

Southport Argyle Lawn Tennis Club RULES (Revised 2010)

RULES

1. **Name** The name of the Club shall be the **SOUTHPORT ARGYLE LAWN TENNIS CLUB.**
2. **Management** — The general management of the Club shall be vested in a Committee consisting of:
 - a. President
 - b. Chairman
 - c. Hon. Secretary
 - d. Hon. Treasurer
 - e. Hon. Membership Secretary
 - f. Hon. Match Secretary
 - g. Club Captain
 - h. Teams' Captain
 - i. Four Annual Members elected by the members of the Club
 - j. Three member nominated by shareholders of the Argyle Tennis Club Limited

The office of Hon. Membership Secretary may be filled or left vacant as deemed advisable at each Annual General Meeting. The Chairman may not serve for more than four consecutive years and shall not then be eligible to serve again as Chairman until the expiry of a further twelve months. The President may serve for not more than five consecutive years and shall not then be eligible to serve again as President until the expiry of a further twelve months.

Each member of the Committee will sit on one or more of the following sub committees

- i. Social Committee
- ii. Tennis committee
- iii. House and bar committee
- iv. Grounds committee
- v. Finance committee
- vi. Promotional & marketing committee
- vii. Club Mark committee

The committee may at its discretion co-opt any members of the club onto these sub committees.

3. **Election of Committee**
 - a. The Committee and its officers shall be elected annually by ballot of the members at the Annual General Meeting. Members nominated must be proposed and seconded by Annual or Honorary Life Members at the Club who have first obtained the candidates consent. A nomination list shall be placed on the Notice Board at least 6 weeks before the Annual General Meeting and nominations shall be permitted up to 21 days before the meeting after which date no further nominations shall be accepted. The Hon. Secretary shall include a list of nominations so made with the Notice to the members convening the meeting, should occasion arise, the Committee shall have the power to fill any vacancies which may occur until the next Annual or Special General Meeting and appoint such sub-committees as it may deem necessary from time to time. Four members of the committee to form a quorum
 - b. Every member present at a General or Committee Meeting entitled to vote shall have one vote upon every motion and in the case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.
4. **Annual and Special General Meetings**

The Annual General Meeting shall be held early in the month of March, of which seven days clear notice must be given. A Special General Meeting may be called at any time at the discretion of the committee or

by a written requisition to the Hon. Secretary signed by not less than ten Annual Members, such meeting to be called within 14 days of the Committee's decision or the receipt of the requisition as the case may be. Seven clear days notice of the meeting to be notified to every member, the responsibility for and cost of such notification to be borne by those calling the meeting. Twelve Annual Members to form a quorum. Only Annual, Hon. Life and Committee Members shall be entitled to vote at General Meetings. Any Resolution in General Meeting shall be deemed to have been passed if it is carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of those members present and voting on it.

5. Honorary Secretary

- a. The Hon. Secretary shall keep minutes of all Committee and General Meetings and act under the direction of the Committee.

6. Honorary Treasurer

- a. The Hon. Treasurer shall be responsible for all accounts and shall present at the Annual General Meeting the Annual Balance Sheet, audited and signed.
- b. A Hon. Auditor for the ensuing year shall be elected at every Annual General Meeting.

7. Membership

- a. 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.
- b. The Club Year shall commence on the 1st April. There shall be the following categories of membership and the Committee shall have the power to agree to the transfer of any member from one category of membership to another:
 - i. Annual Members shall have full rights and shall be at least 18 years of age.
 - ii. Annual 14 - 18 Members - who at the discretion of the Committee may be granted full playing rights.
 - iii. Country Members - persons residing not less than 50 miles journey from the Monument, Southport, may be elected to Country Membership. If any person elected to Country Membership ceases to reside aforesaid, he or she shall become an Annual Member of the Club and shall pay such additional subscription as may be determined by the Committee in its absolute discretion.
 - iv. Junior Members - shall be under 18 years of age and the minimum age shall be 6 years. Junior Members may use the courts at any time when not required by Senior Members. Junior Members must withdraw from any of the courts when requested to do so by a Senior Member who wishes to play. The Committee shall have the power to allow full playing rights to one or more Junior Members whom the Committee considers show promise of exceptional playing ability.
 - v. Social Members
 - vi. Hon. Life Members

