

RULES OF BRENCHLEY AND MATFIELD LAWN TENNIS CLUB

1. The name of the Club shall be the Brenchley and Matfield Lawn Tennis Club (hereinafter in these Rules called "the club")
2. The club has been formed to provide facilities for the playing of lawn tennis in the area and to fulfill any object connected with that objective.
3. The club shall be a members club and shall consist of full members together with such life members as are hereinafter provided for in the rules. Family membership may include a husband and wife and all of their children who would qualify as junior members. The Committee shall have the discretion to accept for Family membership, family units of households which do not comply with the requirements of the preceding sentence. Junior members shall be either in full time education or under 18 years of age on the 1st January at the beginning of the relevant subscription year. The number of members in the club shall be limited as necessary at the discretion of the committee.
4. The first ordinary members of the club are the six persons recorded in the Committee's minute book, who on the 31st May 1973 resolved to form themselves into a Club and into the first Committee thereof as from that date and are hereafter referred to as the founder members.
5. The affairs of the club, in all matters not in these Rules reserved for the Club in the General Meeting, shall be managed by the Committee. The Committee shall consist of a Chairman, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer and not less than 5 nor more than 10 other members. The first Committee shall be the founder members of the Club together with such further members elected by them who shall hold office until the next following Annual General meeting. Thereafter the Committee and its officers shall be elected at the Annual General meeting in each year, and subject to termination of office by resignation or otherwise shall remain in office until their successors are elected at the Annual General Meeting next following their election. The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancy that may occur. The retiring members of the Committee shall be eligible for re-election.
6. The Committee shall meet from time to time as necessary and notice of meetings shall be communicated to each member of the Committee. A quorum shall consist of 3 members. Minutes shall be taken of all proceedings of the Committee and shall be open to the inspection of any member of the club applying to the Honorary Secretary therefore. Resolutions passed at any such meeting shall be binding on all members of the Club.
7. Candidates for admission as a Member of the Club shall, unless the Committee otherwise decide, be a resident in the area of the villages of Brenchley or Matfield and shall make application to the Committee for admission. Election for membership shall be in the sole discretion of the Committee and subject to vacancies. A copy of the Rules of the Club will be kept available by the Honorary Secretary and each member of the Committee in office and all the candidates will

be deemed to have read and to have accepted the terms thereof and of all bye-laws and Club resolutions in force and shall be bound thereby.

8. The candidate shall not, unless the Committee otherwise allow, be entitled to the privileges of membership until such entrance fees and first year's subscriptions as in force have been paid. Annual subscriptions shall be paid promptly on the due dates provided, in default of which or sufficient explanation the Committee may, following a reminder, terminate the membership. A member may resign from the Club at any time but must give notice in writing to the Honorary Secretary on or before the date provided for in the bye-laws in any other year otherwise the subscription for the ensuing year shall be payable.
9. The Committee shall have the power to terminate the membership of any member who shall infringe the Rules of the Club or any bye-laws or regulations made thereunder or whose conduct shall in the opinion of the Committee render him/her unfit for membership of the Club. Before any such member has his/her membership terminated he/she shall, unless he/she resigns, be given seven days written notice by the Honorary Secretary to attend a meeting of the Committee and shall be informed of the complaints made against him/her. No member shall have his/her membership terminated without first having an opportunity of appearing before the Committee and answering the complaints made against him/her, unless at least two thirds of the committee there present vote in favour of the termination of his/her membership.
10. An Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held between 15th January and the last day of February in each year. No Annual General Meeting shall be held in 1997. At the Annual General Meeting the following business shall be conducted:-
 - (a) To receive from the Committee a report, balance sheet and statement of the accounts for the preceding financial year ended on the 31st December and an estimate of the receipts and expenditure of the current financial year.
 - (b) To elect the Committee and the officers and to appoint an auditor for the ensuing year
 - (c) Such other business as shall have been communicated to the Honorary Secretary in time so as to be included in the notice of the meeting sent by him/her to the Club.
11. The Committee may at any time for any special purpose call a Special General Meeting and they shall do so forthwith upon the requisition in writing of any 10 members stating the purpose for which the meeting is required.
12. The Honorary Secretary shall, at least fourteen days before any General meeting, send to every member at his/her address recorded in the Club's books a notice of the meeting stating the time and place of the meeting and the business to be conducted.
13. The business at a general meeting will be limited to that provided by these Rules and those further matters as set out in the notice convening the meeting. The

quorum at any general meeting shall be 10 members. All members of the Club over the age of eighteen present shall be entitled to one vote. At all general meetings the Chairman shall take the chair and in his/her absence a member selected by the meeting. In the case of equality of votes, the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Any valid resolution passed by a majority of members present at a general meeting of the Club shall be binding on all members of the Club.

