



The Constitution

1. Description

- **Name**

- The Club shall be called **Wheatley Tennis Club** and will be affiliated to the Lawn Tennis Association.

- **Aims and Objectives**

- principally to provide facilities for tennis and generally to promote, encourage and facilitate the playing of tennis in the area of North and South Wheatley and amongst the community
- to provide and maintain club premises at The Playing Field, North Wheatley and any future location of the club and club-owned tennis equipment for the use of its members
- to provide social tennis for the membership and promote participation in league competition
- to take and retain a membership of the CLTA (and by doing so become and remain registered as an associate of the LTA) and to comply with and uphold the Rules and Regulations of the CLTA as amended from time to time and the LTA Rules and the LTA Disciplinary Code and the rules and regulations of any body to which the LTA is registered or affiliated
- to acquire, establish, operate and turn to account in any way [for the members' benefit] the tennis court facilities of the Club together with buildings and easements, fixtures and fittings and accessories as shall be thought advisable
- to acquire, establish, operate and turn to account in any way [for the members' benefit] the tennis court facilities of the Club together with buildings and easements, fixtures and fittings and accessories as shall be thought advisable
- subject to the LTA Rules and the LTA Disciplinary Code and the LTA's wider jurisdiction, to make rules, regulations, bye-laws and standing orders concerning the operation of the Club including without limitation regulations concerning disciplinary procedures that may be taken against the Members
- subject to the LTA Rules and the LTA Disciplinary Code and the LTA's wider jurisdiction, to discipline the Members where permitted by its Rules/Regulations and to refer its Members to be disciplined by the LTA or the Nottinghamshire LTA (as appropriate) where so required by the Rules and Regulations of the LTA or the Nottinghamshire LTA (as the case may be)
- to do all such other things as the Committee thinks fit to further the interests of the Club or to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of the aims and objectives stated

- **Constitution**

- The Club is a non-profit making, unincorporated members' club, which shall be governed by this Constitution.

- **Power to Vary the Constitution**

- This Constitution may only be amended by resolution at a General Meeting of the Club. No such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the members voting thereon.

- **Dissolution**

- A resolution to dissolve the Club shall be proposed only at an extraordinary general meeting and shall be passed only if carried by a majority of at least three-quarters of the Members present and voting. The dissolution shall take effect from the date of the resolution and the members of the Management Committee shall be responsible for the winding-up of the assets and liabilities of the Club.
- Any property remaining on a winding up or dissolution of the Club after the discharge of the debts and liabilities of the Club shall be paid to or distributed to the LTA for use in community related tennis initiatives, another community amateur sports club for tennis or to a registered charitable organisation.

2. Membership

- **Qualification for Membership**

- Any person shall be eligible for full membership provided that they are eighteen years of age or over. Persons of either sex are eligible for membership of the Club. 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. Children below the age of eighteen may be elected as junior members without the right to vote or hold office.

- **Conditions of Membership**

2.1 **Each member of the Club agrees as a condition of membership:**

- to be bound by and subject to the Rules and Regulations of the Club (as in force from time to time);
- to be bound by and subject to the Rules and the Disciplinary Code (as in force from time to time) of the Lawn Tennis Association and its subsidiaries or such successor entity or entities as become(s) the governing body of the game of lawn tennis from time to time (the LTA CLG).

2.2

- Rule 2.1 confers a benefit on the LTA CLG and, subject to the remaining provisions of this rule, is intended to be enforceable by the LTA CLG by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999. For the avoidance of doubt, the members do not intend that any term of these rules, apart from rule 2.1, should be enforceable, by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999, by any person who is not a party to these rules.

2.3

- The Committee of the Club may, subject to the clause below, terminate the membership of any person, or impose any other sanction they determine to be appropriate, in connection with the breach of any condition of membership set out in this rule.

- **Subscriptions**

- The Members shall pay any subscription fees set annually and determined at the Annual General Meeting. The annual subscription for each type of Member shall be determined from time to time by the Committee provided that the Committee shall use its best endeavours to ensure that the fees set by it do not preclude membership of the Club.
- Subscription letters will normally be sent out in January. All annual subscriptions shall be payable within one month and members are not permitted to play in any league competitions until their subscription has been paid.

- **Number of Members**

- In the event of the membership being in excess of a number ensuring the comfort and convenience of existing members, the committee shall have the power to restrict membership until such times as extended facilities are available.

- **Suspension or Expulsion**

- The committee shall have the power to terminate or suspend the membership of any member, or to exclude any member or visitor whom it considers guilty of a breach of this Constitution or the On-Court Rules or of misconduct or offensive behavior to any other member, visitor or employee, whether on the Club's premises or elsewhere.
The member has the right of appeal. This must be made in writing to the secretary giving the grounds for the appeal within 14 days of the expulsion or suspension. It will be considered by the committee within 14 days of receipt, and the decision made after due consideration of the written details presented.

- **Visitors**

- Every member shall have the right to introduce visitors subject to such regulations as shall be made from time to time by the committee. Every visitor shall be the guest of, and be accompanied by, the member introducing him or her. A nominal amount will be charged as a guest fee. No one may be admitted as a guest on more than four occasions in any calendar year.

- **Rules of the Club**

- Appropriate footwear and clothing should be worn at all times.
- All members must adhere to the Code of Conduct of Wheatley Tennis Club

- **Child and Adult Protection**
 - The Club agrees to adopt the Club Venue Safeguarding Policy (Children and Adults) of the Lawn Tennis Association. A link to the policy can be found on the Club website in the ‘Club Policies’ page.
- **Equality and Diversity**
 - The Club agrees to adopt the Equality and Diversity Policy and Diversity and Inclusion Policy of the Lawn Tennis Association. A link to the policies can be found on the Club website in the ‘Club Policies’ page.

