



CLUB HANDBOOK

ST. ANNE'S
WATERFORD TENNIS CLUB





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Tennis Club





CONTENTS

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CLUB	4
MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FOR ADULT AND JUNIOR MEMBERS	6
COURTS, CLUBHOUSE AND FACILITIES INFORMATION	7
TENNIS & FITNESS PROGRAMME	12
SOCIAL AND GENERAL INFORMATION	15



4





A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR CLUB

St Anne's Tennis Club was established in 1920, with the purpose of providing tennis, social and other activities to encourage the playing of tennis.

Prior to 1954, two tennis clubs were operating in the John's Hill area of Waterford. The older club was called Waterford Lawn Tennis Club and it operated in the grounds currently occupied by St. Anne's Waterford Tennis Club.

The second club operating in the John's Hill area was called St. Anne's Lawn Tennis Club and was in the grounds of the County Hospital (St Patrick's Hospital) on the land on which the new Cheshire Homes are now built. Tennis was played on the St. Anne's courts from the mid 1920's.

The County Hospital Board decided in 1954 to reclaim the tennis club land at the end of the tennis season. As the Waterford Lawn Tennis Club had only a small membership, it was decided by the committees of both clubs to amalgamate in the winter of 1954 under the new name St. Anne's Waterford Lawn Tennis Club.

The club opened under the new name in the premises of the former Waterford Lawn Tennis Club in May 1955 where the club has remained since.





MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION FOR ADULT AND JUNIOR MEMBERS

Membership Categories

Membership of St Anne's Club is valid until 31st March each year. There are presently 8 membership categories:

1. Senior Membership
2. Husband & Wife / Civil Partner
3. **Senior Family (two Parents)
4. **Senior Family (one Parent)
5. Junior Membership
6. Junior Family Membership
7. Pavilion / Social Membership
8. Country Membership (Adult – 50km)

** Senior Family (two parent members), Senior Family (one parent member) includes juniors up to the age of 18, or, if in full time education, up to the age of 23.

*** We also offer special promotional membership packages from time to time.

Guests

Members can invite guests to the club to play tennis. Guest fees are €10 per visit per adult visitor. Guest fees should be paid to the Office or Bar.





COURTS, CLUBHOUSE AND FACILITIES INFORMATION

Club and Clubhouse Facilities

The Club and Clubhouse has the following facilities:-

- 9 Floodlight Tennis Courts
- A practice wall
- 2 mini courts
- Changing rooms, Showers and Toilets
- Table Tennis Table and Kids Room
- Balcony for viewing tennis
- Fully Licensed Bar - Open 5 nights (and weekends during specific events)
- Comfortable lounge area with seating
- Kitchen (for event Catering)

The Clubhouse is open Monday to Saturday from 9am to 11pm and available for all members to use as required. During all other times the Clubhouse is kept locked for security reasons. We provide a card for all full adult members.

Members and immediate family are entitled to hire the clubhouse for private functions.