Applications for membership from persons acknowledged by the Committee as not falling within the categories listed above shall be considered on their merits by the Committee and where the applications succeed an appropriate subscription determined

8. Election of Members — Admission of Members shall be by election of the Committee. A candidate for election will be duly elected to membership by simple majority. Each candidate may be proposed and seconded by an Annual Member over the age of 18 years or Hon. Life Member who themselves are members of at least 2 years standing. The proposer shall forward the name of the candidate to the Hon. Membership Secretary together with the name of his or her nominators which shall be posted in the Club Pavilion for at least seven days. Applications for Membership must be accompanied by the appropriate subscription and entrance fee which will be returned to the Applicant in the event of the application not being accepted.

9. Subscriptions - To be agreed at each Annual General Meeting:

Annual Member
Annual Member 14 - 18 years
Junior Member
Country Member
Social Member
Entrance Fee

- a. Annual, Country, Junior and Social Members Subscriptions shall be due on April 1st, In the event of any member failing to pay his or her subscription on or before June 1st, such member having meantime received one reminder, he or she shall cease to be a member of the Club. Members abroad for the whole of the playing season are not liable for payment of the subscription, always providing due notice (in writing) has been given to the Hon. Membership Secretary.
 - b. Families of four or more may be given special terms at the discretion of the Committee.
10. Resignations — any member wishing to resign must forward notice in writing to the Hon. Membership Secretary before the 1st April.
11. Expulsion of Members — If there shall be brought to the notice of the Hon. Secretary:
 - a. Any action of the part of a member which in the opinion of the Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary discloses a case of conduct, either inside or outside the Club Ground, which is improper and likely to injure the reputation and social standing of the Club or to be an annoyance to other members of the Club: or
 - b. Any intentional or flagrant breach of the rules of the Club by a member.

Then and in either of such cases the Secretary shall call a Special Meeting of the Committee of which seven, clear days notice at least, in writing, shall be given to each member of the Committee stating the nature of the business to be transacted thereat and shall forward to the alleged offending member a notice in writing stating the grounds of complaint and giving such alleged offending member an opportunity of being heard. The Committee shall have power at such Meeting or any adjournment thereof by resolution passed by not less than four fifths of those present and voting, either to request the alleged offending member to resign from the Club or in the alternative to expel such member there from upon such terms as they think proper.
12. Visitors - Visitors may be introduced by a member of the Club at rates determined annually. The introducing Member shall enter the date, name and address of the Visitor in the Visitors book and pay the Visitors fee before taking the Visitor onto the courts. No member may introduce as a visitor any person who has failed to obtain election on candidature for membership, providing there was a vacancy in the membership list at the time of candidature. Visitors shall not be allowed on more than three times annually. Members of visiting teams and competitors in any tournament playing on the Clubs grounds and their officials shall be subject to the Rules and Bye-Laws of the Club and for the duration of the match or tournament.
13. Coaching - Professional coaching, i.e. coaching for payment or gain is strictly prohibited without prior permission of the Committee.
14. Conditions of Play - No members shall be allowed within the enclosure of the playing courts unless actually engaged in play with the exception of such persons as may be acting in any official capacity. On completion of a set, the court must be vacated for three minutes, if at the completion of that time other members are waiting to play the same players may not occupy the court for the next set. A set of singles must not be started when other members are waiting to play. When members are waiting to play, one set shall consist of not more than 11 advantage games.
15. Tennis balls - Players to provide their own tennis balls.

16. Dress - Only appropriate tennis wear should be worn on court. This may be coloured. Tennis shoes should be appropriate for the playing surface and in particular must not have spikes or soles likely to mark or damage the playing surface
17. Alteration to the Rules --. These Rules may be added to, repealed or amended by a Resolution at any General Meeting provided that no Resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it is carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the members present and voting on it.
 - a. The Committee shall be empowered to make such bye-laws and Regulations from time to time as they may deem advisable in the interests of the Club and all such shall be considered binding on every member until revoked by the Committee or General Meeting.
18. Dogs - No dogs will be allowed on the grounds except on a lead.
19. New Members - Upon the occasion of the first visit of a new member to the Club and provided he or she is ready for play no players shall be allowed to engage in play until such new member has been included in a set.
20. Laws of the Game - The Game shall be played under the Rules, Laws and Code of Conduct of the L.T.A.
21. Pursuant to the Licensing Act 2003, the permitted hours for the sale and supply of intoxicating liquor in the Club are hereby fixed by the Committee as follows:

Monday to Saturday - 11.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.

