1. General Information

1.1. Purpose

To provide a safe, vibrant and sustainable tennis and squash club encouraging year-round player development and social activities in an inclusive and friendly environment.

1.2. The Dean Tennis & Squash Club

- The Club was founded in 1884 and is one of the oldest tennis clubs in Edinburgh.
- The Club is affiliated to the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) and Scottish Squash.
- The club is run by a voluntary Committee of its members for members.
- The Club has no staff in attendance.
- All members are expected to contribute to the club by looking after the premises and grounds.
- The Club is located close to the city centre, with access from Lennox Street and from Dean Park Crescent.
- There are four tennis courts, two squash courts, a mini court with a tennis practice wall and a clubhouse.
- The clubhouse has changing and showering facilities.
- There is a club room which has a 'warm up corner' with gym equipment, a table tennis table and table football. These facilities may be used by all members.
- The club room is available for hire by members for social functions.
- Members are provided with a keypad code to access the grounds and clubhouse. This information must not be shared with non-members.
- There is a telephone in the clubhouse for emergency calls.
- There is a first aid box in the clubhouse with plasters, ice-packs and bandages for minor injuries.
- The Club has policies for Safeguarding children and vulnerable adults and for Diversity. These may be accessed on the members page of the website and the Club's notice board.
- Additional information for members is posted in the members' section of the Club website: www.thedeanclub.co.uk

1.2. Membership

The Club has various categories of membership. Adult membership categories (aged from 18 upward) can be taken for single sports or for both tennis and squash. For non-adult categories, age limits are defined in terms of the age at the start of the membership year (1st April).

Category	Details
Individual	Regular individual adult membership, age 18 and upward
Couple	For partners living at the same address joining for the same individual sport or full sport membership.

Family	For couples with children who are eligible for child, junior or intermediate membership
Intermediate	Available to those aged between 14 and 17
Junior	Available to children aged between 9 and 13. Restricted booking hours.
Child	For children under 9 years old provided that they are participating in a club coaching programme or are the child of a member. No court booking is possible.
Student	Available to students in full time university or college education
Non-playing	Restricted to former playing members of the Club
Honorary	As elected. This category carries no membership fee and is for life or until resignation

- Adult members may play with their children under the age of 9, without additional charge.
- Current subscription rates are posted on the Club website.

1.3. Information – Tennis

1.3.1. Facilities

- The Club has four floodlit artificial grass courts to provide a playing surface for the whole year.
- There is also a mini-tennis court with a practice wall.

1.3.2. Club Sessions and Tournaments

- Singles and doubles box leagues are run throughout the year. The leagues are organised in divisions of 5 - 7 players. Each league period usually runs for 5-6 weeks, with promotion and relegation.
- Links to join in can be found from the Tennis page on the website.
- Twice weekly mixed ability turn up and play sessions are run throughout the year. For details go to the Tennis page on the Club website.
- The Club holds an annual internal tournament in late summer.

1.3.3. Teams and External Leagues

- The Club has gents and ladies teams playing in the East of Scotland tennis leagues (doubles).
- Team matches are played between April and June.
- There are regular sessions for team players and those who wish to be considered for team tennis.
- Members interested in representing the Club should contact the relevant individual, details are provided via the contacts page on the Club website.

1.3.4. Coaching

- Tennis coaching is available for members – individuals or groups, seniors or juniors. Coaching incurs an additional fee.
- Coaching is arranged directly with the coach, contact details via the Club website.

- The coach is permitted to coach non-members for both individual and group sessions with a supplementary fee that is returned to the Club
- Anyone who does not have a coaching agreement/contract with the Club is not permitted to provide paid for coaching at the Club without the permission of the Committee.

1.3.5. Safety

- The Club cannot take responsibility for the safety of players due to weather conditions such as wet or icy court surfaces.
- The tennis courts must not be used when snow is lying.
- Players should be aware that leaves on the court during wet weather may provide a slip hazard and to consider using equipment provided to remove leaves.
- Players should report any damage to court equipment or surrounds that they consider to be unsafe to a member of the Committee.

1.3.6. Club contacts and information

- To seek the relevant contact for club management and oversight; coaching or playing matters; members should write to thedeanclubedinburgh@gmail.com; an autoreply message provides contacts details for those responsible for the various functions and activities.
- The Club issues regular newsletters and information notes to those who have provided an email address for contact. To seek additional information, or to provide items for circulation to other members, members should write to thedeanclubedinburgh@gmail.com for the contact details of the newsletter organiser.

