

1. Name and Objects

The Club shall be named North Meols Lawn Tennis Club and shall have for its objects the provision, enhancement and enjoyment of lawn tennis, social and other facilities for its Members.

2. Constitution

The Club is constituted by these rules as a non profit-making Members' Club. In no circumstances during the continuance of the Club, nor after its dissolution, shall any assets or surplus funds be distributed to any Member or other person, nor to any organisation which is not in itself either constituted as non profit-making or a charity.

3. Affiliation

The Club shall seek affiliation to The Lawn Tennis Association through the appropriate county lawn tennis association and adopt and conform to the Rules of these organisations in so far as they can apply.

4. Classes of Member

- i There shall be the following Classes of Member:
 - Full playing
 - Family (children under 18 on 1st April)
 - Intermediate (over 16 but under 21 on 1st April)
 - Junior (under 16 on 1st April)
 - Mini-member (under 10 on 1st April)
 - Country (resides not less than 15 miles from the Club premises)
 - Table tennis
 - Non-playing (Social)
- ii An entrance fee for new Members will be charged. This may be waived by the Committee in exceptional circumstances.
- iii The Subscriptions and Entrance fee shall be fixed at the Annual General Meeting.
- iv The subscription year runs from 1st April to 31st March.
- v For a subscription paid before 1st May there will be a reduction which will be set at the Annual General Meeting.
- vi A Member of the Club who has not paid by 1st June will cease to be a member (and any re-election will then be subject to the normal procedure).
- vii The subscription and entrance fee of a new Member shall be due with their application for membership. If election to membership does not take place any fees and subscriptions will be refunded;
- viii At the discretion of the Membership Secretary, the candidate may be allowed to use the Club pending the Committee's consideration of the application.
- ix For a new Member applying after the 1st of September the Committee may at their discretion accept a proportionately reduced subscription for the part-year. Likewise they may make a refund to a Member who becomes unable to use the Club for a substantial part of the year on account of injury, illness or departure from the district.

5. Accountancy Year

Except for the purpose of subscriptions [See Rule 4iv) the Club's financial year shall run from 1st January to 31st December and the accounts submitted to the Annual General Meeting shall be prepared accordingly.

6. Election of Members

- i Honorary Membership including Honorary Life Membership, shall be strictly limited and at the discretion of the Committee, by way of reward for special services to the Club.
- ii For other classes of Membership provided in Rule 4, a candidate shall be proposed and seconded by members aged 18 or over on a form to be provided for the purpose. Every application shall be considered by the Committee, whose decision shall be by a simple majority and shall be final.
- iii The Committee shall have the power to limit the numbers of members in the respective Classes if they consider this necessary.
- iv The Membership Secretary may issue a preliminary acceptance to junior applicants, in the interest of a fast turn-around of junior identification tags during peak season. The applicant will still be subjected to the approval proved as defined in Rule 6.ii.

7. Resignation or Transfer between Classes

A Member wishing to withdraw from membership or to transfer to a Class at a lower rate of subscription shall notify the Secretary in writing and otherwise shall be liable for the full subscription.

8. Suspension or Expulsion

The Committee shall have the power to terminate or suspend the membership of any Member or to exclude any Member or Visitor whom it considers guilty of a breach of these Rules or of misconduct or offensive behaviour to any other Member, Visitor or Employee, whether on the Club's premises or elsewhere.

9. Injury, Loss of Property Etc

Members or Visitors leaving unattended vehicles, racquets, clothing or other property at the Club, its land or premises do so at their own risk and the Club shall not be responsible for any loss, damage or injury resulting from this or any other cause.

10. Visitors

- i Visitors may be introduced by an adult member. Before a Visitor plays, the Member introducing him/her must make an appropriate entry in the Visitors Book and pay the fee. The liability for fees will be the responsibility of the member introducing the visitor.
- ii A Non-Playing Member may play, at the same fee as a Visitor, but neither a Visitor nor a Non-Playing Member may play more than four times in any Subscription Year except with the special permission of the Committee.
- iii Every member of a visiting match team shall be an Honorary Member for the day and every competitor in a tournament at the Club (and in the case of a competitor under the age of 18 his/her parent or guardian) shall be an Honorary Member for the period of the tournament.

11. Officers

- i The Officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice Presidents, Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Club Captain.
- ii The Officers shall be elected by ballot at the Annual General Meeting.
- iii An Annual General Meeting may appoint Honorary Life Vice Presidents, who shall enjoy all the privileges of playing membership but shall not be liable for subscription.

12. Management

- i The management of the Club shall be in the entire control of a Committee consisting of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Club Captain, Match Secretary, Ladies Secretary, Tournament Secretary, Ground Chairman, House Secretary, Bar Secretary, Social Secretary, Juniors Secretary and Table Tennis Secretary and up to three members of the Club.
- ii All shall be elected for the year at the Annual General Meeting.
- iii The Committee shall elect members in accordance with Rule 6 and shall from time to time make and revise the Club's Regulations and shall have power to decide any matter unprovided for by these Rules and the current Regulations, incorporating the express power to borrow money on behalf of the club.
- iv They shall meet at least four times in every year and additionally as circumstances may require.
- v The quorum of the Committee shall be six and in the event of equality of voting the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.
- vi The Committee may delegate any part of its duties (except the election of Members) to one or more sub-committees which may be composed of any Members of the Club, but any sub-committee to control a bar supplying intoxicating liquor shall be appointed in accordance with the Licensing requirements.

