

Bushy Park Tennis – Internal League Rules

1. Objectives and Introduction

1.1 The Bushy Park Internal League aims to promote friendly and competitive tennis, creating a structured ranking divided by level and category.

1.2 The league is open to **all players**, and **club membership is not required** to participate.

1.3 Available categories:

- Men's Singles
- Women's Singles
- Men's Doubles
- Women's Doubles

1.4 Each category will include **14 players or pairs**, grouped according to playing level.

1.5 The league will follow a **round-robin format**, where each player or pair competes against all others in their group.

1.6 Registration is only valid once the full entry fee has been paid.

1.7 Participation implies full acceptance of these rules.

2. Registration

2.1 Registrations will close on the deadline set by the organisation.

2.2 Any registration received after the deadline will be subject to availability.

2.3 If there are more registrations than available spots, additional groups or a waiting list may be created based on playing level.

2.4 Players may register for more than one category (e.g. singles and doubles).

2.5 Entry Fees and Payment

2.5.1 The league registration fee is €25 and must be paid in order to secure a place in the competition.

2.5.2 The final league fee will depend on the number of players or pairs in each category. Once the category is confirmed, the remaining balance will be calculated minus the €25 registration fee already paid.

2.5.3 Each category will have a maximum of 14 players or pairs, with a maximum total league fee of €140 per category.

2.5.4 The league runs over a 3-month period, offering excellent value through regular competitive matches and organised play.

3. Match Format

3.1 Matches will be played as **best of three sets**, with:

- **Golden Point** played on all deuce points
- A **7-point tie-break** in the first two sets
- A **10-point match tie-break** instead of a third set if required

This format is mandatory to help ensure matches can be completed within the allocated time.

3.2 The **maximum court time is 1 hour and 30 minutes**, including warm-up.

3.3 If a match cannot be completed within the time limit:

- Players may agree to continue the match on another date **before the round deadline**, or
- The match may be declared a **draw**, with points awarded accordingly.

3.4 Scoring system:

- Win: **3 points**
- Loss: **0 points**
- Match not completed due to time limit: **1 point each**
- No show (W.O.): **-1 point**

3.5 Players are responsible for organising their own matches within the assigned round period.

3.6 Court Booking

Court bookings will be organised **through the club**.

The preferred way to book a court is by **calling the club directly** and clearly stating:

- The names of both players (or pairs)**
- The league category being played**

If it is not possible to book the court directly through the club, players may then contact the league organiser at **0833942805** for assistance.

3.7 In case of disagreement regarding balls, official club balls will be used, or players may purchase new balls at reception.

4. Match Organisation

4.1 Each round will have a fixed deadline (normally one week).

4.2 Players must contact their opponent to agree on a match date and time.

4.3 If a player does not respond or fails to propose reasonable dates, the opponent may request a W.O. win from the organisation.

4.4 Results must be submitted in the official Google Sheet before the round deadline.

4.5 Matches are **strongly encouraged to be played at Bushy Park Tennis & Padel Club**. However, if **both players agree**, matches may be played at another venue.

In such cases:

- The match result will still count for the league
 - **No part of the entry fee will be refunded**, as the league fee already includes access to free matches at the club
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5. Substitutions (Doubles Only)

5.1 A substitute player may be used in case of injury or justified absence.

5.2 The substitute must be of a similar or lower level and approved by the organisation.

5.3 If a pair reaches the semi-finals or final with a substitute, the same substitute must continue until the end.

5.4 Points and results always count for the original pair.

6. Ranking and Promotions / Relegations

6.1 Rankings will be based on total points earned.

6.2 In case of a tie, the following criteria will apply (in order):

1. Head-to-head result
2. Set difference
3. Game difference
4. Number of wins

6.3 At the end of the league:

- The **top 4 players or pairs** will move up to a higher group
- The **bottom 4 players or pairs** will move down to a lower group (if applicable)

6.4 Players who fail to complete at least **half of their matches** may be excluded from the next season.

7. Walkovers (W.O.)

7.1 A player arriving more than **15 minutes late** will forfeit the match (W.O.).

7.2 If no result is reported by the round deadline, a **no-penalty W.O.** will be applied to both players.

7.3 **Three unjustified W.O.s** will result in disqualification from the league.

7.4 Matches may only be played after the deadline with prior approval from both players and the organisation.

8. Special Cases

8.1 Any situation not covered by these rules will be resolved by the organiser.

8.2 The decisions of the league coordinator or referee are final.

9. Awards and Club Ranking

9.1 The winners of each category will receive a trophy or symbolic prize.

9.2 League results may contribute to an annual internal club ranking.

9.3 In case of a tie in the final standings, the position will be shared.

10. Data and Image Protection

10.1 By registering, participants agree that their names, results, and photos may be published on the club's website, social media, and internal communications.

10.2 No personal data will be shared outside Bushy Park Tennis & Padel Club.