



**WELCOME PACK
AND
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP
INFORMATION**

Updated Feb 2026

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Club Ethos

This is the Committee's declaration to you, as members, of how we will endeavour to run the club and provide a safe place for you to learn and improve your tennis as well as the opportunity to make new friends, maybe join a team and enjoy getting some exercise in the fresh air!

At Bramhall Queensgate Tennis Club, we expect all members to treat the club as their own and to contribute where they can. Ours is a club run entirely by its members. While some volunteers have been elected to serve on the committee, the smooth running of the club depends on everyone sharing responsibility.

If you notice something that needs attention — such as litter that should be put in a bin, a broken net strap, the clubhouse door left unlocked, lights left on, courts not dragged after play, or any inappropriate behaviour — please consider taking action yourself if possible, or at the very least report it to a committee member.

We also encourage members to volunteer from time to time. This might include helping at a court working party, assisting with social tennis sessions, providing refreshments at events, sharing professional expertise, sponsoring the club, or supporting other club activities.

The names of all committee members can be found on the Information Board in the clubhouse, in this pack, or on the club website. Please remember that committee members are volunteers too — they simply want to enjoy their tennis like everyone else. If we all work together, we can ensure the club remains well run, welcoming, tidy, and family-friendly.

Remember — you are not a customer, you are a member.

The Club is LTA registered – by continually achieving the LTA accreditation, we are providing a safe, welcoming and inclusive environment for all members and players at our venue.

Terms & Conditions of Membership can be seen on our website as well as our Club Rules, Code of Conduct and other club policies - [club rules and policies](#)

Safeguarding

The club will:

- a) produce and publish guidelines for members' welfare including behaviour and disputes;
- b) have a Welfare Officer and adopt a code of practice for child protection and safeguarding and code of conduct for people working with children;
- c) display its Safeguarding policy on the club's noticeboard, on the website and in the Club Information folder;
- d) be guided by the LTA's policy and procedures on diversity and inclusion, safe recruitment, on away/overnight events and code of practice for parents and guardians.

Lis Bevan is our Volunteer Club Welfare Officer and can be contacted on 07881 019067 lis@bevan.co.uk. See website for current policies and guidelines – [policies](#)

BRAMHALL QUEENSGATE TENNIS CLUB CHARTER

| WHAT THE CLUB WILL GIVE TO YOU | WHAT THE CLUB EXPECTS FROM YOU |
|---|---|
| The aim is for it to be a family friendly club which is a happy place to play and improve tennis and somewhere you can invite others to come and join. | Spread the word! Tell your friends what a great club we are. Encourage them to come and give us a try. What's not to like? |
| Fully qualified tennis coach(s) who will provide a full coaching programme for adults and children, suitable for all standards of player, including 1:1's and group tuition. | Make use of the coach! Improve your tennis either as an individual, group coaching, or as part of a doubles couple. |
| Access and use of the tennis courts and clubhouse (including kitchen and bar). | Drag the courts – they are our main asset and need looking after! Be respectful of the furniture. Keep the kitchen and other areas clean. Support the bar and help provide profits for the club. |
| Opportunities to play competitive tennis, either on senior or junior tennis teams in the North East Cheshire League or in other external leagues/tournaments and internal tournaments. Match practices for Ladies is on Monday nights, Men's on Thursday nights (Oct-Apr only) and Juniors on Saturday afternoons (Mar-May only). | Represent Bramhall Queensgate Tennis Club by playing on one of the teams and presenting a competitive but friendly image of what the club is all about. |
| Organised social tennis and events – Seniors on Tuesday & Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons and Juniors on Friday evenings. Singles and Doubles ladders on whatsapp groups. | Use this opportunity to meet new people and find players of a similar ability who you can arrange singles or doubles games with at other times in the week. Maximise your membership! |
| An elected committee made up of member volunteers with the following roles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer Chair • Volunteer Secretary • Volunteer Treasurer • Volunteer Membership Secretary • Volunteer Ladies' Team Rep • Volunteer Men's Team Rep(s) • Volunteer Junior Rep • Volunteer Grounds Rep • Volunteer Social Rep • Volunteer Club Welfare Officer They will run all aspects of the club to the best of their ability, ensuring the club is financially stable and capable of updating the courts and facilities when necessary. They will provide relevant communications to keep you informed. | Help your Committee! Don't expect too much – we are volunteers, most with full time jobs and children. However, we value your feedback and any ideas you might have for improvements to the club facilities or activities we offer. |

Adult Social Tennis & Activities

Adult Social tennis is held on Tuesday nights between 7-9 pm and Saturday afternoons between 2-4 pm. We also run a Beginners/Improvers session on Wednesday evenings between 7.00-8.00 pm. All these sessions are the best time to come if you are a new member, to meet with people of a similar standard, or if you haven't played tennis for a while. No need to book, you just turn up and play! We have a whatsapp group for these sessions so if you would like to be included, please text: Tuesdays – Mark Ewing– 07795 834210; Wednesdays – Darren O'Donnell – 07789 905895; Saturdays – Pete Bevan – 07798 583880.