3. Coaches and players

- The Club agrees that all unlicensed and unregistered coaches and, so far as reasonably practicable, players and other persons using the facilities of the Club will be required, as a condition of such use, to agree to be bound by and subject to these rules, the Rules and the Disciplinary Code of the LTA CLG, such agreement to contain an express acknowledgement that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 applies and that the LTA CLG and the Club can enforce any breach at its option and in its sole discretion.

4. Committee

- The Club agrees that each member of the Committee will be required, as a condition of election or appointment, to agree to be bound by and subject to these rules, the Rules and the Disciplinary Code, such agreement to contain an express acknowledgement that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 applies and that [the LTA] and the Club can enforce any breach at its option and in its sole discretion
- The entire management of the Club (except as otherwise provided by this Constitution) shall be deputed to a committee consisting of the three elected officers (Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer) and not less than four other members.
- **Election of Committee**
 - At the Annual General Meeting members of the committee shall retire, but shall be eligible for re-election. Any two full members of the Club may propose any other candidate or candidates at such times and the proposal shall be put to the meeting. A majority vote shall decide. In the case of two candidates receiving the same number of votes the proposal shall be put to the meeting for a second time and in the event of a tie, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote. In the event of a vacancy on the committee, the committee shall have the power to elect any members of the Club to fill such a vacancy. The committee shall also have the power to co-opt additional members should the need arise.
- **Quorum**
 - A quorum shall consist of four committee members.
- **Sub-Committee**
 - The Committee may from time to time appoint a sub-committee, which shall conduct its business in accordance with the direction of the committee.
- **Committee's Powers**
 - The committee shall from time to time make, repeal, and amend all such regulations and Standing Orders (not inconsistent with this Constitution) as they shall think expedient for the internal management, use of courts and wellbeing of the Club. All such regulations shall be binding upon members until repealed by the committee, or set aside by a resolution of a General Meeting of the Club.
 - The committee shall have the power to make arrangements for holding matches, tournaments, or other like competitions, including the imposition of a charge for the admission of non-members to the grounds, to provide cups and other prizes, and to reserve courts as may be required.

5. General Meetings

- The quorum for the annual and extraordinary general meetings shall be not less than one third of full Members
- **Annual General Meeting**
 - The Secretary shall communicate to each Member at his last known e-mail address (or mail address where no e-mail address is available) notice of the date of the general meeting together with the resolutions to be proposed at least 14 days before the meeting.
 - The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Club shall be held prior to the 1st December in each year upon a date and at a time to be fixed by the committee, for the following purposes:
 - 1) To receive from the committee a report, balance sheet and statement of account for the preceding year, and details of the income and expenditure expected during the current financial year.
 - 2) To elect the officers and committee
 - 3) To fix the annual subscriptions.
 - 4) To decide upon any resolution that may be duly submitted to the meeting.
- **Extraordinary General Meeting**
 - The Chairman and/or committee may at times for any special purpose call an Extraordinary General Meeting (SGM), and they shall do so forthwith upon the requisition in writing to full adult members stating the purpose for which the meeting is required.
 - An extraordinary general meeting may be called at any time by the Committee and shall be called within 21 days of receipt by the Secretary of a requisition in writing signed by not less than six members stating the purposes for which the meeting is required and the resolutions proposed.
- **Notice**
 - Fourteen days at least before the AGM or any EGM, a printed or written notice of such meeting and of the business to be transacted thereat shall be sent to every member.
- **Chair and Voting**
 - At General Meetings of the Club the Chairman, and in his/her absence a member of the committee, shall take the chair. Every full adult member present entitled to vote shall have one vote upon every motion, and in the case of an equality of votes, the chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

6. Finance

- **Financial Year**
 - The financial year of the Club shall end on the 30th September each year, to which day the accounts of the year shall be balanced.
- **Loans**
 - The committee does not have the authority to borrow monies. Any loans must be approved by members at an AGM or EGM.
- **Surplus Funds**
 - All surplus income or profits are re-invested in the club. No surpluses or assets will be distributed to members or third parties.
- **Payment of Members**
 - No member, except for services rendered at the request of the committee, shall receive any profit or emolument from the funds of the Club.
- **Cheques drawn against club funds**
 - Should hold the signatures of the Treasurer plus up to one other officer
- **Entrust – Enrolment with Landfill Communities Fund**
 - The work of Wheatley Tennis Club shall not be for the benefit of landfill site operators who may contribute to Wheatley Tennis Club and claim credit under the Landfill Communities Fund. Nor shall it be for the benefit of contributing third parties, as defined in the landfill tax regulations.

7. Declaration

The Wheatley Tennis Club hereby adopts and accepts this constitution as a current operating guide regulating the actions of members.

SIGNED:

DATE:

NAME:

Club Chair

SIGNED:

DATE:

NAME:

Club Secretary

Definitions:

Chairman	means the person elected from time to time to be the Chairman of the Club
CLTA	means Nottinghamshire Lawn Tennis Association
LTA Disciplinary Code	means the disciplinary code of the LTA in force from time to time. (A link to the LTA Disciplinary Code can be found on the Club website in the 'Club Policies' page)
Secretary	means the person [elected] from time to time to be the secretary of the Club
Treasurer	means the person [elected] from time to time to be the treasurer of the Club
LTA	means LTA CLG and its subsidiaries or such successor entity or entities as become(s) the governing body of the game of lawn tennis from time to time
Members	means the members of the Club admitted from time to time to membership of the Club
Regulations & Code of Conduct	are official rules made and maintained by the Club and have to be followed
Standing Orders	An order or ruling governing the procedures of the Club