Sunday and Good Friday - 12 noon to 10.30 p.m.

New Years Eve (where not on a Sunday) - 11.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.

New Year Eve (on a Sunday) - 12 noon to 10.30 p.m.

New Years Eve (from the end of permitted hours to the start of permitted hours on the following day) or 12 midnight whichever applies.

Christmas Day - 12 noon to 3.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. to 10.30 p.m.

At the discretion of the Committee these hours may be extended on such occasions as may be sanctioned by the authorities.

On the occasion of visits by members of other tennis clubs, visiting teams and their guests, visits by persons playing in tournaments, officials of such tournaments and their guests and visits by persons invited to the Club for any social or sporting function and their guests, such persons may be admitted to the Club premises and this Rule shall authorise the supply to them for the duration of their visit only of intoxicating liquor by or on behalf of the Club for consumption on the premises.

Any person under eighteen years of age may not be supplied with or consume intoxicating liquor on the Club premises.

The Club House shall be open to members and visitors daily between such hours as the Committee shall from time to time determine.

22. The Committee may upon such conditions and terms as it shall from time to time determine, make the facilities of the Club available on not more than TWLEVE OCCASIONS within any period of 12 months commencing on the 1st January for sporting and/or social purposes to persons who are not members of the Club and on request shall make provision for the supply of intoxicating liquor by or on behalf of the Club to such persons for consumption on the Club premises. Such occasions may include any occasion where a person is attending a private function at the Club premises organised by a member of the Club to celebrate a domestic event, namely a wedding, birthday or anniversary of a member or his or her immediate family or similar event.

Such occasion must be covered by a Temporary Event Authorisation issued by the licensing authority, the appropriate notice having been given under S100 (1) to (3) of the Licensing Act 2003. Such notice, endorsed as acknowledged by the licensing authority, must be prominently displayed on the Club premises. The licensable activities include:-

- a) Sale and supply of alcohol and
- b) Provision of regulated entertainment and
- c) Provision of late night refreshments

Save as aforesaid no intoxicating liquor may be supplied to any person who is not a member of the Club or a bona fide guest of such a member admitted to the premises in accordance with the Rules of the Club.

A Register shall be kept at the Club premises of all functions approved or held under this rule.

Such Register shall be produced to the court or the police on request.

23. If at any time the Club in General Meeting shall pass a Resolution authorising the Committee to borrow money, the Committee shall then be empowered to borrow for the purposes of the Club such amount of money either at one time or from time to time and at such rate of interest and in such manner and upon such security as shall be specified in the Resolution and the Committee shall make all such dispositions of the Club property or any part of the Club property and enter into such agreements in relation to that property as they may deem proper for giving security for such loans and interest. All members of the Club whether voting on such Resolution or not and all persons becoming members of the Club after the passing of such Resolution shall be deemed to have assented to the Resolution as if they had voted in favour of it.
24. The Committee shall at any time in General Meeting pass a Resolution by a majority of members present and entitled to vote authorising the Club to dispose of any Club property as the Committee shall see fit and all members of the Club whether voting on such Resolution or not and all persons becoming members of the Club after the passing of such Resolution shall be deemed to have assented to the Resolution as if they had voted in favour out.
25. If at any General Meeting a Resolution for the dissolution of the Club shall be passed by a majority of the members present and entitled to vote and if such Resolution shall be confirmed by a Resolution passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote at a Special General Meeting held not less than one month after that Meeting at which not less than one half of the members entitled to vote shall be present, the Committee shall immediately or at such future date as shall be specified in such Resolution proceed to realize the property of the Club and after the discharge of all liabilities shall divide the remainder equally among the full members and upon the completion of such divisions the Club shall be dissolved.