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|  | **EALING LAWN TENNIS CLUB**  **ANNUAL TOURNAMENT 2021**  **GUIDE TO EVENTS** | Entry now online at  <https://ealingtennis.mycourts.co.uk/> |

**INTRODUCTION**

The Club’s Annual Tournament has been running since 1884. Members are encouraged to enter the annual tournament in the events they feel are suitable for them. The tournament culminates in Finals Day which this year is on Saturday 17th July. A summary of these events to help you decide what to enter is;

**OPEN SINGLES EVENTS – MEN’S AND LADIES (from 22nd May to 17th July)**

Both the Men’s and Ladies Singles are knockout events with the matches **being 2 tie break sets and a championship tiebreak at 1-set all in all rounds up to an including the semi-finals. The finals will be the best of 3 tie break sets.** The Men’s Singles has a compulsory day for the 1st round matches which are scheduled by the tournament committee. This year this is on **Saturday 5th June**. So you should only enter this event if you can make this day, although matches can be played in advance. Some entrants are seeded and all entrants may expect the possibility of playing some of the best players in the club.

**OPEN DOUBLES EVENTS – MEN’S AND LADIES (from 22nd May to 17th July)**

Both the Men’s and Ladies Doubles events are knockout events with the matches **being 2 tie break sets and a championship tiebreak at 1-set all in all rounds up to an including the semi-finals. The finals will be the best of 3 tie break sets.** Some entrants are seeded and all entrants may expect the possibility of playing some of the best players in the club.

**OPEN MIXED DOUBLES EVENT (from 22nd May to 17th July)**

The Open Mixed Doubles events are knockout events with the matches **being 2 sets and a championship tiebreak at 1-set all.** Players can only enter this OR the Restricted Mixed Doubles event (see details below). Some entrants are seeded and all entrants may expect the possibility of playing some of the best players in the club.

**RESTRICTED MIXED DOUBLES EVENT (from 22nd May to 17th July)**

This is also a knockout event with matches **being 2 sets and a championship tiebreak at 1-set all in all.** The event is not open to those who have previously won this event in the past 10-years i.e. 2011 or later, an Open Event at ELTC, an outside Tournament (Open), or who have played in the men’s 1st or 2nd teams or the ladies’ 1st team this season. **NEW FOR 2021 – PLAYERS WHO WON THIS EVENT 2010 OR EARLIER MAY PLAY IN THIS EVENT**

**HANDICAP SINGLES EVENTS – MEN’S AND LADIES (from 22nd May to 17th July)**

Both the Men’s and Ladies Singles events are knockout events with the matches being the best of 3 advantage sets with **deciding point at deuce, receiver’s choice**. Players are given a handicap based on their playing standard. This means that all matches are competitive and gives the chance for a wider mix of members to progress in the tournament and make it to the final if they play to their potential. The Men’s Handicap Singles has a compulsory day for the 1st Round matches. This will be on **Saturday 29th May**, although matches can be played in advance. The event is not suitable for higher team players.

**HANDICAP DOUBLES EVENTS – MEN’S, LADIES AND MIXED (from 22nd May to 17th July)**

The Men’s, Ladies and Mixed Doubles events are knockout events with the matches being the best of 3 advantage sets **deciding point at deuce, receiver’s choice in all events**. Players are given a handicap based on their playing standard. This means that all matches are competitive and gives the chance for a wider mix of members to progress in the tournament and make it to the final if they play to their potential. Higher team players should only consider entering if their partner is not a team player.

**SENIOR 50/0VER SINGLES AND DOUBLES EVENTS – MENS AND LADIES (from 22nd May to 17th July)**

The events are open to those whose year of birth is 1971 or earlier. The events are a knockout event with matches over the best of 3 sets with the final set being a champion’s tie break.

**HOW TO ENTER**

All entries are to be made on-line using the Club’s MyCourts system.

**LOG ON TO MYCOURTS**

Go to the website

<https://ealingtennis.mycourts.co.uk/>

You will have been given a logon and password previously. But if you have forgotten it then click on **“Forgotten Password?**” on the left hand side of the screen. Then enter the email address that the club uses to send emails to you and click “**Enter”**. Your logon and password will be emailed to you.

**CHECK YOUR ACCOUNT BALANCE**

In order to enter the tournaments, you will need to have sufficient credit on MyCourts to enter as the entry fee will be debited from your account. The entry fees are £5 for singles events and £10 per pair for doubles events. Note that for doubles events only 1 person from the pair needs to enter. This is explained below.

You can see your **“Account Balance”** on the left-hand side of the screen.

If you have not got sufficient funds in your account, you need to top up by purchasing some credits on line using a debit / credit card. Do this by clicking on “Buy Credit Online” on the left-hand side of the screen. Then follow the instructions on the screen to purchase credit. Note: This credit can also be used in future for court bookings and club events.

**ENTERING TOURNAMENT EVENTS**

On the Menu at the top of the screen click on **“Tournaments”** and select “**2019”.** The list of events is now displayed. Select in turn event that you wish to enter and do the following.

**Singles events**

Click on submit and you are now entered – it is that simple and the Tournaments page shows you are registered.

**Doubles events**

Select your partner (if you have one) from the drop down list (if you have one) and submit. You are now both registered.

