to the LTA is that the Club has an allocation of pairs of tickets for Wimbledon based on the number of Sway linked LTA Club members.

The timetable is broadly as follows: between September and November the ballot administrator encourages members who are not LTA members to sign up. Between November and February, members are invited by email to opt into the Club Wimbledon ticket draw. Between March and May, the ticket allocation is received. If you are successful, you receive an email with payment details from the LTA.