



## GLENAGEARY LAWN TENNIS CLUB

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Silchester Road, Glenageary, Co. Dublin

Tel: 01 2808565

E-mail: [secretary@glenagearyltc.ie](mailto:secretary@glenagearyltc.ie)

Web site: [www.glenagearyltc.ie](http://www.glenagearyltc.ie)

*Established  
1887*

## **Constitution and Bye-laws of the Club**

*Updated: 23 November 2022*

## Constitution

1. The Club shall be called “Glenageary Lawn Tennis Club” and the rules of play shall be those adopted by Tennis Ireland and its object shall be to promote and encourage the playing of games of Tennis among its members.
2. The colours of the Club shall be dark green and yellow.
3. The following Club Committee shall be elected at the AGM and the said officers shall constitute the Committee of the Club, five to form a quorum: President, Vice- President, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Men’s Captain, Ladies Captain, Facilities and Services Officer, Junior Co-ordinator, Social Coordinator and two Child Protection Officers (one female and one male). The President shall be Chairperson of the Committee and in his/her absence the meeting shall be chaired by the Vice-President. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President, the meeting shall be chaired by the Honorary Secretary, or in his/her absence, the Honorary Treasurer. At committee meetings the Chairperson shall have a deliberative and casting vote. The committee shall have power to fill up vacancies which may occur in their body during the year, to make bye-laws and regulations which will have effect until set aside by the Committee, or by a General Meeting, to administer the funds and do all necessary acts in furtherance of the objects of the Club as they may consider expedient. The Honorary Secretary, or in his/her absence, the Honorary Treasurer, shall convene Committee meetings, giving reasonable notice to all members. Two Honorary Auditors shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the Club. In the event that either or both Honorary Auditors are unable to perform the audit in time for the Annual General Meeting, the Committee shall be empowered to nominate replacements. In addition, an Independent External Accountant shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the Club to undertake an independent review of the annual accounts and provide a written report to the Committee.
4. The Honorary Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Club and shall keep records as to the custody of all documents and property belonging to the Club. He/she shall keep full and correct minutes in the Minute Book of all proceedings of the Club and records of all matches played by the Club, all competitions of the Club and of all persons receiving the Club cups.
5. The Honorary Treasurer shall keep the financial accounts of the Club, which accounts shall be closed on the 30th September each year, and shall be submitted by him/her not later than the 25th October for examination by the Honorary Auditors, or their replacements. The Honorary Treasurer shall make up an annual statement of the accounts of the Club to 30th September each year which shall be posted on the club’s website at least 14 days before the Annual General Meeting. Those members who do not have access to the website shall be provided with a hard copy upon request. The subscription year shall be from January to December.
6. The Club shall consist of Senior Members, Family Members, and Junior Members. Senior Members are members 18 years or over on the 1st January in any year. Family Members are members belonging to the same family, consisting of one or two Senior Members, living in the same family home and any number of Junior or Young Adult who have attained their fifth birthday or over on the 1st January in any year. Family Members under eighteen on the 1st January in any year shall not be qualified to be officers, trustees or members of the Committee, or be entitled to vote, or to any interest or claim to any part of the Club. Junior Members are members who have attained their 8th birthday or over, and are under 18 on the 1st January in any year. They shall not be qualified to be officers, trustees or members of the Committee, or be entitled to vote, or to any interest or claim to any part of the Club.
7. The following categories of **Senior Members** shall be recognised:
  - a) Ordinary playing members paying the full annual subscription.
  - b) Family Members over the age of eighteen years on the 1st January in any year.
  - c) Young Adult and Over 65 Members paying a reduced annual subscription.
  - d) Life members.
  - e) Honorary Life Members.

A **Young Adult Member** is a member who is aged between 18 and 23 on 1<sup>st</sup> January in any year.

An **Over 65 Member** is a member who reaches the State Pension age or over on 1st January in any year.

A **Life Member** is a member proposed and seconded at a General Meeting of the Club, and elected by two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote, and providing such a motion has been placed on the Agenda. The member shall be a fully paid up Senior Member of the Club for not less than five years. Unless renounced by the member with effect from 31st December in any year, Life Membership of the Club entitles the member to full membership of the Club for the duration of his/her life. The fee for Life Members shall be 12 times the annual subscription for an ordinary playing Senior Member. A Life Member shall not pay an annual subscription.

