



2026 SUMMER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS: RULES

Important Dates:

FINALS DAY IS SATURDAY 19th SEPTEMBER.

ALL SEMI-FINALS TO BE COMPLETED BY WEDNESDAY 16th SEPTEMBER

Eligibility

1. All entrants **MUST** be members of the Club.
2. All entrants must have **paid their 2026 annual subscription** (in full or have approved payment methods in force) **AND** must have paid their entry fees for all events entered, before entry will be accepted into the draws.
3. Subject to the age limits below, the following categories of Adult and Junior members are eligible to enter the tournament:
 - a. All adult playing members (Full, Senior, Mid-Week, Student / Young Adult and Country / Out of Town)
 - b. Junior members aged 12+

Please note that where a player's category of membership has restrictions on times of play, those restrictions remain in place for the tournament, except when the match opponents are eligible to play at other times.

4. Age limits are as follows
 - Entrants for the Veteran Ladies to be 40 or over on Finals Day
 - Entrants for the Veteran Gentlemen to be 40 or over on Finals Day
 - Entrants for the adult competitions to be 12 or over on Finals Day
5. Restricted events are open to members who have not played for the 1st or 2nd teams in the last 12 months. Social Doubles event is open exclusively to all social players and players from Team 6 for Men and Team 5/6 for Women. The tournament organiser reserves the right to deny entry to this category to any player who has not been part of the top 4/5 competitive teams yet plays at a skill level equivalent to Team 5 or higher. The family doubles is open to all combinations of parent – child (to be over 12 or over on Finals Day).
6. Events available are: Gentlemen's Singles & Doubles, Ladies' Singles & Doubles, Mixed Doubles; Veteran Gentlemen's, Ladies' & Mixed Doubles; Gentlemen's & Ladies' Restricted Singles; Social Doubles & Family Doubles.
7. For players losing their first MATCH there will be Consolation Draws, except in round robin draws. Please opt-in by ticking the box on the entry form.
8. Participants are allowed to enter any number of eligible events but may compete in a maximum of three finals. If a participant qualifies for more than three finals, they must concede their place in additional finals to their semi-final opponents. The withdrawal from an event shall follow this order of priority: withdrawal from a consolation final before a regular final, withdrawal from singles events in favour of doubles events, and withdrawal from single-gender doubles in favour of mixed doubles.

9. Every entrant who reaches the semi-finals of an event **MUST** be available to compete on **FINALS DAY – SATURDAY 19th SEPTEMBER 2026** as well as on **weather contingency day Sunday 20th September**. If you are not able to, you may enter the tournament but you **MUST RETIRE** (if winning) at match point of the QUARTER FINAL. This rule **ALSO APPLIES** to players who are not available for the **ENTIRETY** of Finals Day & weather contingency day.

Entry & Payments

10. Entry is by use of the electronic online form ONLY via LTA Stripe. Entries and payments are to be submitted by midnight on **13th April 2026**. Please note that you need to be a LTA member for the system to recognise you. Log into ClubSpark then scroll down to log into LTA, create your account, each player must have their own account.
11. The entry fee for all membership categories is **£5.00 per person per event**. One payment for each event entered.
12. To avoid confusion, please do not combine tournament entry fee(s) with any other payment to the club.
13. No cash or cheques are accepted. If playing Doubles a separate payment is to be made by each individual. Each player should make a payment for each of the events entered.
14. There will be NO REFUNDS for overpayments.
15. Players wishing to enter a doubles event (but who have no partner) should enter and pay in the normal way and write **ASSIGN PARTNER** in place of partner's name on their entries. Tournament Organiser will do her best to assign an appropriate partner but no guarantees are made in this respect. In the event that a player rejects the allocated partner, no refund will be paid. However, if no partner can be found, a refund will be issued.
16. Additional entries, up to the maximum per player (see Rule 8), can be made until the entry deadline.

