REGULATIONS FOR THE BOOKING OF PADEL TENNIS

Updated 30 September 2024

Padel tennis is new to the Club and whilst a lot of members may have played already, for many playing at the Club will be their first time. We have therefore devised the following regulations in order to facilitate fair access to the facility, encouraging both experienced and novice players alike.

The Lawn Tennis Association is the governing body for padel in the UK and to follow are links to some useful guidance.

Click here for the LTA's padel homepage
Click here for padel rules
Click here for padel tips for beginners
Click here for a padel equipment guide

If anyone has any questions on the following regulations, or requires further explanation of any of the conditions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office.

Who can book and play?
Padel will be available to adult tennis and squash players, along with all child members. Visitors can also be invited under the same terms as for tennis as defined in the Club's Rules and Regulations. For the avoidance of doubt, visitors can attend to play padel anytime Monday to Friday but only after 5:00pm on Saturdays and Sundays. All visitors must be signed in to the visitor's book with the visitor's fee paid prior to play.

How is the court booked?
The court is booked using an online platform called MATCHi, which can be accessed using a web address or app. Members will need to set up an account and this can be done by clicking here. Once registered, Members should search for Cumberland LTC and add it to their favourites for ready access. The calendar provided on MATCHi is then used to find and book an available slot up to seven days in advance. A pictorial guide on how to book a court using the MATCHi app can be found by clicking here.

As padel is essentially a doubles game, four players will usually be playing during each booking. One member must therefore book the court through MATCHi and we ask that this person adds all other players to their booking (all must be registered users) at that time. We suggest payment is made by the original booker (by selecting "pay entire booking") and they recover the other three members' share of cost directly with them, but there is the option to "pay your part" which requests those other members associated with your booking do the same. Payment will not be taken until the booking concludes and if the "pay your part" option is selected, the main booker will pay for all parts of the booking that have not been paid for by the persons associated with the booking.

MATCHi also provide direct support to users who may have questions about the software and this can be accessed by clicking here.

How much will it cost?
The court will cost £28.00 per hour.

How often can I play?
Due to the limitation of having just one court, Members are asked to play for a maximum of one hour per day. Individual members are only able to book one court per day but we ask that they also only play once per day, either as part of their own booking or that made by others.

When can I book and play?
The padel court will be available at the same times as the other facilities (tennis and squash etc) at HCC. This comprises after school, weekends and school holidays. Bookings can be made up to seven days in advance.

How do I access the court?
The court is accessed through a side gate adjacent to Hard Tennis Court 6. Court lights are activated by pressing a switch just outside the entrance gate and they will remain on for 60mins. The lights are also controlled by a dusk sensor and will only come on at times of dusk or darkness. The lights will be extinguished at 9:30pm.

What is the dress code for padel?
The dress code for padel is the same as for tennis as defined in the Club's Rules and Regulations, with clothing and footwear needing to be predominantly white. We also recommend the use of (white) padel specific footwear, with the demands of the sport making injury more likely if correct footwear is not worn.

I don't have my own padel equipment so am I able to I borrow some from the Club?
Yes. The Club will have a selection of padel rackets that can be borrowed from the Bar with no charge. Members looking to borrow a racket will need to leave a deposit that will be given back once the rackets are returned (undamaged). Acceptable types of deposit are:

- Valid CLTC membership card in the Member's name
- Valid credit or debit card in the Member's name
- Valid Driver's Licence or Passport in the Member's name

Unless one of the above deposit types are provided, staff will be instructed to not allow equipment to be borrowed. Padel rackets are expensive and borrowed equipment that is either unreturned or returned with damage will be charged to the responsible Member at a rate of £100.00 per racket. Please do not let this happen.
Padel balls can be purchased (not borrowed) from the bar.

Will coaching for padel be available?
Yes. The Club will be running a series of introductory classes for Members new to padel and the coaching team will be available for private lessons as required. Social events and tournaments will be organised, with details publicised through E-News and the usual channels.