An **Honorary Life Member** is a member who, having been proposed and seconded on the recommendation of the Committee, and providing such a motion has been placed on the agenda, is elected at a General Meeting of the Club by two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote.

An **Auxiliary Member** is a former playing member who wishes to retain the right to rejoin the Club as a playing member without an entrance fee. Payment of the annual Auxiliary Membership subscription must be made each year. An Auxiliary Member is a non-playing member, who cannot enter competitions, or represent the club in playing events.

8. At any given time, the number of playing members shall be limited to 1100. The Junior membership is capped at 40% of total playing members.
9. The election of Ordinary, Family, Young Adult, Over 65, Auxiliary Members, and the election of Junior Members shall be left to the discretion of the Committee, or of any subcommittee nominated by the Committee. Candidates must be proposed by one member and seconded by another and the names and addresses of the candidates together with the names of the proposers and seconders must be submitted to the Honorary Secretary. It shall be left to the discretion of the Committee to decide the number of vacancies in the membership that shall be filled in any year.
10. **Temporary Members:** The Committee shall have the power to elect Temporary members at a subscription, payable in advance, to be decided by the Committee having regard to circumstances. Temporary Members cannot be elected for more than 28 days and their application must be in writing. Temporary Members shall not be entitled to vote at any meeting of the Club, to compete in the Club tournaments or to introduce visitors.
11. **Visitors:** Visitors shall be admitted under the following regulations: each member shall have the privilege of introducing one visitor who may play on the Club grounds, the same visitor not to play more than once in any month, nor may a member bring the same visitor more than six times in any year. The Committee shall have the right to refuse admission to any visitor, without assigning a reason. The fee for a visitor, which shall be payable in advance, shall be decided by the Committee.
12. a) Children of Senior Members under 8 years shall be entitled to visit the Club and to play with their parents unless members are waiting to play at any time. These children will not be Junior Members and will not pay any subscription.  
b) Family Members who are children under eight years old shall be entitled to visit and play at the Club only while under the fulltime supervision of a Senior Member.
13. The subscription of Ordinary, Young Adult, Over 65 and Auxiliary Senior Members and the subscription of Junior Members shall be determined annually by the Annual General Meeting. Where there are children, older than Young Adult, living at the same address as a Family Membership there will be a capped subscription rate determined annually at the AGM. The subscription rates for, Young Adult and Over 65 Senior Members shall be less than the rate paid by Ordinary Senior Members. An entrance fee to be determined annually by the Annual General Meeting shall be payable by each new member. An entrance fee shall be payable on a sliding scale of charges, depending on the number of members of one family residing in one family home, which will be determined at the Annual General Meeting. No new

member shall be at liberty to play on the grounds until his/her subscription and entrance fee be paid. The annual subscription shall become payable on the 1st day of January each year and members not sending in their resignation by that date shall be liable for the season's subscription. If such subscription be not paid on or before the 1st day of March such person will cease to be a member. The Committee shall have the power to reinstate former members for good and sufficient reasons. Any member desiring to be transferred from the list of playing members to the list of nonplaying members, or from the list of nonplaying members to the list of playing members, shall give written notification to the Committee of such desire.

14. No member shall be entitled to receive a profit or derive any pecuniary benefit from the Club. No member of the Committee may vote or be concerned in anything in which he/she has, either directly or indirectly, a financial interest.

The income and property of the Club shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the main object(s) as set forth in this Constitution. No portion of the Club's income and property shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit to members of the Club.

No officer shall be appointed to any office of the Club paid by salary or fees or receive any remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth from the Club.

However, nothing shall prevent any payment in good faith by the Club of:

- a. reasonable and proper remuneration to any member or servant of the Club (not being an officer) for any services rendered to the Club;
- b. interest at a rate not exceeding 1% above the Euro Interbank Offered Rate (Euribor) per annum on money lent by an officer or other members of the Club to the Club;
- c. reasonable and proper rent for premises demised and let by any member of the Club (including any officer) to the Club;
- d. reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses incurred by any officer in connection with their attendance to any matter affecting the Club;
- e. fees, remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth to any Company of which an officer may be a member holding not more than one hundredth part of the issued capital of such Company;

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Club there remains, after satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, it shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Club. Instead, such property shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having main objects similar to the main objects of the Club. The institution or institutions to which the property is to be given or transferred shall prohibit the distribution of their income and property among their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Club under or by virtue of the Income and Property clause hereof. Members of the Club shall select the relevant institution or institutions at or before the time of dissolution, and if and so far as effect cannot be given to such provisions, then the property shall be given or transferred to some charitable object. Final accounts will be prepared and submitted that will include a section that identifies and values any assets transferred along with the details of the recipients and the terms of the transfer.

