



## COURT RULES AND REGULATIONS

### 1. WHO CAN PLAY

(a) Only members **in good standing** (i.e. members who have paid their fees in full), and under the following conditions of privilege:

- **Full year** members (May 1 to April 30) and **summer** members (May 1 to September 30) have full access to available outdoor clay courts and to booking indoor courts in the bubble.
- **Winter** members (October 1 to April 30) can book indoor courts only.
- **Adult** members can book available indoor courts **7 days in advance** and may bring guests (see (b) Guests below)
- **Junior** members (18 and under) can book available indoor courts **5 days in advance** and are not permitted to bring guests.
- **Junior** members may play on outdoor clay courts but are subject to the rules that are enforced during busy times (see Clay Courts Reservation Board – (j) Junior play on outdoor courts)

(b) Guests (non-members) may be invited to the Club once per month when accompanied by an adult member. **It is the member's responsibility to sign in and pay the required fee for the guest before playing.** Guest fees are charged for each visit in addition to the court fees if applicable. Failure to pay the required guest fee will result in a fine that will be charged to the member in addition to the guest fee.

(c) Special privileges and restrictions exist for University of Waterloo Student Clubs, Public (Community) Access, and University/ College Student Access.

### 2. SUMMER PLAY CLAY COURTS REGULATIONS

(i) The Court Reservation Board

(a) The reservations board must be used at all times. Players must put up a tile with their **name(s)** and **starting time** on it in order to guarantee a court. Once the name(s) are on the tile and the tile is placed on a specific court number, players must proceed to their court. Courts are considered open if players' **names** and **starting times** are not under the proper court number on the board.

(b) Time is limited to 45 minutes when others are waiting. We recommend that everyone sweep and line the courts before they play. If you are going to do this, add +10 to your start time.

(c) Courts 1, 2 & 3 may be reserved for the same hourly fee that is charged for the indoor courts. Reservations must be made at least one hour in advance.

(d) When Courts 1-6 are full, then a waiting list can begin. Indoor courts may also be used, but are not included in the waiting process for Courts 1-6 and are subject to availability and the appropriate fees.



(e) Players who choose to wait must place a tile with their name on it as far to the left side of the Waiting Row as possible. If other tiles are on the Waiting Row, then place your tile next in line. When 45 minutes (or 55 minutes if +10 has been added) has elapsed from the earliest starting time from Courts 1-6, the first tile on the left is up next. The players will remove the tile from the Waiting Row, write the **start time** on it, and place it in the appropriate court slot that is being bumped. Place the bumped tile accordingly on the Waiting Row. The players who were bumped may remain on the Waiting Row or replace their tile in the tile-holder so that it does not remain on the Waiting Row. **Please do not jump the queue.**

(f) Players cannot both be playing on court and also have another tile in the Waiting Row. Your time allotment has to expire or have been bumped before you can refresh the time on your tile.

(g) When being bumped, players may only complete the point in play.

(h) If four or more tiles are in the Waiting Row, singles play is limited to 35 minutes.

(i) Doubles play only: When five groups of doubles are waiting, desk staff may invoke doubles-only play on all outdoor courts, even if singles teams have been waiting. Under doubles-only playing conditions, desk staff or his/her designate will try to form compatible groupings. No singles matches can be initiated when this condition applies, but all singles matches in progress can finish their full time allotment. Normally, this rule is applied only to the outdoor courts.

(j) **Junior Play on Outdoor Courts:** Juniors are allowed access to outdoor courts. However, adult members have precedence over junior members when there are four or more tiles of adult players in the Waiting Row.

(k) There must be at least two players ready to play before any group can be bumped. Groups of two or more players have precedent over one player who may already be on the court.

#### (ii) Summer Court Reservations

Outdoor court reservations, with the exception of Court 1, 2 & 3, will only apply for special events, club-organized leagues and round robins, inter-club leagues, tournaments or as deemed necessary by the manager.

#### (iii) Clay Court Maintenance

Your cooperation with the court crew will be appreciated. The outdoor courts will be closed down (usually two at a time) for clean-up and watering during the following times:

During the day as determined by management. Time will be posted in advance.