1.4. Information – Squash

1.4.1. Facilities

- The Club has two squash courts with LED lighting which are heated by electric radiant panel heaters controlled by thermostats. The courts were refurbished in 2022.

1.4.2. Club Sessions and Tournaments

- Club squash leagues are run throughout the year suitable for all levels of playing ability.
- The leagues are organised in 5 or 6 player divisions with each league period usually running for 5 weeks, with promotion and relegation.
- To enter the leagues, email the organiser (details via the contacts page of the website).
- There is an annual open tournament and handicap competition usually held towards the end of the membership year.
- An open club night normally runs about twice a month, typically on Friday evenings. See the squash page of the Club website for details.

1.4.3. Teams and External Leagues

- The Club enters teams into the East of Scotland Squash Leagues, currently male teams only. The matches take place between October and March.
- There are practice sessions hosted by the Club coach at the start of the season for prospective team members.
- Members interested in playing for the Club should contact the relevant team captain. Contact details are via the club website.

1.4.4. Coaching

- Squash coaching is available in group sessions or to individual members; this incurs an additional fee.
- Sessions are arranged directly with a Club coach; contact details are via the website and on the Squash noticeboard in the clubhouse.
- Coach usually organises group sessions in six-week blocks. Watch out for email announcements
- Anyone who does not have a coaching agreement/contract with the Club is not permitted to provide paid for coaching at the Club without the permission of the Committee.

2. Club Rules

2.1. Membership

- The subscription year runs from 1st April (except students). Student membership runs from 01 June. New members may join at any time, for the remaining portion of the current membership year, for reduced cost.
- There is no entry fee, nor any additional fees for use of the courts or lights, except for guests – see below.
- Parents of junior members are asked to confirm that they will take responsibility for the behaviour of their children, as it affects their safety and that of their opponents, and as it affects the care and security of the clubhouse and grounds.
- Only those members who have paid their annual fees may play in Club tournaments and leagues, and represent the Club in external tournaments and leagues.
- Members representing the Club in East of Scotland tennis competitions must also be members of the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) (there is no fee for this).
- All members are encouraged to join the LTA. Membership automatically qualifies them for entry to the LTA ballot for tickets to Wimbledon (on confirmation by the member).
- Members who do not renew their annual membership within one month of the due date may be deemed to have resigned from the Club, unless specific arrangements have been agreed with the Membership Secretary for payment of outstanding fees.

2.2. Guests

- Members may introduce personal guests at any time, subject to the limits noted below, to attend social functions or to play racket sports in accordance with their membership category.
- The member introducing a guest must enter the guest's name on the guest sheet displayed on the noticeboard in the clubhouse, or in the online booking entry, before play.
- A charge is made for each playing guest per visit at the end of the year. Current fee is posted on the Club website.
- The member must be present during the period that their personal guest plays and is responsible to the Club for the actions of the guest while on the premises.
- The same person may not play as a guest more than twice in a calendar month or four times in the year.
- Any player, coach, other team representative, match official or spectator attending the Club's premises by invitation of the Club, who is not a member, is a guest of the Committee. Guest fees do not apply to guests of the Committee, or to any member or guest attending a social function or playing function run by the Committee.
- A non-playing member may attend social functions and may play as the guest of a member, following the procedures and charges set out above. Equally a squash member may play tennis as the guest of a tennis member, and vice-versa, following the procedures and charges set out above.

2.3. Clubhouse Facilities and Lighting

- Children under 14 years of age may not use the clubhouse facilities, other than toilets, without adult supervision.
- The Club cannot be held responsible for any injury incurred by members or their children while on the Club premises as a result of their actions.
- Members entering and leaving the premises must take responsibility for the security of the grounds and clubhouse and ensuring that gates and doors are kept locked.
- Members should not prop any doors to the clubhouse permanently open, as this radically affects the temperature of the squash courts.
- If no other member is present in the clubhouse, members should ensure that all lights are switched off when leaving (note: some internal lights are controlled by motion sensors).
- Members are requested to report any unusual occurrence, failure of equipment or damages to a member of the Committee.
- A landline telephone, in the cupboard next to the clubhouse changing rooms is available for emergency calls.

