



appleton
WITH eaton
TENNIS CLUB

THE APPLETON WITH EATON TENNIS AND RECREATION CLUB

Handbook
2018 – 2019



Appleton with Eaton Tennis Club

Appleton with Eaton Tennis Club.....	1
Welcome	2
Website	2
Play Tennis	2
Weekly Schedule	2
General Information	3
Floodlights.....	3
Accidents.....	3
Casual Play	3
Guests	4
Unaccompanied Juniors.....	4
Club Sessions.....	4
Coaching.....	4
Compete.....	5
Members.....	5
Membership Categories.....	5
Social	5
Get Involved	5
Other benefits.....	6
Discounts.....	6
Injuries	6
Tennis Equipment	6
Badged Clothing.....	6
Contact us	6
Communications	6
Location.....	7
Documents on the website.....	7
Disclaimer.....	7

Welcome

The Committee of Appleton with Eaton Tennis Club warmly welcomes you to the club.

We are a thriving two court club located in the village of Appleton approx 6 miles from both Oxford and Abingdon. We strive to be friendly and inclusive, and welcome players of all abilities.

The club plays a significant part in village life, particularly through its links with the primary school, and social events. We are active within the Oxfordshire LTA, where we place six teams across the weekend and midweek leagues.

We offer a number of club sessions during weekdays, evenings and weekends, coaching opportunities, league play and social events. Of course, you may just want to come and play and we ensure there is court time for this.

Developments in recent years have included the installation of floodlights and significant expansion of the coaching programme for juniors. Suggestions for future improvements are always welcome.

We hope you will enjoy your time with the club.

The Committee

Email appletonwithheatontennisclub@gmail.com

On the web <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/AppletonwithEatonTennisClub>
<https://www.appleton-eaton.org/tennis>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pg/AppletonwithEatonTennisClub>

Website

The club uses a software system called ClubSpark supplied by LTA for administration, information and court bookings. When you join you will be asked for your email address, and the membership secretary will use this to trigger an invitation from ClubSpark to you to register. Once you have registered, you will be able to book courts through the website. There is also up-to-date information about the club sessions, events and club documents (e.g this handbook and the constitution), so please bookmark it and keep an eye on it.

Play Tennis

Weekly Schedule

There is a busy weekly schedule of club sessions (all welcome) coaching and match play. See the website for up-to-date timings.

General Information

The club is located at the end of Badswell Lane, Appleton nr Abingdon OX13 5JN. Parking is available within the club grounds but if you can walk or cycle please do so. The code for the gate for parking is in the grey bunker inside the courts. Please be aware of our neighbours and do not park on the road.

When you join the club you will be given a key to the courts. This is changed at the start of each tennis year (March/April) . The club house is only open for club sessions but the toilet is always available.

Please leave the toilet clean, it is checked regularly but please report any issues by email.

Balls are provided for club sessions and league matches, but you are invited to bring your own for casual play. There is a stock of old but usable balls in the grey bunker for general use.

The courts can be used between 9.00 am and 9.30 pm seven days a week.

Neighbourliness – please be considerate of our neighbours in particular regarding parking, ball retrieval, noise, and use of the floodlights.

What to wear - what is comfortable. We don't have a dress code but it is important to wear tennis shoes/trainers for your own safety and comfort, as well as for the integrity of the court surface.

A measuring stick for the nets is in the grey bunker. After play, please replace the black webbing straps and lower the nets a half turn.

Please be sure to lock the courts and car park after use.

Lost property is generally placed in club house, but will be donated to charity shops at regular intervals throughout the year.

Floodlights

Details of floodlight operation and protocol for use are posted next to the token box in the toilet area. The current list of token prices and where you can buy them will be on the notice board, or email the committee.

Accidents

In case of any accidents on court there is a First Aid kit in the grey bunker. There is an accident book in the club house for logging of minor injuries. If you need to call 999 the address is Badswell Lane Appleton OX13 5JN. The nearest defibrillator unit is at the village hall (turn right at the end of Badswell Lane and follow the road to the T junction with Oaksmere. Please do not play when the courts are slippery or icy.

Casual Play

Courts can be booked through the online booking system on the ClubSpark website ("Book a court") You will need to have registered with ClubSpark to have access to this facility. If you have not received your invitation to register, please email the club. If you make a booking and then find you are unable to play please do cancel it so that others can use the courts. Bookings can be made up to two weeks in advance. You are asked not to book out both courts at the same time. Court bookings

take priority over those who haven't booked. Adults have priority after 6.30pm. Juniors are asked not to book courts for after 6.30 pm but may play if the courts are free.

The courts are not available for booking during club or coaching sessions, or when there are home matches, or other club events.

You don't have to book a court - just take a chance and out of peak times/club sessions you are likely to get a court.

Guests There is a guest fee of £3.00 per session, money to be placed in the tin in the grey bunker. Guests are limited to three visits, and are then expected to join the club.

Unaccompanied Juniors Under LTA guidance, junior members age 13 and over are given a key to the courts and may play unsupervised. Juniors age 11 to 13 may be given a key subject to parents signing a consent form, which can be downloaded from the ClubSpark website. Parents are responsible for their children and for ensuring courts are locked after play. The Club's Risk Assessment can be found on the website.

