



**26<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

### **Membership Renewals**

Another successful year at Tunbridge Wells Squash Club draws to a close. There have been quite a few changes at the club this year with the refurbishment of the ground floor and the loss of our club manager. The latter has produced some degree of heart ache but the committee continue to develop our facilities and, we hope, enhance the value of our membership. Our new bar manager Mark Nicholson has improved the bar provision and brought in a dedicated team of bar staff who have been well received, and so we move forwards. Friday evening club night is available to all our members and Monday social squash, Friday circuit training and junior squash coaching is also available at a small extra charge. We now have 3 club coaches who can all be contacted individually for 'one to one' sessions. Our squash teams compete successfully at a high level in the Kent leagues and we have our own box league system at the club.

Our membership terms for TWSRC run from 1<sup>st</sup> July until 30<sup>th</sup> June. For the start of the 2019/20 season, the committee has reviewed the current membership fees and conditions, as follows:

### **Fees**

1. Our chairman, Mark Groves-Gidney, has worked hard to secure sponsorship deals in order to avoid passing on the effects of inflation to members. Some of these sponsorship deals were dependent on the sponsor having an opportunity to talk to members or display their services. As such, unfortunately, the cancellation of the summer party has lost us some of these sponsorship deals so we have had to review our membership fees. Annual full membership has been increased to £290.
2. At last year's AGM some members made it clear they would prefer to pay their membership fees by monthly direct debit. Members already have the option to pay in two half year instalments. Extending this to 12 instalments would be time consuming and costly so, as a compromise, we have reviewed the ½ yearly payment option and we are now offering members a choice of either paying for the full year as a single payment or to pay in quarterly instalments. No other payment options will be available.
3. As an incentive to keep administration to a minimum, for those members paying in full with a single, early payment we have reduced the annual fee to £275. For those who pay late or by direct debit the full membership remains at £290. To keep club costs to a minimum we encourage members to avoid paying by credit card.
4. If you are currently injured and will be unable to play squash for four months or more then you are able to defer the renewal of your full membership and become a Social Member. Membership can then be updated pro rata when you return to playing fitness.
5. If you become injured part way through the year and remain injured for a period of 4 months or more you can apply to the committee to have the following season's membership fee adjusted to reflect the period of the season lost through injury.

6. In order to give members plenty of opportunity to update their membership and pay their subscriptions a fortnight's grace will be given to all currently fully paid members. Memberships will be inactivated if the payment for the 2019/20 season has not been received before Monday 15th July 2019.

### **Conditions**

1. Earlier this season England Squash introduced the need for all registered players to activate their membership in order to have access to all the benefits of membership, including on-court insurance. This has brought the need for insurance whilst playing squash to the attention of the committee. It is now a TWSRC requirement of membership that all squash-playing members either take advantage of the England Squash insurance or arrange their own insurance.
2. The need for some protection for our junior members has also been brought to the attention of the committee. The committee takes the club's duty of care to our junior members seriously, so all members are now required to read the attached document on child welfare at the club and, by signing the membership form, acknowledge that they agree to comply with the new requirements.

I hope you appreciate the reasons for these changes and that you will continue to enjoy the benefits of membership of Tunbridge Wells Squash Club.

Alison Barton

Membership Secretary.