14. The Committee has the power to borrow money necessary for the purposes of the Club in such sums, form and manner and upon such terms as may be specified in a resolution passed by the Club in general meeting. All members of the Club whether voting on such resolution or not and all persons becoming members of the Club after the passing of such resolution, shall be deemed to have assented to the same as if they had voted in favour of such resolution and be bound thereby. The Committee have the power to issue from time to time unsecured debentures or notes to such amount as shall be necessary for Club purposes, to be paid off by the Club from its assets as and when the Committee may determine. The Committee will give 3 calendar months previous notice of their intention to repay, such debentures or notes to be held only by members of the club.
15. The Committee shall have power to elect life members of the Club. The holders of debenture notes issued pursuant to Rule 14 are to be life full members of the Club, which membership shall be deemed to include their family upon the terms applicable to family membership as defined in Rule 3. The Committee shall have the power to elect as a life member any member who makes a payment of sufficient sum in lieu of further annual subscription and such membership may be extended to include his/her family. The Committee shall have the power to elect Honorary Life Members.
16. The Brenchley and Matfield Church of England Primary School shall be entitled to take up membership on the terms provided in Bye-Laws hereunder from time to time force.
17. The Committee shall have power to provide for temporary membership of the Club on such terms as may be provided for in bye-laws made under these Rules.
18. Members may introduce visitors to the Club as guests, subject to such restrictions and regulations as the Committee may make or are provided for in bye-laws from time to time. Such visitor shall be considered the guest of and be accompanied by the person introducing him/her. PROVIDED that no person shall be introduced as a visitor into the Club who has been expelled from membership or whose conduct or presence in the Club shall be considered by the Committee objectionable or prejudicial to the interests of the Club. The member introducing the visitor to play as his/her guest shall pay the charge provided for under the bye-laws from time to time in force.
19. Neither the Club, the Committee, nor any officer thereof shall be liable to any member or guest of a member for any loss or damage to any property occurring, from whatever cause, in or about the club premises, nor for any injury

howsoever arising, sustained by any member or guest whilst on or entering or leaving the Club premises. The Brenchley Memorial Hall Charity, its Committee or any officer thereof shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage whatsoever, occurring to any member or guest of a member of the tennis club whilst on or about the Brenchley Memorial Hall Charity premises in connection with the tennis club.

20. The Committee shall have the power to make arrangements for holding matches, tournaments or other like competitions and functions, including the imposition of a charge for the admission of non-members to the premises and to provide cups and other prizes for competitions and to reserve courts as may be required on any occasion.
21. These rules may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any annual or special general meeting. PROVIDED THAT no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it be carried by a majority of at least two thirds of the members voting thereon.
22. The Committee shall from time to time make, repeal and amend all such bye-laws and regulations (not inconsistent with these Rules) as they think expedient for the internal management, use of courts and well being of the Club. All such bye-laws and regulations shall be binding upon the members until repealed by the Committee or set aside by a resolution of a general meeting of the Club.
23. In the event of there being in any year any revenue of the Club for its existing or future purposes or liabilities at that time, the same shall be transferred to the Brenchley Memorial Hall Charity. PROVIDED (and without prejudice to the foregoing provision as to liabilities) that no such transfer to the Council as aforesaid shall be made without the consent of any Club debenture holder remaining unpaid off at that time.
24. In the event of the dissolution of the Club pursuant to a resolution by at least two thirds of members present at a special general meeting called for that purpose, all its debts, liabilities and obligations shall first be discharged. Thereafter any of the Club's property, assets and undertaking the remaining shall be transferred to the Brenchley Memorial Hall Charity.

Original rules adopted:	01.10.73
Amendment No 1.	13.03.78
Amendment No 2.	23.03.82
Amendment No 3.	15.11.84
Amendment No 4.	14.11.96
Amendment No. 5	01.05.18