

# HARTSWOOD TENNIS CLUB



## Information Pack

*Membership Year 2019-2020*

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## About Hartswood Tennis Club

Welcome to Hartswood. We're delighted you are considering joining our club.

Hartswood, which was founded in 1914, is a vibrant, friendly club where we welcome both adult and junior players of all standards. We have six all-weather floodlit courts, which are available to play on for 365 days a year, from 8am to 9.30pm. Booking courts is free to members; once you've joined, the only charge is for using the floodlights.

The club is run entirely by volunteers, so please be patient if it takes a few days to answer any queries that you submit via the website. We hope this booklet, and our comprehensive website at [www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk](http://www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk), will answer any further questions you might have.

## Membership categories and costs for adults

Our membership period runs from **1st April to 31st March**. Membership costs are as follows:

- Adult:** £350, with a one-off joining fee of £90
- Couple:** (two adults living together as partners at the same address) £650 per couple, with a one-off joining fee of £80 per person
- Senior:** (aged 60 or over on 1st April 2019): £235, with a one-off joining fee of £55
- Weekday:** (can only play Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm): £205, with a one-off joining fee of £55
- Youth:** (16-26 years old on 1st April 2019): £155, with a one-off joining fee of £35

If you are in the Youth category and in full time education at a college outside the M25 you can request a 50% discount on the Youth fee, in recognition of the fact you won't often be able to play at the club during term time.

April to September represents the peak playing period of the year and so pro-rata membership rates are only available from October. If you join after September then you pay the whole **joining fee** (if applicable), but only pay the membership fee pro rata for the rest of the membership year.

## **Membership categories and costs for juniors**

There is no joining fee for under 16s.

**Junior Under 16:** (11-15 years old on 1st April 2019) £100

**Junior 10 & Under:** (aged 10 or under on 1st April 2019) £65

## **Complete beginners**

Complete beginners are most welcome to join the club. A number of our members, who now play to a high standard, had never played tennis before joining Hartswood. It takes time and dedication (and some coaching), but you will be surprised at how fast you progress, and how enjoyable tennis is, even for a novice.

## **How to join**

Prospective members are encouraged to visit the club before joining, by coming to one of our monthly “Welcome to Hartswood” sessions where you’ll get to meet a member of the Committee, have a tour of the clubhouse and have a gentle game if you’d like. It’s a good opportunity to get a feel for the club, see what it offers and ask any questions you may have. If you’re interested in having coaching you’ll also be able to meet and have a hit with our Head Coach who can advise you on what private and group coaching might be good for you. Alternatively, if you’re an experienced player and interested in playing competitively for Hartswood, our coach will be able to advise you on which team might suit you.

To find out more about upcoming Welcome Sessions and how to register use this link:

<http://www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk/membership/welcomesessions>

Our 'Welcome to Hartswood' sessions take place over half an hour from 1.15pm-1.45pm on the following dates:

- Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2019
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2019
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019 at 7.30pm
- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2019
- Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2019
- Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2019

If you can't make one of the above sessions it may also be possible to visit on a Wednesday evening, please contact our Membership Secretary at [membership@hartswoodtennis.co.uk](mailto:membership@hartswoodtennis.co.uk)

## **How to pay**

Membership fees are paid by Direct Debit, which helps us keep our costs down, and we have set up an easy, hassle-free system for this. Membership works on an annual basis and we therefore collect a single annual payment to cover the whole membership year. Members cannot pay by instalments and we regret we are not able to process credit cards.

## **What happens once I've joined?**

Once your payment has been processed, you'll be sent a shoe tag (which should be worn at all times when you're at the club) and the code for our entrance gate, as well as login details to the members' area of our website from which you can access the online court booking system. Then you can start fixing up games and playing as often as you want.

## **Do you have a 'pay as you go' system?**

Hartswood is only open to members and their paying guests. Members can bring guests as often as they want but they can only invite the same guest to play up to five times in a membership year. Currently the fee for Adult guests is £5 and Juniors £3. This rule also applies to parents wanting to have a hit with their child, where the child (but not the parent) is a member.

## **Freezing membership**

If you are unable to play for an extended period of time due to long-term illness, an overseas work posting or pregnancy, then you can rejoin without having to pay the joining fee again. This needs to be agreed with the Membership Secretary ahead of time. You will not be issued with a shoe tag for the duration of the frozen period, but will be included on the club database and mailing lists.

## **Dress code**

You don't need to wear Wimbledon whites to play at Hartswood, but we do ask that you play in recognised tennis clothing and shoes. Clothing that is not acceptable includes jeans or cut-down jeans, Bermuda shorts, or lycra cycle shorts (lycra shorts can however be worn under tennis clothes.) Topless tennis (for both sexes!) is strictly forbidden. This dress code applies to members and their guests.

