



Twickenham Lawn Tennis Club

# Twickenham Lawn Tennis Club Vision Statement

*'To provide excellent tennis and social facilities to the local community, with a strong youth section and an emphasis on player development for members of all ages'*

## Background

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Twickenham Lawn Tennis Club (TLTC) is a vibrant mid-sized tennis club that has been providing tennis facilities for residents of Twickenham and the surrounding areas for over 100 years. The club has 5 tennis courts and access to 3 more at the adjacent school. In 2009 the club opened a new clubhouse and in 2010 went on to resurface its courts with the versatile Matchplay 2 all-weather playing surface. In 2010 the club received Clubmark accreditation from the LTA. The club has over 100 adult members and over 80 junior members.

## Vision for the Running of the Club

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### Playing Priorities

- We want to play tennis of a good standard and attract strong players from our catchment area. We currently have 4 men's and 3 women's teams in the Middlesex summer leagues; we want them to attain the highest level in the leagues that they can comfortably sustain.
- We want to have a strong social section where players can turn up and be assured of a good game of social tennis in the evenings and weekends. We will organise some of these sessions so players can be assured of proper mixing in and balanced games.
- We will encourage junior members whom the coaches recommend to join in social tennis and the teams as and when they are ready to do so.
- We want to provide professional coaching for members of all standards and levels. We will encourage our members to undertake individual coaching. We will also organise group coaching both for team and social players.
- We do not have the court capacity at evenings and weekends regularly to cope with beginners. We will organise off peak sessions for beginners and improvers and maintain our links with coaching at local public courts for those who are not available during the working week.
- We will have a 'playing in' arrangement for adult players who want to join the club so that reasonable standards are maintained for social tennis. Those not ready for this level will be referred to beginners/improvers sessions above.
- We will focus considerable effort in recruiting and coaching juniors and helping them attain the highest standard they can achieve. We will run regular junior coaching sessions and also run tennis camps during the school holidays.
- We will encourage new members to join the club (for adults, when they have attained the necessary standard) whenever we have spare capacity. We will run promotional/recruitment events from time to time.

### Health and Wellbeing of Members

- We will do all we can to maintain the health and safety of our members by ensuring our facilities are safe and well maintained and by taking out appropriate insurance to guard against unexpected problems.
- We will ensure that our coaches hold the appropriate qualifications.



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- We will ensure that those who work with young people have CRB checks.
- We will encourage all our members to develop their fitness and wear appropriate tennis shoes and clothing.
- We will maintain a first aid box and keep an up to date accident book at the club and encourage some of our members to undertake first aid training.

## Development of Facilities

- We will develop our facilities to the best affordable level we can achieve.
- We will have a Facilities Manager who will be charged with the maintenance and development of our courts and other facilities.
- We will ensure our facilities are disabled-friendly and safe for families with young children.
- We will seek to develop our relationship with our neighbouring establishments Orleans Park School and the Orleans Gallery.
- We will maintain a dialogue with local residents to ensure they are satisfied that the development of our facilities does not jeopardise their interests.

## Club Finances

- We will ensure that at all times we have an appropriately qualified Treasurer who is jointly charged with the Chair and the Committee with ensuring the club is financially viable.
- We will have our accounts audited annually by a reputable person.
- As a general principle we will seek not to put the club in debt, but raise funds and grants and generate profits that enable us to develop our facilities at a rate we can afford.
- There will be an appropriate system of financial regulation designed to ensure that all major expenditure is properly planned by the full Committee except in an emergency
- We will operate the club on a not-for-profit basis and any surplus of income over expenditure will be held on account or re-invested in the club.

## Governance

- There will be a properly elected club committee that meets regularly throughout the year. The Club will appoint a Chair and Secretary who are responsible for ensuring that all necessary decisions associated with the running of the club are taken.
- The club will seek to maintain its LTA 'Clubmark' accreditation to ensure its activities are undertaken to a nationally approved standard.
- There will be a structure of properly appointed officers of the club: some - but not all - of whom will have sub committees to assist them.
- The officers of the club will seek to keep the full membership of the club informed of key decisions taken on their behalf; these will also be reported more widely via the website as appropriate.
- The club will hold an annual AGM and other full meetings of the membership as required. The full membership is the ultimate decision making body of the club and will be consulted whenever the Committee wishes to take decisions with wide-reaching implications.

## Equality of Opportunity

- Members will be treated equally regardless of age, religion or belief, sexual orientation, disability, gender or race.
- Discrimination of any type will not be tolerated.
- The club will seek to operate on principles of openness and inclusivity in all its activities.

## Social Activity

- The club will seek to be a sociable place where members and visitors are always made to feel welcome.



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- We will run regular social and fundraising events throughout the year so that members get the chance to get to know each other socially and enjoy a variety of off-court activities.
- We will run a licensed bar but nonetheless encourage sensible and responsible drinking.

### **Regular review of this vision**

- This document will be updated regularly and made available to all members for comment.
- It will be displayed on the TLTC website.
- The vision for the principles underpinning the running of the club will be reviewed annually at the AGM.

RGK 10.7.09, updated 19.9.10, 26.10.11