

Badshot Lea Lawn Tennis Club

Founded 1936

The Green, Badshot Lea, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 9LB

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INTRODUCTION TO THE CLUB

Welcome to Badshot Lea Tennis Club. We offer you a well-run club with a friendly, family atmosphere and a programme of tennis and social events throughout the year. In this note we give new members and those thinking of joining, a brief introduction to the club and we try to answer some of the questions you may want to ask. If you have other questions or require further information you could ask a club member or get in touch with the Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer - they will be pleased to help.

History The Club was founded in 1936 and is an established and popular amenity within the local community. The Club also enjoys a good relationship with the local Recreation Ground and Waverley Council.

Location The Club benefits from being located at the end of a cul-de-sac, by the side of a recreation area, with views to the Hogs Back and surrounding countryside. The site is easily accessed from a well-used route (the B3208) between Farnham and Aldershot and, although only about 75 yards from the main road, is quiet without being isolated.

Facilities The Club has two hard courts which have been surfaced to modern standards. The court nearest the car park (public court) is available for hire, at £5 per hour, by members of the public when it is not being used by the Club (bookings made via the Chairman). A clubhouse between the two courts provides shelter and seating and includes toilet facilities and electricity. The clubhouse is a focal point for members to get to know each other between games and take refreshments if they wish. Adult and student members have coded access to the clubhouse. Club junior members are not permitted the code. Tennis racquets are not supplied by the Club. Car parking spaces are available adjacent to the public court.

Affiliations The Club is one of the earliest registered CASC Clubs and is also affiliated to LTA/Tennis Surrey. It is registered in 'Places to Play', with many of the Clubs members being LTA Advantage Play+ members.

Membership Annual membership runs from April 1st and the fees payable for the following season are:

Adult	£ 80
Senior Citizen (aged 60 or over)	£ 70
Student (over 18 but in full time education)	£ 57
Junior (aged under 18)	£ 25
Family (2 adults and their children under 18)	£160
Parent & child - one child	£ 50
Parent & child - two children	£ 75
Parent & child - three children	£100

The membership fees are reduced by 50% for new members joining after 1st August

Organisation The Club is run by members for the members. A Committee of members is elected at the AGM to manage the affairs of the Club. The elected officers are the Chairman, the Secretary, the Treasurer and the Match Secretary and other general Committee members. Particular attention is given to managing the finances, maintaining the facilities, encouraging membership and thus securing the long term future of the club. Many club members assist with organising events or generally help out when they can for the benefit and enjoyment of all. The Club operates according to a framework of simple Rules and Club Constitution.

Club Sessions From April to the end of September, the main Club night, for adult and student members, and junior members by invitation, is held on Thursday evenings starting at 6pm and finishing at dusk. This is a great opportunity to meet and play with other members of the Club irrespective of your standard. The evening is run so that each person gets a fair share of court time. Alternative Club sessions are sometimes held on Tuesday evenings from 6pm or at

weekends at times to suit the majority of members.

Competition The Club runs two annual Tournaments. A junior tournament is held in September, which is open to all junior members who are age 18 or under on 1st April. The main Club Tournament is run through the summer months with finals in September. This is open to all adult and student members, and juniors by invitation, including ladies and men's singles, ladies and men's doubles and a mixed doubles competition. Partners for the three doubles events are drawn at random which gives everyone a chance. The competition is run on a knockout basis between May and September culminating in a finals day. A small entry fee (£2.50) is levied for each event entered to cover the costs of the trophies presented to the finalists.

Social competitions (eg American tournaments) are also organised on an occasional basis – usually Sunday afternoon.

Team Tennis For those interested in playing "competitive tennis" against other Clubs, we enter a number of teams in the Aldershot and District Summer and Winter Leagues. We normally enter one men's team and one mixed team in the summer league (6 players in a team) and in the winter league (4 players in a team). The summer leagues are played between May and August and matches are held home and away (almost always within 10 miles of the Club, and often a lot closer) on weekday evenings starting at 6.30 pm. The winter league matches are played at weekends between October and March, usually on a Sunday morning starting at 10am. A match fee of £2 per person per match is charged to help cover the cost of providing new balls for each home match. ADLTA run some of the largest inter-club leagues in the country.

Availability Members of the Club may play other members at the Club at any time but must vacate courts when coaching or club sessions are being run, when team matches are to be played or when pre booked tournament matches or organised events are taking place. A calendar of events and court bookings are displayed in the clubhouse and on the club website (see below). Members may bring friends to play at the club for a fee of £4 per visitor, as long as no visitor attends more than four times per year. (**Note to juniors** – the courts are generally available from Monday to Friday up to 6pm and also on those evenings when there are no club matches. At the weekend the courts are generally available on Saturday or Sunday after 2pm)

Tennis Balls The Club provides tennis balls for use throughout the season both for Club Nights and when adult/student members turn up at other times. A "Ball steward" ensures that the balls available in the Club House are of a suitable standard for club sessions and general play.

Social/Other The Club organises social events through the year, depending on the level of interest. Past favourites include barbecues, pub skittles evening, and ten pin bowling. Events are advertised on the clubhouse notice boards, on the website and by e-mail. The Club members are encouraged to join, for free, the LTA Advantage Play+. This has many benefits, one of which is the entry to the Wimbledon Ballot for tickets to The Championships.

Coaching The Club runs regular coaching sessions for all ability levels with a highly respected LTA Level 3 coach. The group coaching sessions are held on Saturday mornings and typically last for 1½ hours. Please check website or contact the chairman for further details. Individual coaching can be arranged directly with the coach, as required.

Clothing The Club encourages members to wear clothing to the styles permitted by the Lawn Tennis Association. Most importantly, members will be required to wear appropriate non-marking tennis shoes without any heel whatsoever. Black soled shoes may cause marks and would significantly degrade the appearance of the courts and shorten the time before costly renovation.

HOW TO JOIN Prospective members may come along as visitors (at £4 per evening) for up to 4 club nights before joining – these costs are refunded on joining. Once new members have decided to join the process is:

- 1 Fill in the subscription form and send it, with the appropriate fee, to the Treasurer or Chairman.
- 2 A copy of club rules will be provided. Tournament entry forms, etc are in the club house.
- 3 The code to the Club House will be provided to Adult and Student members.

Further information may be found on the club's website at www.badshotleatennisclub.org.uk or by contacting the chairman:

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