On weekday evenings, starting at 9:30 pm. All courts will close at 11:00 pm.

On weekend evenings, starting at 7:00 pm. All courts will close at 10:00 pm.

**The club reserves the right to close courts at any time if necessary for special maintenance**



### 3. INDOOR COURTS REGULATIONS AND FEES

- (a) To avoid disappointment, we suggest that you reserve your court up to 7 days in advance for adults and 5 days in advance for juniors. The courts may be reserved in person, by telephone or online. **When reserving, please provide your full name and the names of your partners or guests.** Should you have to cancel, you must do so at least 24 hours in advance of the booked time. **Failure to cancel will result in the member being charged for the court time. "No shows" will also result in a charge.**
- (b) Members should check in **immediately** (at the front desk/bar) to get their court assignment, to pay for the court and guest fees, if any.
- (c) Non-members wishing to play more than once a month can do so only on the indoor courts by reserving a court in their name and paying the public court fee.
  - **Reservations for public indoor court time** can be made 2 days in advance at the earliest.
  - The non-member court fee applies to all the players on such a court regardless of membership status.
- (d) Court Fees are set annually by the Board of Directors for each of the following categories:

Non-Prime Time – Opening to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday  
6 p.m. to closing, weekends

Prime Time – 4 p.m. to closing, Monday to Friday  
Opening to 6 p.m. weekends

Student Rate - Applies anytime

Guest Fee - Applies anytime

### 4. DRESS CODE

- (a) Court shoes are recommended on both indoor and outdoor courts. They are certified non-marking on the indoor courts and will not damage the clay courts. Shoes with soles that will mark the indoor courts are not permitted. Shoes with heels, bars, high-ribbed soles, coarse treads etc. also are not permitted.
- (b) Appropriate tennis wear is expected.

### 5. COACHING

- (a) Coaching is permitted at any time only on specified courts.
- (b) Coaching courts may be reserved in the following order of priority
  - (i) Program classes and regularly scheduled clinics
  - (ii) Waterloo Tennis Club professional coaches for private lessons
  - (iii) Private/external coaches, as approved on a case by case basis
- (c) Coaching courts must be reserved by the Waterloo Tennis Club Head Coach or his / her designate.



## 6. ON-COURT RULES and TENNIS ETIQUETTE

Here are a few tips for making the game more enjoyable for everyone:

- **No spectators** are allowed on the courts, including members and members' children. No unofficial ball persons are allowed. Exceptions may exist under specified conditions, with proper etiquette, during certain events (e.g. inter-urban play, tournaments).
- Players must be considerate of the game in progress. When entering the courts, wait until a break in play and ensure that the gates to the outdoor courts or curtains in the bubble are closed securely. Open gates and curtains are a hazard.
- **Food and smoking** are not allowed on the courts. Except for water containers, no drinks are allowed on the courts.
- **Loud conversations, abusive language and outbursts of anger** are not permitted.
- **Equipment such as nets, net posts, court surface** etc. must not be physically abused.
- Always call your opponent's shots and let your opponent call yours.
- Call only the **out** shots. If there is no call the ball is **in**.
- If in doubt, the point is **in**. Do not offer to play the point again.
- Hand signals are often convenient – point to the sky if ball is **out** – a flat open palm facing downward for **in**.
- The server should keep the score and call it before each point – the ball shouldn't be served if the score is in doubt.
- If a stray ball comes onto the court while a point is being played, call a let automatically – this is simpler than trying to determine whether it affected the player or not. Either the serving or the returning player(s) can call a let.
- Do not enter another court area to retrieve a ball. Kindly ask for your ball to be returned when play on the court that your ball has rolled onto has stopped.
- Return balls to the rear of another court if play is in progress on that court.
- Belongings should be piled beside the net post. Placing belongings at the back of the court lends itself to a potential safety hazard if a player is trying to retrieve a deep lob.
- Players using more than six balls per court should make every effort to ensure that doing so does not result in more interruptions to play on adjoining courts than is considered reasonable. Should there be complaints, no more than six balls will be allowed. Please be considerate and exercise good sense at all times.

*Revised May 1, 2019*