



Hale Barns Tennis Club

The Pavilion, Chapel Lane, Hale Barns, Cheshire WA15 0AQ

www.halebarnstennis.com

halebarnstennis@gmail.com

Membership enquiries:

Steve Hunter 07954 547 368 or above email

CLUB RULES

- 1. TITLE** The club shall be known as "Hale Barns Tennis Club"
- 2. MANAGEMENT** The club shall be managed by a General Committee consisting of a President (who shall also act as Chairperson), President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Match Secretary, who shall also be the Officers of the Club, and up to seven elected members. Four members of the General Committee, one of whom must be an officer, shall form a quorum.
- 3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND GENERAL COMMITTEE** The President-elect will be proposed and elected at every second AGM. He/She will serve for a period of 2 years as President-elect and 4 years as President. Other Officers and Committee shall be elected annually, the retiring Officers and Committee being eligible for re-election. Nominations for these positions shall be proposed and seconded by members of the Club and sent, with a letter from the nominee saying he/she is willing to stand, to the Honorary/Acting Secretary, not less than 4 clear days before the AGM.
- 4. SUB-COMMITTEES/SPECIAL DUTY LEADERS** Sub-Committees or Special Duty Leaders (e.g. Pavilion, Grounds, Balls, Tournaments) shall be elected by the General Committee who shall delegate such responsibilities as from time-to-time occur. The election of sub-committees/special duty leaders will normally take place at the first meeting of the General Committee following the AGM.
- 5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)** An AGM shall be held each year, normally in November/December for the election of the Offices and General Committee for the ensuing year, to accept the audited Treasurer's report, to approve the Budget for the following season to receive reports from Officers and Duty leaders, to receive resignations from members, to set entrance and subscription fees, to elect Team Captains, to elect Auditors and to consider any other business. Where elections for Officers are required, these will be carried out by secret ballot. Before such a ballot, the Chair of the meeting will explain the voting procedure. In the event of a tie, the Chair will have a casting vote. The Agenda for the meeting should be distributed to all members so that it is received 14 days before the meeting.
- 6. VOTING RIGHTS** Only Full Members, Associate and Honorary Members who have previously been Full Members are entitled to vote at a General Meeting of the Club (see Rule 16 for membership definitions).
- 7. EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called at any time at the discretion of the Committee, or on the written joint application of any 20 Full Members of the Club, to the Secretary.
- 8. ATTENDANCE AT AGM AND EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING** All members shall be entitled to attend. Apologies should be sent to the Secretary. 12 members present in person, including at least one Officer of the Club, shall represent a quorum.
- 9. PRESIDENT-ELECT** In the event of the current President being unable to continue his duties, the President-elect (or, failing this, any volunteer from the remaining officers or committee members) will take on the role of Acting-President. Their first duty is to identify a new person to act as President-elect and to call an Extraordinary General Meeting to confirm the appointments.
- 10. SECRETARIAL DUTIES** The duties of the Secretary are to conduct correspondence, keep the Minutes Book, call Meetings after discussion of the Agenda with the President and submit a report to the AGM.
- 11. TREASURER'S DUTIES** The duties of the Treasurer are to receive all monies, to pay all accounts owing by the Club, to keep an account of same and, at the end of the year, submit a report to the AGM with a Statement of Accounts made up to the last day in September, certified by 2 auditors. A copy of this Statement of Accounts will be supplied to any member of the Club on request. The Treasurer will also prepare a Budget for the following season that is to be presented and approved by the General Meeting.
- 12. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS** Two Auditors shall be elected by members at the AGM. The General Committee shall have the power to fill casual vacancies.
- 13. BYE-LAWS** The Committee shall have the power to make Bye-Laws as they deem expedient. Any such changes will be agreed by a simple majority vote with the Chair or the meeting having a casting vote if needed.
- 14. INTERPRETATION OF RULES AND BYE-LAWS** The Committee shall be the sole interpreters of the Rules and Bye-Laws of the Club.



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15. **MEMBERSHIP YEAR** The membership year, covered by annual subscription due on 1st April each year, shall run from 1st April to 31st March inclusive.

16. **CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERSHIP**

- a. Membership will be classified under the following headings:-

Full	Persons aged 18 or over, on or before August 31 st in the membership year, shall be Full Members for that season. Young people who are continuing full-time education may alternatively take up Student membership, with a reduced subscription rate.
Student	Full-time students who are aged 18 or over, on or before August 31 st in the membership year, shall be Student Members for that season. Student Members must inform the committee when their full-time education is complete and they no longer qualify for Student membership. Student Members shall become Full Members for the season following completion of their studies.
Associate	The General Committee may, at their discretion, admit a member to the Associate membership category at a reduced subscription. This class of membership is available for any person who, because of their normal residential location, is prevented from taking full advantage of the facilities of the Club. 25 miles or over shall be considered a reasonable radius for residential qualification.
Junior	Children and young persons who are between 6 years and 17 years on or before 31 st August of the playing year may apply for Junior Membership with the support of their parents/guardians. Junior Members shall be bound by the Rules and Bye-Laws of the club in force for the time-being and shall normally be prohibited from play on Wednesday after 6:15pm and Saturdays between 1:30 and 4pm when social tennis is in progress. Junior Members are also restricted from play whenever there are match fixtures taking place – these are normally notified in advance in the Clubhouse. However, Juniors may play during these times on courts that are not required for social tennis or match fixtures, providing they do not disturb or interrupt the Senior's play.
Honorary	The General Committee may recommend to an Annual General Meeting the election of not more than 6 Honorary Members who shall not be liable for the payment of entrance fees of annual subscriptions and who shall become Honorary Vice-presidents of the club. Honorary members have Full Member playing rights.
Family	Family Memberships are available to up to 2 Adults and 3 Juniors from the same household. The Juniors are to be aged 6-18 on or before August 31 st in the membership year.