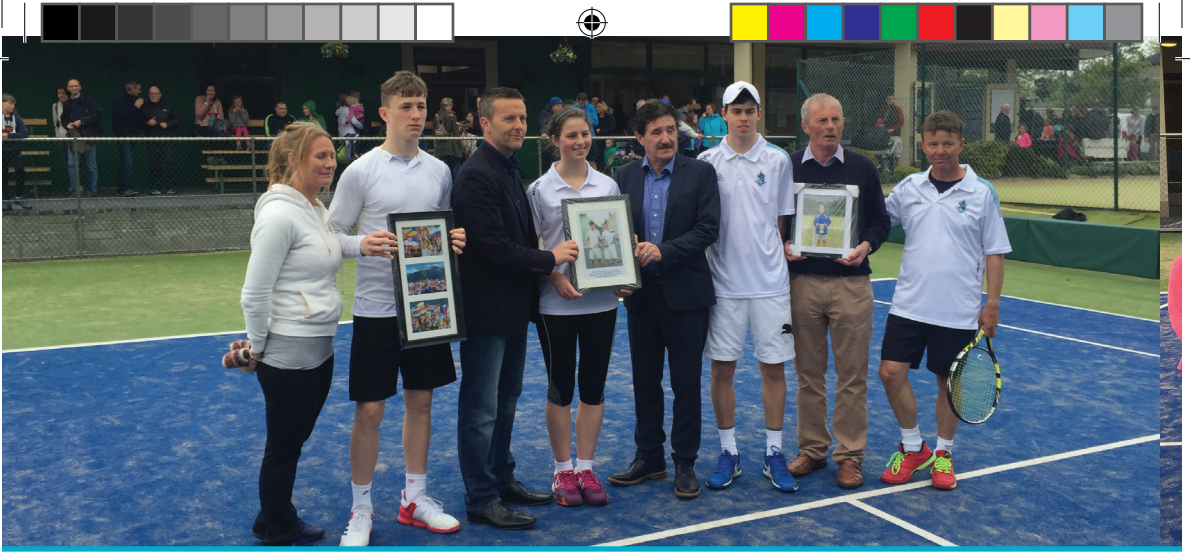
Tennis Courts at St Anne's

The club has 9 courts, designed for year round tennis for members. The surface is playable in all type of weather.

All courts are artificial grass courts with flood lights.

There is a booking process and system in place for play during the peak hours of 6pm to 10pm Monday to Friday. For more information on the booking system please speak to our office staff.





Floodlights

All Courts have floodlight facilities, and these are ‘membership card’ operated from the Clubhouse lobby. Members can load money to their card in the bar or office.

Floodlights on courts 1 to 7 can be operated until bar closes, whereas on courts 8 & 9 they must be turned off by 10pm – due to consideration for local residences.

Information on Access to the Club and Courts

The club opening hours are 9am to 11pm Monday to Saturday and office/administrative hours are 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday.

Full Adult members are provided with a card so as to gain access to the club grounds and clubhouse during non-office hours including Sundays.

Juniors are permitted to use the courts on Sundays and public holidays when supervised by an adult member.

Junior supervised playing time is from 3-6pm during winter months and 10.30 – 12.30 and 2-6pm during summer months. Senior playing times is from 9am – 11am Monday to Saturday with limited adult court availability during junior times.

Clothing must be suitable for sports activities, e.g. no jeans and jerseys and tennis runners must be worn.





Members Card System – Usage Guidelines

YOUR CARD

Your card controls your access to the club's facilities. Your card is unique and is identifiable by the ID number printed on the front of the card. This number is unique to you. The card will allow you to make purchases in the bar, to pay for court lights, and make apparel or other purchases provided sufficient credit is stored on the card. Ones credit balances can be checked and topped-up at the bar.

In the event that the card is lost, or mislaid, please inform the office in the club immediately so that the access and credit features can be disabled. A new card will be issued to you once the old one has been cancelled.

PURCHASES

To make a purchase in the bar please hand your card to the person behind the bar and they will deduct the relevant amount of your purchase from the card balance. The credit balance is stored in the chip inside the card.

You can top-up your credit at any time either at the bar and the administrative office.





Club and Clubhouse Access

Your card will allow you to open the following doors / gates between the hours of 8:00am – 11pm:

- Main gate
- Pedestrian gate
- Clubhouse front door
- Changing room door

If you are first to open the Clubhouse please disable the alarm system immediately by placing your card beside the card reader located underneath the alarm panel.

Each of the doors/gates can be unlocked, or disabled in the case of the alarm, by placing your card beside the card reader located on the wall beside each of the doors or gates. Please push the door to open it after you have placed your card beside the reader to unlock it. In the case of the main gate, electric motors will automatically open the gate and keep it open until you have entered. Once inside the door will close behind you and will lock. To open the door from the inside please press the white switch to the side of the door (located beside the green emergency box) to unlock the door.