2.4. Club grounds

- When walking along the Lennox Street path, do not distract the players on court, particularly when they about to serve or during a point. Wait to the side of the court until the point has been completed.
- Members should ensure the grounds are kept clear of litter.
- 2.5 Tennis

2.4.1. Booking

- The courts may be used between 8.00 am (09.00 am on Sundays) and 10 pm (April – September) or 9pm (October-March).
- Courts can be booked up to one week in advance. Information on how to access the booking system is provided when members join.
- Bookings are available in 30 minutes slots. After 3pm on week days, and at weekends from 09.30 until 5.30pm (prime time), a single booking of up to 90 minutes can be made, except where agreed by the committee.
- For the benefit of other members, members should cancel a booked court as soon as possible if they are unable to use it.
- Members who have booked a court may ask other members to vacate the court at the allotted time.

2.4.2. Facilities and Lighting

- Switches for the tennis court floodlights are in a box at the foot of the steps between courts 2 and 3. Each court can be lit independently.
- Members MUST lock the box after putting the lights on and off, so the box is closed at all times.

- Members must turn their court's lights off after completing their game, unless other members are present and waiting to use the court.
- The lights will go off automatically at 10 pm (April to September) or 9 pm (October to March).
- The tennis courts may only be used for playing tennis. Using the courts for other sports is not permitted.
- Do not access the courts when snow is lying on the courts.

2.4.3. Clothing and Equipment

- Sports clothing appropriate for tennis should be worn on the courts. Studded footwear must not be worn.

2.4.4. Intermediates and Juniors

- Children under 14 years old may not use the tennis courts without adult supervision.
- Child members can not book court time.
- Junior members may book court time up to 6pm on weekdays and up to 1pm at weekends
- Intermediate members (14 to 17 years old) have equal playing and booking rights to adult members.

2.4.5. Conduct on court

- Members should respect the needs of players on other courts. In particular:
- Do not walk behind adjacent courts while in use to access your court. Use the stairs in the corner of Court 1 beside the Clubhouse; the stairs down from the Lennox Street path for Courts 2 and 3; the gate beside the practice wall for Court 4.
- Do not attempt to retrieve balls that have been hit onto or behind adjacent courts whilst the adjacent game is in play.
- Return balls that have been hit onto or behind your court from an adjacent court as soon as it is practical to do so.
- Do not use offensive language whilst on court nor make unnecessary noise.

2.5. Squash

2.5.1. Booking

- The courts are open for play at all times and may be booked up to one week in advance. Information on how to access the booking system is provided when members join.
- The booking time is 40 minute per court.
- Booking successive courts is not allowed after 5pm, Monday to Thursday (prime time).
- For the benefit of other members, please cancel a booked court as soon as possible if you are unable to use it.
- Members who have booked a court may ask other members to vacate the court at the allotted time.

2.5.2. Facilities and Lighting

- The squash court lights are switched on from outside the court. Currently there are no timers, so the lights must be switched off after use.
- There is an additional light (back left corner) with a separate switch, which is not on a timer.
- All lights should be switched off after use.

2.5.3. Clothing and Eyewear

- Members are advised to wear shoes that are sold as being suitable for squash to minimise the risk of injuries.
- Members must use shoes with non-marking soles and ensure that their guests do the same. In general, dark soled shoes should not be worn unless they are marked as being suitable for squash.
- Players must change into their squash shoes in the Clubhouse and not use them outdoors.
- Shoes which have been used for tennis must not be used for squash.
- Players under 19 years of age must wear eye protection as recommended by the World Squash Federation.

2.5.4. Intermediates and Juniors

- Children under the age of 14 may not play squash without adult supervision
- Child members can not book court time.
- Junior members may book court time up to 6pm on weekdays and up to 1pm at weekends
- Intermediate members (14 to 17 years old) have equal playing and booking rights to adult members.

2.5.5. Conduct on court

- Squash, with both players occupying the same space, is potentially hazardous. Hitting an opponent with either ball or racket may lead to serious injury. Members should be aware of the rules of squash that relate to player safety. In particular you should make no attempt to play the ball if:
  - Your opponent is blocking your access to the ball;
  - Your opponent is in a position where you risk hitting them with either your racket or the ball;
  - Your opponent is not giving you the option to hit any part of the front wall directly;
  - You have allowed the ball to hit the side wall, rebound off the back wall and come round to the other side of your body before you hit it. This is referred to in the rules as turning.
- In all these situations you should stop and ask your opponent for a let. You and your opponent will need to decide whether a let should be played or a point awarded to either the receiver or non-receiver depending on the particular circumstances. This requires a knowledge of the rules, which are displayed on the notice board.
- Do not use offensive language whilst on court nor make unnecessary noise.