No addition, alteration or amendment shall be made to the provisions of the main object clause, the income and property clause, the winding up clause, the keeping of accounts clause or this clause of the Constitution for the time being in force unless the same shall have been previously approved in writing by the Revenue Commissioners.

Annual Accounts shall be kept and made available to the Revenue Commissioners on request. Where the gross annual income exceeds €250,000 the accounts will be audited.

15. The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held before the 30th day of November in each year.
16. General Meetings shall be convened by the Committee or on the requisition of 15 members. Fourteen days notice in writing to members must in all cases be given by the Honorary Secretary and the business to be brought forward shall be specified in the requisition calling the General Meeting. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of a notice of a meeting by any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at the meeting.  
Voting at such meetings shall be by ballot unless otherwise agreed. At a General Meeting all Senior Members shall be entitled to vote. Fifteen members entitled to vote shall form a quorum. The Chairman shall have a deliberative and casting vote. A motion to alter or add to a rule or to change subscriptions shall require at least 15 votes, and shall be passed by two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote, to carry any alteration or addition.

## **17. General Conduct, Complaints & Discipline**

- 17.1 Glenageary Lawn Tennis Club is fully committed to safeguarding the wellbeing and the good name of its members. Every individual in the Club shall, at all times, show respect and understanding for the rights, safety and welfare of others and conduct themselves in a way that follows principled and civilised behaviour, and that reflects the Object and Principles of the Club and of Tennis Ireland.
- 17.2 It is a fundamental condition of membership that members fully abide by this Constitution and the Club's bye-laws. Annual renewal of membership by means of payment of fees shall imply compliance with this condition. In the case of family membership, the annual payment of membership here also covers this condition in respect of each family member.
- 17.3 All entrants to major club-based tournaments are required to abide by the rules and regulations of such tournaments, and to fully co-operate with the duly appointed tournament officials.
- 17.4 In case the conduct (either in or out of the Club) of any member shall, in the opinion of the Committee be injurious to the character and interest of the Club, the Committee shall be empowered to take whatever action it considers appropriate. Where the conduct is of such seriousness, it shall be empowered to recommend such member to resign, but if he does not resign within 14 days from the date of the letter of recommendation, it shall be the duty of the Committee to summon a General Meeting to consider the conduct of such member, and the resolution of the club, at such meeting, passed by two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote, shall determine whether the name of such member shall be removed from the Club list, and in the event of such removal, such member shall cease to be a member, and shall forfeit all claims on the Club or its property.
- 17.5 For a complaint to be considered by the Club, it must be in writing and submitted to the Secretary of the Club. The complaint must be made within 14 days of the alleged incident. The other conditions for a valid complaint are in the Tennis Ireland document on Complaint, Objection & Disciplinary Rules and Procedures (October 2010) <https://www.tennisireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/59-Disciplinary-Code-Final-Version.pdf> and must be complied with.
- 17.6 The Club at all times shall be governed by Tennis Ireland's document on Complaint, Objection & Disciplinary Rules and Procedures (October 2010). This document supersedes all previous complaints procedures.
- 17.7 Regulation tennis clothes and shoes must be worn during play. Members must wear white or coloured tennis attire. Beach, football or any other sports clothing other than specifically tennis attire is not permitted.

