

CONSTITUTION & RULES OF THE BINSTED TENNIS & CROQUET CLUB

1. The Club is to be called the Binsted Tennis & Croquet Club. The Objects of the Club shall be all lawful acts as deemed necessary by the Committee for the benefit of the Club.
2. These Rules are subject to the Bye-Laws and Regulations of the Binsted Parish Council for the time being in force to which every member and visitor is to conform.
3. There shall be two sections of the Club: the Tennis section and the Croquet section and each section is to have its own court or courts. The game of tennis is to be played according to the Rules and Regulations for the time being adopted by the Lawn Tennis Association and the game of croquet according to the Rules and Regulations for the time being adopted by the Croquet Association.
4. (a) The Club shall be managed by a Committee. This shall consist of the Officers of the Club and at least four General Members two of whom must be members of the Croquet section and two of the tennis section.. The Committee shall have power to co-opt as it deems necessary. Four members of the Committee, one of whom must be an Officer of the Club, shall constitute a quorum.

(b) There shall be a President and not more than three Vice-Presidents all of whom shall be nominated by the Committee and hold office for life. They shall be ex officio members of the Committee.

(c) The Officers of the Club shall be the Chairman, the Honorary Treasurer and the Honorary Secretary.

(d) The Officers of the Club and the General Members of the Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. Nominations with the names of proposers and seconders must reach the Secretary at least three days before that Meeting. Casual vacancies may be filled at any time by the Committee.
5. The property of the Club shall be and is hereby vested in the adult members for the time being of the Club.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

6. The membership subscriptions and the sums payable by members of the public for use of the court shall be determined at the Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the Committee. Club membership will be on a rolling annual basis ie. Members who join in April will be members until 31st March the following year.

MEMBERS

7. All applications for new membership are to be considered by the Committee and its decisions thereon shall be final.
8. The membership classes shall comprise the following: Individual Adult; Individual Junior (any person under eighteen years of age on the 1st April of the year for which membership is sought); Couple (any two individuals in the same household); Family (all members of the same household including any child who is still a Junior as defined above).

9. Every member of the Club other than a Junior member shall be entitled to one vote upon each and every issue raised at a General Meeting of the Club.

10. The Secretary shall provide every new member with a copy of these Rules or now found on the website: e-voice.org.uk/btcc

EXPULSION

11. If the conduct of any member is in the opinion of the Committee injurious to the character or interests of the Club the Committee may, after hearing what that member and any witnesses have to say, recommend that the member do resign from the Club. If the member does not do so within seven days of the receipt of such recommendation the Committee shall call a Special General Meeting to consider the matter. If such Meeting determines by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members present and voting by ballot to expel the offending member, then he or she shall cease forthwith to be a member of the Club and is to forfeit any subscription already paid and is to have no claim or any rights against the Club or its property.

GENERAL MEETINGS

12. An Annual General Meeting shall be held every year within two calendar months of the 30th September (this being the end of the Club's financial year) for the purpose of receiving the Secretary's report; passing the audited accounts; electing the Officers and General Members of the Committee, and transacting such other business as may be appropriate.

13. A Special General Meeting shall be called if so requested in writing addressed to the Secretary at any time by any three members of the Committee or any ten members of the Club. The notice calling the meeting shall specify the object or objects of the meeting and no other business is to be transacted thereat.

14. At least fourteen clear days notice is to be given of every General Meeting. Ten members shall form a quorum of whom at least two must be Officers of the Club.

THE TENNIS SECTION

15. The number of members playing tennis is to be limited to two hundred. The Committee may, however, increase or reduce this number if deemed necessary.

16. The court will be available for play for the whole year subject to weather conditions and to the provisions of rules 17 and 18. The first booking period for the court shall commence at 9 am.

17. The court may be closed at any time if deemed necessary by the Committee. A notice to this effect shall be displayed outside the court and is to be conclusive against the use of the court during the specified period.

18. The Committee may at any time reserve or set apart the court for any period for a tournament or match or for the use of Junior Members.

19. Members of the public who are not members of the Club may, upon application to the Secretary, use the court at such times and on such conditions as may be determined by the Committee.

20. All players should wear suitable clothing and sports shoes with smooth, non-marking soles. Sports shoes with heavy treads must not be used as these are liable to damage the court surface.

VISITORS

21. Members may bring occasional visitors to play on the court but not exceeding three visitors on any one occasion. For this facility an annual charge is payable in respect of each visitor, such charge to be decided on at the Annual General Meeting. Any visitor found to be playing regularly may be called upon by the Committee to apply for membership of the Club. And if the visitor does not do so within a reasonable time he or she may be forbidden by the Committee from using the court.

22. The Committee, if it has good reason so to do, may at any time forbid the use of the court by any particular visitor or visitors.

BOOKING

23. The court may be booked for one-hour sessions only and a member may not book consecutive sessions whether in his or her own name or in the name of a partner or opponent or otherwise. However, if at the end of the current session no one else is waiting or arrives to play, the member may then continue to use the court for a further session.

24. The court may not be booked ahead for more than one session.

THE CROQUET SECTION

25. One or more of the courts will be available for play during the period 1st April - 30th September in every year and may be used at any time during that period except when a game of cricket is in progress on the adjoining field.

26. There will be a weekly club night open to all members which is to be held during such period and on such day of the week and at such times as the Committee may determine.

27. All players should wear suitable clothing.

GENERAL

28. All suggestions, complaints and disputes relating to the tennis or croquet courts or to the Club must be referred to the Committee and its decision thereon is to be final.

29. These Rules may, after consideration by the Committee, be varied or added to from time to time but only at a General Meeting of the Club. The nature of every proposed variation or addition shall be indicated in the notice calling the meeting and no variation or addition is to be adopted unless it is passed by at least two-thirds of the members present and voting.

WINDING -UP

30. In the event of the winding-up of the Club any profit after all liabilities are met shall be distributed to a suitable charitable cause to be nominated by the members at a General Meeting of the Club.