

Bishop's Park

Bishop's Park Avenue, Fulham, London SW6 6DX

Sunday 11th September 2011 (11:00am onwards)

Competition Rules, Regulations and Entry Conditions

(1) This tournament shall be conducted in accordance with these rules and any additional regulations published by touchtennis (www.touchtennis.com) whose decision on all matters relating to the competition shall be final.

(2) The tournament is open to any player aged 16 or over on the day of the event, although players under the age of 16 years old may be permitted to enter doubles events on-site, at the discretion of the tournament director/referee. All players must be registered with the www.touchtennis.com website to be eligible for inclusion. Players who are not registered www.touchtennis.com may be excluded at the discretion of the organiser.

(3) The organiser may decline to accept any application.

(4) All events shall use a mixed gender knockout draw format and draw sizes shall be decided by the organiser. If too many applications are received then players shall be accepted in order of receipt. Wild cards may however be awarded at variation to this.

(5) Doubles events shall take place weather and circumstances permitting and can only be entered on site at the event.

(6) The format of matches within an event shall be decided according to entry numbers. Standard tiebreaks shall use an abbreviated format (first player to win 5 point with a clear margin of 2 points; players change ends every 4 points).

(7) Selections will not be confirmed until after the published application/cancellation deadline, after which time, no refunds shall be allowed, unless an event is cancelled due to bad weather (or other unforeseen circumstances) in which case fees will be refunded to any player who has not started a match.

(8) It is each applicant's responsibility to check if they have been accepted for the tournament and when they are required to report for play. Any player withdrawing after the published cancellation deadline must contact the organiser by TELEPHONE only, to avoid inconveniencing other players.

(9) Entry fees are collected by Tennis Services UK Limited acting as an agent for Touchtennis Pro. Limited.

(10) Matches shall be played on a touchtennis court (dimensions 12m x 5m - singles; 12m x 6m - doubles), using 8cm Foam balls. One new ball shall be provided for each singles match. A used ball will be provided for each doubles and consolation match (if held). **Court dimensions may however vary, particularly where dedicated "mini-red" courts are used for events.**

(11) **Players must provide their own racquets which shall be no shorter than 20.8 inches and no longer than 21.5 inches.** Note: most manufacturers "21 inch" racquets fall within this variation despite being labelled as 21 inches in length. Head size may be no greater than 107 sq inches.

(12) The following prize money will be paid **but only to players who are present at the end of the event when all matches have been completed:**

Singles event: (a) Winner: £250; (b) Runner-Up: £125; (c) Losing Semi-Finalists: £50; (d) Losing Quarter-Finalists: £30 ; (e) Losing Round of 16: £10.

Doubles event (per pair): (a) Winner: £120

Prize money may be varied if an event is not completed or does not attract sufficient entry numbers. A player shall only receive prize money if he/she has won a match in the event (a walkover win shall count as a match won for the purposes of eligibility).

Any player who is NOT present at the conclusion of the event will NOT be eligible to receive any prize money – no exceptions will be made.

(13) The rules of Lawn Tennis shall be applied where considered appropriate by the tournament organiser, with the following provisions/exceptions:

(a) A player who is absent or not ready to play within 15 minutes of his/her match being called to court, may be disqualified from the match.

(b) A three minute warm up is allowed prior to a player's first match. Warm ups are prohibited after each player's first match. Once each player has played an initial match no further pre-match warm ups are permitted on that day. Should a tournament stretch over more than one day then a further three minute warm up is permitted for each player assuming one or both of them have not played before on that day in a tournament match.

(c) No Service Let Rule - if the ball clips the net and then lands in the correct service box (diagonal to the server) then that ball is considered "in play" and the point shall continue.

(d) Serving: Only **ONE** serve is permitted. Underarm serves are not permitted and will result in the loss of a point.

(e) Server Ball Toss - once the server tosses the ball upward to serve then that player is obliged to hit it. If they fail to do so then they shall lose the point.

(f) A serve may not be volleyed back by the returner.

(g) If a player's racquet leaves their hand in order to make a shot, then that shot will still count so long as the racquet does not touch the opponent's side of the court.

(h) If a serve hits the receiver without bouncing then it is a fault UNLESS the receiver is touching the service line or the area inside the service box when the ball hits them in which case the server wins the point.

(i) If a ball in play hits the opponent's body, (including clothing or footwear), then the ball shall be considered "out" if the opponent is wholly outside the playing area of the court.

(j) If the score in a game reaches "deuce", a deciding point shall be played. The receiving player (or team) shall decide which side of the court this point shall be played.

(k) Foul language: An audible obscenity of any description will result in a point penalty. A player receiving three point penalties in a match shall be disqualified from the competition.

(l) Racquet abuse:

(i) Any player breaking a racket in anger shall be disqualified from the competition and fined £20.00 which must be paid prior to playing any further tournament matches in the touchtennis programme.

(ii) Any player who abuses their racket in anger (without breaking it) may continue playing as long as the same racquet is used for the rest of the match (this applies even if one or more strings are broken).

(m) Where, in the opinion of the referee, a player makes a blatantly incorrect call then they shall immediately lose the point.

(n) Any player who does not follow the spirit of fair play may receive penalty points or be disqualified by the organiser.

(o) Toilet/bathroom breaks are not permitted, once a match has started and any player leaving the court during play without permission shall forfeit the match.

(p) If a player's racket touches the net during play the point shall continue. If however the opponent is hindered by this OR if a player's body, clothing, equipment (excluding racket) touches the net then the point shall be awarded to the opponent.

(14) This tournament is not sanctioned by the Lawn Tennis Association and match results are **not** submitted to the LTA for ratings/rankings purposes.

(15) By submitting an application to this tournament you:

(a) are authorising Tennis Services UK Limited to pass your details to Touchtennis Pro. Limited.

(b) are agreeing to accept these tournament conditions.

(c) accept our site registration and payment conditions.

(d) consent to being involved in any publicity in connection with the touchtennis programme and/or Touchtennis Pro. Limited and/or Tennis Services UK Limited, including and without limitation - video footage and photography which may be published in the public domain.