Club Sessions

Most play takes place through club sessions. These are organised with a light touch to give everyone a good game, and are endlessly adaptable to the number of people who come along. They are generally attended by adults but teenagers of a reasonable standard are welcome. Balls are provided. For evening sessions when the floodlights are in use there is a small charge to cover the cost of the lights.

The Family session on the first Sunday of each month is set up with slow balls and mini nets to enable children and parents/carers to play together, facilitated by the coach. Depending on numbers and ages of those attending, full court and green ball tennis may be available.

The evening sessions continue in winter but we also book an indoor court at the White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre in Abingdon once a month to escape the cold and dark. See our website for details.

Coaching

Craig Amison-Smith has been the club coach for a number of years and runs the successful junior programme as well as the popular adult coaching sessions and cardio tennis. Craig is licensed to LTA level 3.

We have a very popular junior coaching programme which is open to children from tots to teens, operating on Tuesday and Friday afternoons during term time. Most summers we run a junior camp, generally at the end of August.

Volunteers with tennis experience or experience in working with youngsters are always welcome. Please email the club direct if you are able to help.

Adult coaching is on Monday evenings in the summer and early autumn, generally during term time. A popular cardio session runs on Wednesday mornings.

Craig can also be contacted for private coaching on craigstenniscoaching@gmail.com. Non members may book courts for private coaching at non peak times on payment of the guest fee.

Up-to-date coaching information is on the club website.

Compete

We enter three men's and two ladies teams in the winter and summer OLTA leagues and one team in the ladies mid week league.

You can find the team captains on the list of committee members on the notice board. Do contact them if you are interested in playing in the leagues.

The club arranges a tournament each year which kicks off at the start of the season and concludes with a Finals Day in September. This includes ladies and men's doubles and singles, mixed doubles, a junior singles and family doubles (subject to sufficient entries).

The membership form you complete at the start of the season asks if you are interested in playing in leagues or entering the tournament.

British Tennis Membership (BTM) is a requirement for those playing in leagues. Membership is free and brings other benefits, such as entry to the Wimbledon ballot. See the link below.

We also run light-hearted mixed doubles events under the floodlights twice per year, and the Ladies Fun tournament in mid-summer is a must for all ladies.

Members

Membership Categories

Family

Adult

Junior (12-18 and student)

Junior <12

Social

The club has a thriving social side which includes an annual barbeque, a Christmas meal, summer outings and fun mixed tennis tournaments twice a year.

Get Involved

Members are warmly encouraged to get involved in running the club. You don't have to join the committee - maintenance days happen twice a year and generally involve cake and chat. You may have an idea for a social event, or be able to help with junior coaching sessions. If you would like to take your involvement to the next level, new committee members are always welcome. Please speak to a committee member prior to the AGM each February/March. The list of current members and team captains is on website/notice board.

Other benefits

The club has an annual allocation of tickets for Wimbledon, which are awarded through a ballot. To be eligible you must be registered BTM and have selected Appleton as your club. You can also only play league matches if you are registered. To register go to <https://www.lta.org.uk/member/>

The general Wimbledon ballot opens on 1 September and closes at the end of December.

<http://www.wimbledon.com/index.html>

Discounts Abingdon Sports have kindly offered a 10% discounts to members of the club. Other shops offering discounts are Top Sport Abingdon, Elmer Cotton, Oxford and The Racket Factory, Wantage.

Injuries If you require physiotherapy or treatment for sports injuries speak to members - between us there is much experience of typical injuries and knowledge of local health professionals.

Tennis Equipment

Craig Amison-Smith holds a contract with Head, the tennis equipment suppliers. He can supply equipment, predominantly tennis rackets, for all players. He always has a selection of junior rackets available to purchase, from 19" for the youngest player through 21", 23" or 25" for the older juniors. He also carries a number of Head adult demo rackets which he is happy for you to try to find out which suits you. You should never buy an adult racket without trying it out first. Craig can supply other items of tennis equipment including shoes and clothing (providing you know what style and size you would like) and various colour tennis balls.

Badged Clothing

Ladies and men's tennis shirts with the club logo are available at a very reasonable price from Southeast Workwear in Abingdon.

Contact us

Communications

The club communicates by email. There is a regular newsletter named NetCall, and urgent messages, such as court closure for maintenance are headed NetAlert and are also published on Facebook.

Please advise the membership secretary if you change email address during the year, and update it in the membership form at the start of the year. Please check your spam folder if you are not receiving these. Access to our ClubSpark website is via email so it is crucial that we have your up to date email address.

On the web: <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/AppletonwithEatonTennisClub>
<https://www.appleton-eaton.org/tennis>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pg/AppletonwithEatonTennisClub>

Email: appletonwitheatontennisclub@gmail.com

Those living in the immediate area receive the Appleton Advertiser which also contains club information.

You may also be interested in the activities of the Oxfordshire Lawn Tennis Association at <http://www3.lta.org.uk/in-your-area/Oxfordshire/>

Location

Badswell Lane Appleton OX13 5JN For map see website

Documents on the website

Club constitution

Risk assessment for unsupervised juniors

Consent Form for juniors

To be added

Polices: Safeguarding and Welfare, Equality and Diversity, Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults, Data Protection and Privacy Policy

Disclaimer

All information is provided in good faith and is accurate at time of publication. The Committee reserves the right to amend information as necessary.

April 2018