Matches

17. All matches in the Open events (including "restricted") are to be the best of 3 tie-break sets.
18. All matches in the Veteran events are to be the best of 3 sets with tie breaks in the first two sets and the final set played as a Champions tie-break to 10 points. For Family and Social Doubles the participants can choose before every match they play whether the match will be best of 3 sets or a final set played as a Champions tie-break to 10 points. Finals of Family and Social Doubles will be played as the best of 3 sets unless weather conditions on the finals day require it to be a final set as a Champions tiebreak to 10 points.
19. All matches in the Consolation Draws are to be the best of 3 sets with tie breaks in the first two sets and the final set played as a Champions tie-break to 10 points.
20. Players are responsible for providing their own balls, except on Finals Day.
21. It is the responsibility of the match winner to enter the result of the match, including the score, on the online RESULTS REPORT FORM and on the notice board in the Clubhouse, as soon as the match is completed.
22. Please arrange your next match as soon as possible after match updates are published. The following deadlines are in place across all events:
 - a. Round of 64: 24 May 2026
 - b. Round of 32: 28 June 2026

- c. Round of 16: 26 July 2026
 - d. Quarter-finals: 23 August 2026
 - e. Semi-finals: 16 September 2026
23. All entrants are responsible for organising their own matches and it is the responsibility of all players in a match to arrange to play the match before the round deadline date. As a matter of courtesy, the second player/pair to make it to the next round tie should contact the first player/pair to reach that tie, whose name should already be written down on the tournament draw sheets.
24. Courts for Summer Club Championship matches are to be booked on ClubSpark in the normal way. However, on Adult Club Nights, bookings can be made through the office, in view that Team practice or Club Social play will release a court to be made available. On Friday nights after 4pm (Junior club night) 1 court will be available but can only be reserved for club championship matches including at least 1 junior member.
25. If, at any time after the tournament has officially started, a person is injured, a reasonable delay beyond the round deadline may be granted upon application to the tournament sub-committee via the tournament organiser. Only one such delay per person or doubles pair per event is allowed. Agreement must be sought with the players awaiting the following round match.
26. After the first match has been played by a doubles pair, there are no circumstances under which a substitute partner may be introduced. Prior to the 1st match, any proposed partner substitution must be agreed with the tournament sub-committee (who will check membership category, subscription status, tournament entry fee payments).
27. All matches are to be completed by the specified round deadline, unless as above a delay is specifically granted by the tournament organiser. The tournament sub-committee reserves the right to nominate one of the players/partnerships to be advanced to the next round should this deadline not be met.

General

28. If there are any problems, please let the tournament organiser know at the earliest opportunity.
29. Appeals may be made to the tournament sub-committee via the tournament organiser. All decisions of the tournament sub-committee are final.
30. By submitting an entry to the tournament, all entrants agree that the contact details given on their entry form may be made known to all the other entrants by email (including as a file attachment) and/or be made known to all club members by posting a list on the tournament drawsheet website.
31. Where an event has fewer than 8 entrants, the tournament organiser reserves the right to use a round robin format in place of an elimination draw.
32. Where the number of entries in an event is 8 or less, anyone with a bye to the semi-finals will not be entered into the consolation draw.
33. If a player has to drop out of the tournament for any reason, it is that player's responsibility to inform
- a. all doubles partners,
 - b. opponents for the round not played,
 - c. the tournament organiser,
 - d. to enter the result of the unplayed match putting "walkover" as the score. It is helpful to add a comment explaining the reason for the walkover.
34. If a player/pair has not played their first match by the quarter-final deadline date, they will not be entered into the consolation draw for that event.

Finals Day

35. Finals Day is SATURDAY 19th September 2026

36. A schedule of play will be published before Finals Day, a reasonable time after all the semi-final results have been registered.

37. The order of play on Finals Day will be:

Open Gentlemen's Singles	Open Ladies' Singles
Restricted Gentlemen's Singles	Restricted Ladies' Singles
Open Gentlemen's Doubles	Open Ladies' Doubles
Family Doubles	Social Doubles
Veteran Gentlemen's Doubles	Veteran Ladies' Doubles
Open Mixed Doubles	Veteran Mixed Doubles

38. Consolation draw finals will follow the same sequence, but the main draw matches have priority on a player's match sequence.

39. NO RESCHEDULING will be done to accommodate individual player's preferences.

40. Where possible, more than two matches will be played at the same time, dependent upon which events involve the same players.

41. Players for the first matches of the schedule must be on court promptly at 10 a.m. A ten-minute warm-up period is allowed for. In the event of inclement weather, play will commence as soon as safe thereafter. Required times for players to be ready to play in subsequent matches will be published beforehand.

42. Any player who does not turn up to play at the appointed time will be considered to have defaulted.

43. Any player who knows in advance that they cannot meet the requirements of Rules 9 and 42, must retire at match point of the quarter final.

44. Players for subsequent matches must be ready to start play at the scheduled time.

45. A suitable time interval between matches involving the same player(s) will be provided (in accordance with LTA guidelines).

46. In the event that the above schedule would cause an overlap of matches involving the same player(s) the tournament organiser will adjust the order of play, ensuring compliance with Rule 45.