## **Coaching**

Hartswood offers tennis coaching for adults and juniors on an individual or group basis all year round. Members and non-members are welcome to have group or individual lessons at the club; if you are not a Hartswood member, after your first lesson you are required to pay a £30 coaching membership fee.

Individual lessons are competitively priced and vary slightly depending on the coach.

For information and pricing of Group coaching session see this link: <http://lovetennis-hartswood.class4kids.co.uk>

Our coaching is organised by “**Christian Gallan’s LOVEtennis**”. Our Head Coach, Christian, is renowned for his enthusiasm, patience and good humour and his ability to make you feel good about your game however badly you happen to be playing that day. Christian and his team of experienced coaches provide individual lessons for all ages as well as adult group coaching (including sessions tailored especially for beginners), term-time junior squads, junior holiday camps, and junior match play sessions. Please see the ‘Coaching’ section on our website for more details of what’s available, alternatively email [headcoach@hartswoodtennis.co.uk](mailto:headcoach@hartswoodtennis.co.uk) or phone 07552 185735

## **Competitions**

Hartswood runs internal open and veterans competitions in both doubles and singles, with both normal and handicapped scoring systems. The club also participates in the LTA winter and summer Middlesex leagues. There are also regular fun events events such as American tournaments.

## **Finding a playing partner**

If you've been playing tennis for a while and have reached the standard for joining in Club Tennis sessions at the weekend, or you are playing in a team, then you will meet a lot of players of a similar standard to you and with whom you can arrange to play games at other times.

If you are new to the game and either a complete beginner, or someone who's a improver but still not quite at Club Tennis standard, there are other ways in which you can get to meet other members of Hartswood who are of a similar standard and who would be good to practice with.

- Join in one of the group coaching sessions so you'll be on court with other beginners and improvers and can swap contact details.
- Add yourself to our Hartswood register of beginners and improvers who are looking for a partner to play with. You can add yourself to the register here:

[www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk/members-area/find-a-playing-partner](http://www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk/members-area/find-a-playing-partner)

## **The social life of the club**

Joining Hartswood is a great way of meeting people and making new friends. Saturday and Sunday afternoons from 2pm-6pm (Sunday 1pm-5pm in the winter) are when the mix-in Club Tennis sessions take place and members of intermediate standard or above (regardless of age, young or old) turn up and play doubles, regularly changing partners. Club Tennis includes afternoon tea (with cake, of course or the occasional impromptu BBQ) and the chance for a chat. During the warmer months there are also one or two weekday Club Tennis evenings per month, starting at 6.30pm, which often end with drinks and nibbles in the clubhouse.

There is also a mix-in session for beginners and improvers (which includes some free coaching) on Saturdays from 12.30pm-2pm.

Our annual Christmas parties for juniors and for adults (held on separate evenings) are always popular.

We also get a good allocation of Wimbledon tickets through the Lawn Tennis Association and our Wimbledon ballot in spring is a busy and lively event.

For over twenty years, Hartswood has hosted a women-only tennis tournament in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. This very popular event (also open to non-members), has raised around £30,000 which is spent on funding specialist cancer care in the Chiswick area.

There is also a Hartswood bridge club, which meets on the first Wednesday of every month to coincide with the monthly weekday Club Tennis sessions and social.

## More information

More useful information can be found on the Hartswood website where we have two helpful FAQs

### ***General questions about membership:***

[www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk/membership/FAQs](http://www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk/membership/FAQs)

### ***General information for new members:***

[www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk/members-area/club-faq](http://www.hartswoodtennis.co.uk/members-area/club-faq)

## Appendix: Pro rata membership rates October-March

### WINTER PRO-RATA MEMBERSHIP FEES

Join in	Discount	Adult	Couple	Senior	Weekday	Social	Youth	Jnr U16	Jnr U10
Full	0%	£350	£325	£235	£205	£30	£155	£100	£65
Oct	50%	£175	£163	£118	£103	£15	£78	£50	£33
Nov	58%	£147	£137	£99	£87	£13	£66	£42	£28
Dec	66%	£119	£111	£80	£70	£11	£53	£34	£23
Jan	75%	£88	£82	£59	£52	£8	£39	£25	£17
Feb	83%	£60	£56	£40	£35	£6	£27	£17	£12
Mar	91%	£32	£30	£22	£19	£3	£14	£9	£6

**Please add to the above figure for the month in which you are joining, the appropriate full joining fee shown below:**

Adult: £90	Couple: £80 per person	Senior: £55	Weekday: £55
Social: £30	Youth: £35	Junior U16: £0	Junior 10&U: £0