

# Annual Bourne Club Tennis Championships

## RULES AND INFORMATION

In addition to playing in accordance with the Tournament rules outlined below, players must also adhere to the LTA's code of conduct and the ITF rules of tennis.

### General

1. The Tournament will run from Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April to Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2024.
2. Competitors must be prepared to play on any of the Club court surfaces. This includes the indoor court and under floodlights.
3. Each event will have one main A draw & one B draw with the exception of the Mixed Vets 45+ and Mixed Vets 60+.
4. All members are welcome to enter the A section of the Men's and Ladies Singles. Members can, in addition, enter the B section of the Singles Tournament as long as they don't play regularly in the Club's B teams or above. Final decision of eligibility for the B section will be made by the Tournament Organiser.
5. If there are insufficient entries to form an A & B draw for any event both draws will be amalgamated.
6. The Mixed Chrystie Plate event will be held on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June before Finals Day for any competitor that is not in any other final. Sign up will be on a first come first served basis.
7. With the exception of Finals Day, competitors must supply their own balls for matches.
  - a. Balls should be new or in good condition at the start of the match.
  - b. A minimum of three (3) balls of the same brand and type which have been approved by the ITF.
  - c. Balls that become dead or are lost during a match may be replaced with a ball of similar condition.
  - d. Balls may be changed during the Finals at the discretion of the Umpire.

### Entries

8. The Tournament is open to all members of The Bourne Club who pay a full adult, young adult or coach subscription. In addition junior members born on or before 01/01/2010 are welcome to enter. Younger Juniors are only permitted to enter having been invited by the Head Coach first. Off Peak members may enter but if matches are played during peak times a guest fee should be paid on each occasion.

9. Entries to the Mixed Doubles Veterans event is open to Men and Women of 45 years and over as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Entries to the Mixed Doubles Super Veterans event is open to Men and women of 60 years and over as 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023.
10. Entries are to be made using the Google Tournament entry form. Entry forms are to be filled in for each player online and paid for through their Bourne Pre Payment Account.
11. Entries close on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 9pm and the draw will be published on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April. Late entries will not be accepted. The Organiser reserves the right to deduct payment from the individuals pre-payment account should an entry in writing be submitted without payment after the closing date.
12. Cost of entry is £10 per person per event. £18 for 2 events, £25 for 3 events, £30 for 4 events, and £35 for 5 events or more. Payment must be made by transfer to the Club's Tournament prepayment account No. 4650. Simply log in to your own profile and transfer the relevant amount required to cover the cost of your entry.

### **Match Scheduling**

13. All players are responsible for contacting their opponents and the match should be arranged by mutual consent. If you have difficulty arranging a match please contact the Tournament Organiser.
14. All Semi-Finals matches will be scheduled and played over the week of 10<sup>th</sup> June – 16<sup>th</sup> June by the Tournament Organiser. If you wish to play before then please contact the Tournament Organiser.
15. All matches should be played by the published play-by dates. Please do not enter if you are away for any significant period of time during the tournament or if you are not reasonably available at a variety of times.
16. If players cannot play by the deadline the Tournament Organiser should be informed. The Tournament Organiser may grant an extension or disqualify the players.

### **Draws**

17. Once the draw has been published there will be no changing of partners permitted. Players may only withdraw or retire. There will be no refunds for players that withdraw, retire or are disqualified.
18. Immediately after the match has been completed the winning player or partnership should write their results on the Tournament draw in the Club house.

## **Court bookings**

19. The cost of court time is included in the entry fee.
20. To book a court for Tournament matches Competitor in the first instance are to contact the Tournament Organiser. (Competitors are able to hold courts under their name until which time they can be converted into tournament bookings).
21. You should book enough court time to complete a best of three set match which is 2 hours (see match format). B draw matches require one hour bookings (see match format).
22. The Tournament Organiser may also reserve some courts in advance for tournament matches. Competitors that want to use pre-booked tournament court time are to contact the Tournament Organiser. Any unused courts will be released 2 days in advance, except in the last 2 weeks when they may be released at short notice.

## **Match format**

23. A draws:
  - a. Best of three tie-break sets.
  - b. If both competitors wish to play a match tie-break instead (first to 10 points) of a final set they may do so, as long as they have agreed before the start of the match.
24. B draws:
  - a. Box League Format.
  - b. Best of 15 games (2nd Deuce is Sudden Death).
  - c. Tie-break at 7 games all.
  - d. To be played in one hour.
25. The Tournament Organiser reserves the right to change the format if the tournament is behind schedule.

## **Officiating**

26. The Tournament Organiser's decision is final.
27. The Tournament Organiser reserves the right to disqualify competitors that do not adhere to the tournament rules.