If you are in the club car park and the main gate is closed, please drive your car slowly over the pressure pad located just inside the



entrance to the car park. The gates will automatically begin to open once the car is sensed. Please stop your car until the gates are completely open. Once the gates are fully open you can then leave and the gates will automatically close behind you.

Court Floodlights

To purchase light time please select your court using the keypad on the light control panel. Please place your card up to the card reader. This will give you 30 minutes of light time. For more time please repeat the process.

Your card balance will be reduced by €1.50 for every 30 minutes of light time used.

Courts and cancellations

If it is your responsibility to cancel a court please let the club official know at your earliest convenience or cancel the court through the club's online booking system. For convenience purposes we advise all members to register on the club's online booking system. With a strong demand for courts, it is very annoying to see a reserved court lying empty.





TENNIS & FITNESS PROGRAMME

Tennis & Fitness Programme

A seasonal programme of tennis activities including group coaching sessions, progressive Tennis 10s, supervised tennis, organised social tournaments, and fitness activities is provided for members.

The programme caters for all levels of tennis ability and has the objective of helping members improve their tennis, make friends, stay fit and have great fun.

The club contracts the services of 4 coaches and a number of tennis assistants that help deliver the seasonal programmes and who are also available for private lessons. The Coaches are Emma Maguire, Patrick McGrath, William Guiry and Willie Reynolds.

For further information see our notice board and/or contact the club office. Payments for all activities can be made via the office or bar.

Competition Programme

The club encourages and invites all adult and junior members to play competitive tennis.

SENIOR CALENDAR:

Currently there are two Munster Branch senior leagues, the Munster Winter (grade 1 to 6) and Munster Summer Cups (grade 1 to 6).

Morgan Lohan, St Annes and Katie Kirby St Annes representing Ireland in the U18 International Games in Austria





Adult Team selection is managed by the Club Captain.

The club also has a programme of “friendly” competitive fixtures throughout the year for all abilities. These include an Open Championship, a Club Championship, American or Whistle-stop Tournaments, the Morris’s DIY Mixed Doubles Winter League and the Arachas Spring League (Men’s and Ladies Doubles) and the Mulligans/Specsavers Inter-Firms. A singles ladder and mixed doubles ladder goes on throughout the year.

JUNIOR CALENDAR:

The junior competition programme includes: Club Teams (U12, U14, U16 and U18) competing with other Munster Clubs; the Junior Open Week (July); and the Club Championships (Sept).

In addition a number of Junior Ladders and Tennis 10 tournaments are also provided.

Junior Team selection is managed by the Junior Club Captain.

To learn more or to find out what’s on, please reference our notice board, website or contact our Office.



SOCIAL AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Social Events

The club holds regular social events for members and their families and friends and tournament related social nights.

For details of what's on please contact our Office.

Clubhouse Hire

The Clubhouse can be hired to Members for private functions. Applications to be made in writing or by email to:

St Anne's Waterford Tennis Club or info@stannestennis.com

For some events, an additional charge may be required.

St Anne's Club Annual General Meeting

St Anne's Club Annual General Meeting is held in mid-March to review the year's activities and vote on any matter arising for the club rules and standing orders.

All members are invited to attend, however only those Full Playing Adult Members are permitted to vote.

Tennis Etiquette

Tennis etiquette is not about wearing "whites" or saying "well played" at the drop of a hat! It is about the little things that help a match go smoothly, don't spook your opponent and show consideration to players on other courts. Most of what follows is common sense.





Occasionally the key points of etiquette overlap with the written rules of the game and if you really want to get your advanced tennis driving license you could do a lot worse than spending a little time with the rule book. Available on our website!

But follow these guidelines and you will find friendly, competitive tennis more fun than ever.

WAIT YOUR TURN

Don't barge your way onto court until your allotted booking time. When your turn comes, let the people before you finish the game they are playing before taking over the court.

WARM-UP LIKE A PRO

Keep your pre-match warm-up brief – the pros stick to five minutes, and so should you.