13. General Meeting

- i An Annual General Meeting shall be held in February each year.
- ii The Committee shall call an extraordinary general meeting at their discretion or within one month of receipt by the Secretary of a requisition signed by twenty Members or, if the total membership is less than 100, by one-fifth of the members, stating the business proposed to be transacted.
- iii Any Member wishing to propose a resolution at the Annual General Meeting must send a copy thereof to the Secretary before 31st January so that provision may be made on the Agenda.
- iv The Secretary shall send to every Member at least seven days' notice of any general meeting, together with a copy of the Agenda.
- v The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be the confirmation of the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting and of any subsequent Extraordinary General Meetings, the

- consideration of the Committee's report and the Treasurer's Accounts for the year, the election of officers and Committee for the ensuing year, the appointment of an Independent Examiner, and any items of which notice has been given and details included in the Agenda.
- vi The business of an Extraordinary General Meeting shall be in accordance with the requisition under which it was summoned and the Agenda issued.
 - vii At any general meeting further business may be accepted at the discretion of the Chair provided that it does not call for an alteration of Rules, the winding up of the Club, the transfer of any of the Club's assets, the borrowing of money or any expenditure not within the immediate financial resources of the Club.

- viii Every Member shall be entitled to be present and to speak at any general meeting and, if aged 18 years or over, to vote thereat. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chair shall have a second or casting vote.
- ix At any general meeting the quorum shall be 15 Members entitled to vote.

14. Rules and Regulations

- i A copy of these Rules and of the Regulations made by the Committee under Rule 12 shall be prominently displayed at all times on the Club notice board and all Members shall be deemed to be conversant therewith.

- ii The Rules shall not be altered except at a general meeting after due notice, and then only provided that two-thirds of those present and voting are in favour.
- iii The Regulations shall be made and periodically revised by the Committee.

15. Dissolution

The Club shall be dissolved on the passing of a resolution to that effect at a general meeting after due notice, by at least two-thirds of those present and voting. Such a meeting shall appoint a committee to wind up the affairs of the Club and shall give general directions as to the disposal of any assets, within the scope of Rule 2.

Regulations - as of Feb 2009

1. Opening Hours

- i Junior and mini members must leave the Clubhouse and grounds at dusk unless accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.
- ii Junior & Mini Members are not allowed in the Clubhouse at any time unless adult members are present.
- iii Licensing Hours: The hours for the supply of intoxicants shall be in accordance with the permitted hours of the licence.
- iv Mini members must be accompanied by a parent at all times.

2. Courts

- i The hours of play are from 9am to dusk but grass (natural) courts shall not be played on before 1pm on weekdays or 11 am at weekends and after 8.45pm. Grass courts shall not be played on when wet or damp.
- ii Junior & Mini Members must not play on courts adjacent to courts where Club matches are in progress.
- iii In the absence of a Committee Member, the Groundsman is authorised to close courts if they are unfit for play.

3. Dress Code

- i Members and Visitors should wear predominantly white tennis clothing, except for tracksuits in bad weather. Tennis skirts and shorts in navy blue, and dresses in pastel colours, are also preferred tennis apparel.
- ii Shoes to be worn on court must be suitable for the surface of the court. Shoes are also preferred to be predominantly white.

4. Club Play

- i No player shall occupy any one court for more than one short set (i.e. a maximum of 11 games) if other players are waiting.
- ii When others are waiting to play, "singles" must give way to "doubles".
- iii Senior and Intermediate Members always have priority in the use of courts.
- iv When all courts are in use, where possible, a court will be reserved for Juniors. However any Committee member may ask Juniors to leave the reserved court when there are a number of other members waiting to play.
- v Junior members may be invited to play with Senior or Intermediate players.
- vi To encourage 'social' tennis a pegboard system may operate on Saturday afternoons between 2pm and 5pm subject to requirements.
- vii One court, designated the 'Coaching Priority' court is reserved for the use of the club head coach.
- viii The 'Coaching Priority' court shall be available for coaching at most times, including hours of darkness, with the following exceptions;-
 - During Saturday afternoons & evenings, from 12noon onwards.
 - During club tournament finals days, both Senior and Junior.
 - During inter-club tournaments / events (arrangements will be publicised well in advance, and may well be made with the involvement of the club coach).

Note: The court remains a 'Coaching Priority' court during match nights

ix Hours of Darkness

If a coaching session has not commenced at the turn of the hour, then members may adopt the court for general play. Players will do so on the understanding that the coach has a right to commence preparations for next hour's coaching session before the conclusion of the hours play.

This will allow members to utilise the court should it not be needed for coaching.

5. Tennis Balls

- i Tennis balls will be provided for all playing Members except Junior & Mini Members.
- ii No more than four balls per court.
- iii Balls must be returned to the Clubhouse after play ('lost' balls should be retrieved as soon as possible)

6. Discipline

Members found contravening any of these regulations will be reported to the Committee who will consider taking one of the following actions:

- I) verbal warning
- II) written warning
- III) suspension from the Club for a specified time
- IV) permanent ban from the Club.