

## **Changes to the Club Booking System**

We introduced court bookings during the pandemic, and it has proved very effective in managing organised sessions and court utilisation. We have though kept Courts 1,2 and 3 as “free play” when they are not allocated to matches, coaching or organised club sessions.

The Tennis Subcommittee has decided to make some adjustment for the upcoming year.

**These changes will become effective from Saturday 1/April/2023.**

**The changes are as follows:**

- 1. All courts (1-8) will be bookable.**
- 2. Members now have the option to book and play for up to two hours (previously 90 minutes) by booking a maximum of 4x30 minute sessions.**

At this time, we are not making the booking of courts mandatory (this may be reviewed in the future), however those playing without a court booking must give way to those with a booking.

The main reasons for doing these changes are:

- (a) The current system where courts 1/2/3 are shown with padlocks in the court booking system (as they are not bookable) is confusing. For those using the club booking system (which is now most members) these courts look to be unavailable.
- (b) We want to improve court utilisation for all members. Widescale (preferably universal) use of the court booking system should assist in this goal.
- (c) 120 minutes maximum booking should allow longer matches to be played. Please though only book the actual time you expect to play to avoid underutilised courts.

The court allocations for the 2023/24 membership year have been agreed and are available on the club website and also shown on the notice board inside the club house. The courts allocations determine priority for court usage. Not all courts are always used in all sessions. Session owners or coaches (for coaching sessions) are expected to release courts that are not being used.

As a reminder, courts can be booked for Team Matches and Tournaments via emailing Heather Prophet ([heather.prophet@btinternet.com](mailto:heather.prophet@btinternet.com)).

As per the club rules/bye-laws court designated for priority junior play will be shown in the booking system as being ‘allocated to junior priority’. If not being used, any member is free to use these courts, but adults are expected to give way to juniors wanting to use these courts. Therefore this in effect makes the junior policy unchanged.

Currently over 85% of adult members are registered to use the booking system and all have been invited to register. For those wanting to register or having any problems please contact Jon Strange ([jon.strange.tennis@gmail.com](mailto:jon.strange.tennis@gmail.com)).