Note that the person who enters the pair will be responsible for entering the results of your matches onto the system so bear that in mind when choosing a partner.

If you don’t have a partner, don’t worry we can try and match you up with someone in a similar position. You can still enter by submitting without entering a partner. You will be charged the amount for a pair, but we will correct this when we find you a partner or refund the full amount if we cannot do so.

Pairs entering the doubles can credit each other for the payment of fees by clicking on “Transfer Credit” and entering the amount and member they wish to be credited.

**PROBLEMS AND REFUNDS**

Members who are having problems with entering the tournament events using the system should email [eltctournament@gmail.com](mailto:eltctournament@gmail.com) It is recommended that those who are less familiar with using the MyCourts system do not leave it close to the deadline to enter.

Any members who have to withdraw before the draw takes place for the event(s) they entered will be fully refunded for the amount paid, so there is no disincentive in entering well before the deadline. Requests for refunds should be sent to [eltctournament@gmail.com](mailto:eltctournament@gmail.com)

**TOURNAMENT RULES**

1. The 2021 tournament will be played on grass, artificial and dome courts. The finals will be scheduled on grass courts on Saturday 17th July. The surface for a particular match prior to the finals will be chosen by mutual agreement of the competitors concerned, or as directed by the Tournament Committee.
2. Entry this year is via the MyCourts booking system and the entry dates and fees are;

All entries to be submitted by Sunday 16th May at 23:59. Entry fees are listed below

Singles £5.00 Doubles £10.00 per pair

Due to the current increased court demand, players may enter up to a maximum of 4 events.

An explanation of how to use the MyCourts system to enter the tournament is given in the preceding section. For Doubles events partners will be found, where possible.

The draw will be displayed on the MyCourts system and the Clubhouse Noticeboard at dates to be notified. Members must look at the draw to see the deadline for the completion of each round. Matches may be played as soon as the draw is displayed.

Members should try to play all matches as soon as possible to avoid missing deadlines and being scratched. Members who know they will be unable to play in the next round are reminded that it is considered to be more sporting to scratch at match point. If they are unable to make the final it is considered more sporting to scratch by **the quarter final stage** at the latest to allow a strong and meaningful contest at the semi-final stage.

1. Each entrant in the Men’s Handicap Singles and Open Singles **must** be available to play his first match, **even if he has a bye in the first round**, on the compulsory days to avoid being scratched, but matches may be played in advance by arrangement between the competitors.

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| **THE COMPULSORY DAYS** are as follows:-  **SATURDAY 29th May** - Men’s Handicap Singles - Play starts at 10.30am  **SATURDAY 5th June** - Men’s Open Singles - Play starts at 11.00am  **PLEASE ENSURE YOU KNOW THE TIME YOU ARE PLAYING ON THESE DAYS** |

On these days all matches will be **strictly scheduled**. The playing schedule for each of these Saturdays will be displayed in the MyCourts system by 6.00pm on Saturday 22nd May.

All other Men’s Handicap Singles and Open Singles matches will be non-scheduled, and MUST be played by the deadline dates.

Any player not appearing within 30 minutes of the scheduled time will be scratched. Similarly, any player not appearing within 30 minutes of the arranged time for a non-scheduled match will be scratched.

**All semi-finals must be played no later than Sunday 11th July**.

4. On **FINALS DAY** matches will **start at 11.00am**.

5. Where events are not scheduled but must be played by a due date, it is the responsibility of both contestants (or pairs):

a) to arrange the time and date of the match;

b) to inform any member of the Tournament Committee if it cannot be played by the due date to enable the Committee to decide which contestant/pair to scratch.

**It is the responsibility of the winner(s) to enter the result and score IMMEDIATELY on the clubhouse noticeboard and the same day on the MyCourts system.** Any 'walkover' must be agreed and initialled on the Draw Sheet by a member of the Tournament Committee.

6. All events will be run on the knock-out principle.

Open Ladies and Men’s Singles and Doubles will be two tie break sets with a championship tie break to 10 at 1-set all for all rounds up to and including the semi-finals. The finals will be best of 3 tie-break sets.

Open Mixed Doubles and Seniors Events will be two tie break sets with a championship tie break to 10, at 1-set all.

All handicap events will be best of 3 advantage sets with deciding point at deuce, receiver’s choice.

Notes about the handicap rules will be sent out to competitors by e-mail.

7. Court Reservation details for tournament matches will be confirmed by Thursday 20th May.

8. The Tournament is **ONLY** open to paid up members of Ealing Lawn Tennis Club; mid-week members who enter are entitled to play tournament matches at weekends. **Members must ensure their contact details are correct and visible; any changes that are needed can be made online on the MyCourts system.**

9. Juniors under the age of 12 on 1st January 2019 are not eligible for the Senior Tournament. Juniors aged 12-15 may enter the Senior Tournament at the discretion of the Tournament Committee. All juniors aged 16-17 are eligible to enter the Senior Tournament.

10. The Tournament Committee is as follows:-

Sangeeta Arora, Peter Buck, Janice Coulthard, Korin Harvey, Henrietta Marsh-Smith

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Any queries concerning the tournament should be directed to eltctournament@gmail.com