DECISIONS, DECISIONS ...

To decide who will serve first, toss a coin or spin a racquet. The person who wins the toss may choose to serve, receive, pick which end of the court they would like or even make their opponent choose.

SERVE THE RIGHT WAY

Before you serve, make sure your opponent is ready to receive. While the rules say you should take no more than 20 seconds between points, you don't want to win a point by serving at your opponent's back.

NO RETURN NECESSARY

If your opponent serves a first-serve fault, don't hit a return back unless the call was so close that you had no option but to hit the ball.

WALK WITH CARE

Don't walk behind another court during a point, across someone else's court while they're in the middle of a game or interrupt a point on another court to retrieve a ball.





THAT BALL WAS OUT!

You call the ball on your side of the net. If you saw the ball out, it is out and your opponent has to accept it with good grace. But you have to be sure. If you are in any doubt, the ball is in! Don't suggest to your opponent that you will play a let (i.e. play the point again) and don't agree to do so if he or she asks. For a start it lengthens the game, then it undermines your ability to make a judgement and at worst a dominant player has an opportunity to steamroller his or her opponent.

You may of course challenge your opponent's call. The most effective approach is to ask if he or she is quite sure. If they are not, then the point is yours.

HERE ARE SOME MORE THOUGHTS FROM A TENNIS OFFICIAL:

If you aren't sure, the ball is in!

Most people want to be thought of as a fair caller so try to accept that calling when you are on the move is an art.

In Doubles make sure your partner is watch your lines and helping you to make the right call

Remember people make mistakes all the time (especially from bad angles) don't assume they are cheating deliberately; instead assume they are bad at calling. It helps you to cope!

GOT TWO?

Make sure the server always has two balls at their end of the court. When you are feeding balls up the court, hit or roll them gently within reach of the server, don't delay play by spraying them around.

LET'S PLAY A LET...

Just say no if it is a disputed line call (see above), but if the point is interrupted in another way, this is the fairest thing to do. So, if a ball rolls onto your court, either one of you can call a let. Simply replay the point when the court is clear.





THERE'S A BALL ON COURT

Er.. remove it. And while you are at it, get into tidy ball habits! Any balls on your side of the court are your responsibility, and if you are receiving it is your job to make sure they are returned to the server. In fact, your opponent should never need to come to your side of the court (and some players would think it ill-mannered if you did). If a ball heads off to a neighbouring court, don't rush after it. Wait till a suitable break in your own match and crucially, wait till whoever is playing on the neighbouring court has finished their point.

KEEPING SCORE

This is the server's responsibility and the easiest way is to announce the score at the beginning of each point. If your opponent disagrees try to track back the points. If you really can't agree on the score, you must go back to the last point you both agree on. (By the way, if you are receiving, don't call out the score yourself – when you know the etiquette it is funny how irritating this can be!)

I NEED TO LET OFF STEAM

Fine, but be careful. Tennis is a tense, adrenaline-fuelled game and no one expects it to be played in silence. Emotions are part of the game, but if you swear and shout – even if it is only at your racket – you will probably put your opponent off their game and may well offend them with your language.

The best players keep the chit chat, the screaming and the shouting to a minimum. Think Roger Federer and you won't go far wrong.

I WANT TO BRING MY SUPPORTERS

It can be nice to have some support from the wings, but if your coach, mum, dad, significant other, dog and entire fan base do want to watch, just remember common courtesy demands that spectators show their support respectfully – and they should never get involved in line calls!





DO THE RIGHT THING

Apologise if you win a lucky point or if you accidentally hit your opponent with a ball.

FOCUS ON YOUR MATCH

Keep your attention on the court – don't chat to spectators, interrupt a game to answer your mobile phone or do anything else that might distract your opponent or delay play.

CONGRATULATIONS

Shake hands firmly and congratulate your opponent at the end of the match. Nobody wants to grasp a limp, clammy dead fish in celebration of a big victory.