- b. Student and Junior Members shall not share in the assets or liabilities of the club.

17. **NEW MEMBERS** All new applications for membership shall be discussed by the General Committee who are empowered to accept or reject the applicants after considering whether vacancies exist.
18. **RESIGNATIONS** Subject to the absolute right and discretion of the General Committee to waive non-compliance in extenuating circumstances, members will be regarded as continuing membership and responsible for their subscriptions for the ensuing year, unless written notice of resignation has been received by the Secretary prior to or at the AGM, before any business concerning the ensuing year has been commenced. This rule to be included each year in the notice convening the AGM.
19. **CHANGE OF CLASSIFICATION** Members will be regarded as continuing membership in their classification for the ensuing year unless written notice has been received by the Secretary prior to or at the AGM before any business concerning the ensuing year has commenced, provided that nothing in this rule shall authorise a Junior Member attaining the age of 18 years to continue as a Junior Member or a Student Member no longer in full-time education to continue as a Student Member. This rule to be included each year in the notice convening the AGM.
20. **PLAYING MEMBERSHIP LIMIT** The maximum playing membership shall be about 360 (excluding Associates) of which not more than 130 shall be juniors. The total may be temporarily increased where such a course is necessary to permit election of members of the same family and it may be increased or reduced at the discretion of the Committee.
21. **PLAYING VISITORS** Each member may introduce playing visitors who may play on no more than five occasions during the playing season and who shall be eligible for play at a charge to the member, the amount of which shall be fixed at the AGM by members. The visitors' names must be entered by the member in the book provided for the purpose. This rule shall be waived on the occasion of any annual open tournament or similar event. It should be noted that any visitor's payment should be made prior to playing.
22. **SUBSCRIPTIONS** The subscriptions shall be approved only at the AGM for each year, by the members. Notice of any proposed change to subscriptions shall be incorporated in the notice convening the AGM.



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- 23. PAYMENT OF SUBSCRIPTIONS** Payment of subscriptions indicates that members accept and will observe the rules of the Club. Membership tags will not be issued until full payment is received.
- Existing members – All subscriptions for the year are due on April 1st and a penalty fixed by the Treasurer will be imposed on all subscriptions paid after 31st May each year. After 31st May, the General Committee has absolute discretion to accept new applications for membership to fill the place of any existing member who has not paid his/her subscription at that time and to notify that member of the termination of his/her membership.
 - New members – in the case of members elected after April 1st, no penalty will be charged if the subscriptions are paid within one month of notification of election.
- 24. REPUDIATION OF LIABILITY** The Club shall not be responsible in any circumstances for personal injury or loss of or damage to property of any member, visitor or third party.
- 25. LIABILITY OF MEMBERS** A resigning member shall cease to have any financial interest and/or liability in respect of the Club in so far as Rule 35 applies.
- 26. OBSERVANCE OF RULES AND BYE-LAWS** Acceptance of membership shall imply willingness to observe the Rules and Bye-Laws of the Club and the General Committee shall have power to terminate the membership of any member in any manner they may deem necessary for the failure to comply with or infringement of said Rules and Bye-Laws.
- 27. MEMBERSHIP TAGS** All members on court or using the grounds after 1st May are required to wear the tags issued on payment of membership fees. Before 1st May, members may play using their tag from the previous year.
- 28. MEMBERS' RESPONSIBILITY FOR LOCKING UP, ETC.** Members playing in the last set of the day on each court will be responsible for letting down the nets and collecting in the balls. Members who are the last to leave the Pavilion each day shall see that all doors, windows and gates are properly locked up and lights extinguished.
- 29. ALTERATION OF RULES**
- These rules may be modified, altered or rescinded by resolution at an AGM but notice of any such proposed alteration must be given in writing to the Secretary not later than November 1st prior to such meeting. Any notice of alteration of Rules is to be incorporated in the notice convening the AGM.
 - The rules may also be modified, altered or rescinded by resolution at an Extraordinary General Meeting but notice of any such proposed alteration must be given in writing to the Secretary. Any notice of alteration of Rules is to be incorporated in the notice convening the Extraordinary General Meeting.
- 30. TRUSTEES** A General Meeting of members shall have power to appoint from among members of the Club, one or more Trustees. The Trustees shall continue to hold office for the term for which they are appointed whether or not they retire from membership of the Club. Casual vacancies may be filled by nominations of the General Committee, after consultation with remaining Trustees and approval at an Extraordinary or ordinary general meeting. The duties of the Trustees are:
- To sign the necessary Deed of Appointment which will also put the land in their names
 - To familiarize themselves with the simple restrictions contained in the Club's Registered Title of Ownership
 - To ensure that all possible steps are taken to ensure the continuation of the Tennis Club for the important reasons outlined below
 - To always act in the best interest of the membership with regard to ground and premises and with total honesty.
- 31. RESPONSIBILITY OF TRUSTEES** Any payments for which the Trustees are responsible shall be a first charge on the funds and assets of the Club.
- 32. LOANS** The General Committee shall be authorized to accept loans to the Club for such amounts and on terms and conditions as shall be approved by a General Meeting of Members, provided that notice of such meeting shall have been sent by post to every voting member of the Club at his or her last known address not less than 14 days prior to that date of that meeting and provided that such notice shall contain particulars of the proposed amount, terms and conditions of such loan.