

## Information about the



## Club (revised March 2020)

**General** - the club is situated in the memorial park, where we occupy a clubhouse and 3 floodlit hard courts rented from the Town Council. We are affiliated to the LTA and are financed

mainly by our members' subscriptions. The members' AGM in March elects officers, captains and a committee which runs the club and which fixes the subscriptions for the membership year, which starts May 1st. We have a website [www.southwelltennis.org.uk](http://www.southwelltennis.org.uk) which contains key information about fixtures, court availability, coaching sessions, committee members and future events.

**Joining arrangements** - we've recently introduced an online system for joining and renewing membership, operated through an online platform (Clubspark) provided by the LTA. The system accepts online payments, so it's possible to join quickly from most modern devices. It's also possible to join in the traditional way by sending a paper form with a cheque through the post to the membership secretary - the form can be obtained from our website and there are usually copies available in the clubhouse.

**Access** - our outer entrance gate (giving access to the courts) is controlled by a push-button lock; we change the code for the lock in late May each year, when we email the new code to the members. Entry to the clubhouse is by a traditional type lock and key; the keys are available to members on payment of a returnable deposit of £10 (this is roughly the cost of the key to the club). The clubhouse lock can always be opened from the inside by a lever, but there is also a small wheel type latch mechanism on the inside which operates to unlock or lock the door when it's closed, in the same way as a Yale lock. Please make sure you know how the lock works so you don't lock yourself out or leave the clubhouse unlocked when you leave. If you're playing in a group, it's best to make sure one of you has a key in your pocket!

**Courts availability** - our membership is about 150, so our 3 courts are fairly well used, particularly in the summer. The courts are free to members and at present this includes the use of the floodlights, when necessary. There is no booking system for courts, but the club operates group coaching sessions - provided by Matt and Chris of "On the Ball" coaching - and these run mainly in the early evening at times advertised on the website. These coaching sessions take priority over "casual" play, as do the social sessions (see below) and club matches (see below). Court availability is shown on the website, please remember to check if you want to play at an empty coaching or match time, because sometimes we have to rearrange fixtures disrupted by weather or other circumstances.

**Social Tennis** - we operate social sessions all year round on Monday and Friday mornings and on Tuesday evenings from 7pm. Just turn up and play - we normally play doubles tennis, the standard is mixed and it's a good opportunity to meet and play with other club members.

**Coaching/Junior tennis** - during term time there are regular group lessons for juniors and adults; individual coaching can also be arranged. For further information go to [www.ontheballcoaching.com](http://www.ontheballcoaching.com) (07985 081484), or contact Matt Wildt or Jason Kilkie.

**Match Tennis** - we run teams for men's, ladies and mixed teams against other clubs. Each team consists of 3 doubles pairs and the matches take about 3 hours to complete. Our home matches are mainly on Thursday evenings or Saturday and Sunday mornings. If anyone is interested in playing match tennis, please let a team captain know.

**Care of courts and clubhouse** - please remember to keep the courts and clubhouse tidy and to turn off the lights and lock both doors if you are last to leave. The flood lights operate by key(probably best for another member to show you how to operate if you're a new member), but once they've been switched off, they need about 10 minutes to cool down before they'll light up again (this is due to the technology of the bulbs used). The bulbs have a life limited by the number of times they're switched on and off, so please only switch them on and off when necessary.

**Tennis Balls** - the club buys balls in bulk and can sell tubes of balls to members at cost price (currently £4 per tube of 4 balls for Slazenger Championship balls). If any member would like to buy balls please give me a ring on 01636 815020.

**Club Fleeces** - these are available from Best Sports in Southwell at about £15, please see the website for image and further information.

**Contact details/communication** - the move to using the membership module of Clubspark will make it easier for us to email all members, but we're still learning how to get the best out of the system, so please be patient with us at first! We've posted a list of officers, captains and committee members on our website, so it should be possible for members to contact individually from the details there, but you can also use the website email - [enquiries@southwelltennis.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@southwelltennis.org.uk) - which should enable us to deal with any queries.

**Club Policies** - the club has adopted policies (drawn up from templates provided by the LTA) to protect members. These are a Privacy Policy and a Diversity and Inclusion Policy. They're both available on the website [www.southwelltennis.org.uk](http://www.southwelltennis.org.uk)

**Finally, enjoy your tennis!**

Richard Nix