- 17.8 The Club Championship Challenge Cups, which cannot be won outright, shall be played for annually at the date and on the conditions drawn up by the Committee.
18. Any person shall upon ceasing to be a member of the Club forfeit all right to any claims upon the Club and its property and funds.
19. **Trustees.**
- 19.1 The property of the Club shall be vested in five trustees who shall be appointed at a General Meeting of the Club. A General Meeting shall have power to remove any of the trustees and all vacancies occurring by removal, resignation or death shall be filled up at the same or next General Meeting. They shall deal with the property of the Club as directed by resolution of the Club in General Meeting passed by not less than 85% of the members present and entitled to vote (of which an entry in the Minute Book shall be conclusive evidence) in accordance with the Rules of the Club. Any benefit derived from the divestment or transfer of the Club's property shall be used solely for the Club's purposes and may not be dispersed amongst the members.
- 19.2 That the Trustees for the time being of the Club be and they are hereby authorised to borrow in their own names on behalf of the Club as Trustees by way of a loan or a series of loans, a sum or sums of money such that amount for the time being remaining undischarged of moneys borrowed by them as aforesaid shall not at any time exceed such sums or sums as may be authorised at a General Meeting, and upon such terms and conditions as may be authorised from time to time by the Committee of the Club, but nevertheless no lender or other person dealing with the Club or the Trustees shall be concerned to see or inquire whether this limit is observed.
- 19.3 That the said trustees be and are hereby authorised to open an account or accounts in their own names on behalf of the Club with any bank or banks or other lending institutions and that the said bank or banks or other lending institutions be requested to grant accommodation under said account.
- 19.4 That the trustees for the time being of the Club be and are hereby authorised to give security by the deposit of the title deeds of all or any of the property of the Club.
- 19.5 That the trustees for the time being of the Club be and are hereby authorised to give security by way of legal mortgage over all or any of the property of the Club.
- 19.6 If at any time the Club in General Meeting shall pass a resolution authorising the Committee to borrow money, the Committee shall thereupon be empowered to borrow for the purpose authorised at such meeting such amounts of money and at such a rate of interest and in such form and manner and upon such security as shall be specified in such resolution and thereupon the trustees shall at the discretion of the Club in General Meeting make all such dispositions of the Club property, or any part thereof, or any interest therein and enter into such agreements in relation thereto as the Club in General Meeting may deem proper for giving security for such loan and interest.
- 19.7 In any one year the Committee shall not be entitled to expend on any one project a sum in excess of one quarter of the sum total annual subscription for the preceding year without convening a General Meeting and obtaining the approval of two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote.
- 19.8 The Officers of the Club, every member of the Committee, the Honorary Auditor(s) and each of the Trustees of the Club for the time being, his/her executors or administrators, shall be entitled to be indemnified out of the assets of the Club from all actions, claims, demands, costs, losses, damages and expenses, which he/she shall or may incur or sustain by reason or on account of any obligations undertaken by him/her on behalf of the Club in his /her capacity as such Officer, Committee Member, Honorary Auditor or Trustee, provided always in the case of a liability incurred in his/her capacity as an Officer, Committee Member, Honorary Auditor or Trustee that such liability was not incurred through his/her own fraud or wilful default, libel or slander.

## **20 Child Protection**

20.1 The Club fully supports the [Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport](#) published by the Sports Council of Ireland and promoted by Tennis Ireland. The Club is committed to the highest level of compliance with the Code and with all [best practices and recommendations of Tennis Ireland](#).

20.2 The Club shall appoint two Children's Officers, one male and one female. The names and contact details of the two Children's Officers shall be displayed prominently in the Club House and on the Club website.

20.3 Child Protection shall be a regular standing item at the Club committee meetings. At least one of the Children's Officers shall attend the Club committee meeting.



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**Michael Lewis Club President**

*Dated 23 November 2022*

## **BYE-LAWS**

(Made under the provision of rule 3)

1. Members are requested not to distract any player while a game is in progress and to wait until an important game or point in a game is finished before passing behind a court.
2. No food or drink, other than drinks in plastic containers, of any description is allowed on the court.
3. No dogs are allowed on the grounds.
4. Bicycles are to be parked in the bicycle racks.
5. Junior members are permitted to play every day up to 6pm and from 6-7.30pm if accompanied by their parents or a senior member. Senior members have court priority at weekends.

In the interest of promoting a higher standard of tennis in the Club, the Committee can from time to time award Senior playing privileges to certain promising Junior Members whose names will be posted in the Pavilion. These privileges can be withdrawn at any time at the Committee's discretion.

Junior members wishing to bring visitors should obtain permission from a Committee Member and pay the required Visitor's fee.

6. A Junior Committee may be elected each year and under the guidance of the Club Committee they will aid in the running of the junior section of the club.
7. During the Club-run Summer Programme (normally July and August) Junior members must leave the Club between 1.00 pm and 2.00pm
- 8.