



Club Championship Rules 2024

1. Venue

1.1 All matches should be played at Shiplake Tennis Club unless there are exceptional circumstances and all players agree on the alternative.

1.2 **Finals Day will be Sunday September 15th 2024**, and all players entering are required to be available to play on this day if they win through to the Final.

2. Format

2.1 All matches will be the best of three tie-break sets (tie-break at 6-6) with a championship tie-break (first to 10) in lieu of a 3rd set. This means that if the scores are 1 set all then the match shall be decided by a championship tie-break (i.e. played to 10 points). **NO OTHER FORMAT IS PERMITTED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**

2.2 All competitions will be a knockout format.

2.3 Exact details of the Draw and current scores can be found via the main Championship webpage here. [Championship Page](#)

2.4 The mixed doubles plate will be open to all first-round losers in the main Mixed Doubles draw. There will be no re-drawing of partners, these will stay the same.

3. Arranging matches

3.1 Everyone is equally responsible for arranging knockout matches. Please note the deadlines for each competition on the draw sheets and ensure you allow plenty of time to play your matches! **Your entry into the competition is a commitment to enable the playing of all matches, commencing from the beginning of the competition period (March 11th 2024).**

Players/ teams may challenge another player/team and should offer 3 dates over the ensuing 3 weeks at different times (morning, evening, afternoon etc). The Challenged player/team should accept one of these 3 dates, or suggest and agree an alternate within that 3 week period. If agreement cannot be reached then the original challenger will be awarded the match 2-0. In exceptional cases the Championship committee should be contacted to resolve disputes.

Valid reasons for not accepting a challenge are limited to

- **Prior commitments / Involvement in Club match or Club business**
- **Unforeseen emergency or illness**
- **Minor injury for which a 1 week allowance will be made, otherwise an injury forfeit**

3.2 There will be no deadline extensions for any reason.

3.3 If a knockout match is not completed by the deadline then the outcome will be decided by coin toss conducted by the Championship Committee. This will comprise a "best of three" toss with the first named player/team as "Heads" and the second names player/team as "Tails".

3.4 If part or all of the Finals Day is cancelled due to bad weather, then Finalists must agree a date within the next 28 days to complete their matches and inform the Championship Committee of the results.



3.5 If necessary, permission to use Court 3 to play a Championship Match can be requested during Monday and Wednesday Club sessions by use of [the appropriate form](#) - this usage may be granted from 1930 in each case. ***Until such a request has been confirmed via email, no such permission will exist.***

4. Injuries

4.1 In the event that a player becomes injured and is unable to complete a match, ***irrespective of the progress of the match***, then that team will forfeit the match. The match should not be replayed.

4.2 If a player in a pair is injured for an extended period of time, the other member of the pair may request a substitute who may be provided by the Championship Committee if circumstances allow. If the substitution is made, it will hold for the rest of the competition and the original pairing will be declared void. The Championship Committee will have complete authority in this replacement and will attempt to make substitutions of players of similar standard.

4.3 Players who recover from long term injury will be eligible themselves to act as substitutes if circumstances demand.

4.4 There will be no deadline extension for injuries.

4.5 In all cases of player substitutions the Championship Committee shall make the final and binding decisions in their absolute discretion.

5. Results

Match results must be recorded as below:

⇒ Entered via the form here [Championship ScoreCard](#)

NB: **It is the responsibility of the winning player/team to ensure that the scores are recorded properly**, and failure to do so within any deadline will be treated as though the match has not been played. This will result in a coin toss as described in rule 3.3.

6. Finals Day Matches

6.1 All Finals shall be played on the Finals Day: **Sunday 15th September 2024**

6.2 If, prior to the Final, a finalist is injured, or for some unforeseen circumstance unable to play, then the runner up in the semi-final may be given the chance to play in the Final and become Champion/s or runner/s up in their own right. Any such decisions shall be made by the Championship Committee in their absolute discretion.

6.3 In the event that the runner up cannot compete in the Final, then the remaining finalist/s may choose to take the title by default or offer to play the Final against the original finalist/s within 28 days of the Finals Day.

6.4 If no players or pairs are available, the winner/s shall be the finalist/s who has/have conceded the least games en route to the Final. The number shall be taken as the average across played matches (i.e. excluding byes and walk overs) and shall exclude the preliminary round if played. If the score is still even a coin will be tossed as described in rule 3.3.



7. Players' Conduct and Liability

7.1 Players must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the etiquette, sportsmanship and exemplary standards of behaviour expected of the sport and compliant with Club Membership.

7.2 Any inappropriate incidents should be brought to the Championship Committee's attention and they and/or the Club Chairman will take the appropriate action, referring to LTA guidelines if necessary.

7.3 All players enter these Championships and compete at their own risk.

8. Data Protection

8.1 The Club needs to adhere to the new General Data Protection Regulations, which came into force in May 2018, so any member that enters the competition implicitly agrees to have their details circulated to other members and their image may be used on our website for publicity purposes unless expressly denied either in writing or via the signup form.

8.2 If any competitor has any queries please email championships@shiplaketennisclub.co.uk.

Championship Committee (Marcus, Katie, Peter)