Keep track of what's happening with adult social tennis here – [Adult Social Tennis](#)

Adult Beginners/Improvers – Wednesdays 7-8 pm

We also run a beginner's group on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 pm with the coaching team which is free to members to help kickstart your enjoyment of the game, teaching you how to play the different strokes and getting you ready to join in with the other social groups on Tuesday evenings or Saturday afternoons. Please click the link if you would like to join a session - [Beginners Group Sign Up](#)

Cardio Tennis – Dates tbc

This is a fun, high energy, tennis-themed fitness exercise. It offers a full body, calorie-burning workout that you can now enjoy with fellow players. It's a great group activity and you don't need any tennis skills to take part. If you are interested in taking part, please register your interest here - [Cardio Tennis sign up](#)

Walking Tennis – Mondays 2-3 pm

Walking Tennis has been designed to be accessible for all. It's still tennis – but we use special balls that can bounce twice to give you more time and players cannot run or jump. It's aimed at people who are just starting out, returning from injury, need a bit more time getting to the ball or are suffering from arthritis, awaiting a hip replacement, Parkinson's Disease etc. The sessions are coach-led and you can sign up here - [Walking tennis sign up](#)

Junior Tennis – Friday clubnights 4.30-5.45 pm (term time)

We have a full range of age groups participating in Girls', Boys' and Mixed team tennis matches.

It is also fabulous to see a number of youngsters working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Award by helping our coaching team with the junior club nights.

Junior club nights are held on Fridays (in term time) between 4.30-5.45 pm. Our coaching team will be able to sort you into groups according to your ability.

Parents generally use this time to sit and chat in the clubhouse with a drink from the bar or help with the tuck shop. Sign up via the link - [Sign Up via the app](#)

Read more about our junior tennis section here – [Juniors](#)

Senior Teams

We currently have 3 Ladies' and 3 Men's teams playing in the North East Cheshire Leagues, 1 Men's team playing in the South Manchester League and a Men's team in the LTA Team Tennis National League. We also have 4 mixed teams in a range of divisions in the East Cheshire Winter League.

During the winter months of Oct-Apr, we have team practice evenings – Ladies play on Monday nights between 7-9 pm and Men play on Thursday nights between 7-9 pm – in all weathers! If you would be interested in playing for one of the teams, please contact Mandy Southern on 07796 145154 or Martin Johnson on 07745 260939.

See our team pages including home fixtures here:

[Men's teams page](#)

[Ladies' teams page](#)

[Home match calendar](#)

Annual Club Tournaments

The Senior Club Tournament will start in April and run through to September. The Finals Day date will be decided once we know who the semi-finalists are. The Junior Club Tournament will be run during September. The Social Tournament (for non-team players) will also be held in September. Dates to be finalised.

How to drag the courts

We are aware that some members are not sure how or when to drag the two types of court surfaces we have. It is very important that we look after our greatest assets by following the correct procedure.

Clay- If you have been playing on the clay courts then you will need to drag them when you have finished to make it a smooth surface for the next members to play on. The courts should be dragged with the drag mats in a wide circular motion, getting smaller as you get to the middle. This ensures that all the sand remains on the court. Shake/tip any sand residue from the dragger onto the playing part of the court to prevent piles of sand accumulating under each dragger. The only time you would not drag the courts is if it is exceptionally wet as this removes too much sand from the courts.

Astroturf – These courts need to be free of leaves, pine needles etc before you start your game so dragging these will only be necessary at certain times of the year

so please check before you start. The courts can be cleared with the rakes, brushes or court draggers.

Meet the Committee



COMMITTEE 2026-2027

Sue Pettigrew – Volunteer Chair

Darren O'Donnell – Volunteer
Secretary

Bob Hall – Volunteer Treasurer

Clare Hinton/Peiyao Shao –
Volunteer Membership Secretaries

Lis Bevan – Volunteer Club Welfare
Officer

Mandy Southern – Volunteer Ladies'
Captain

Steve Frith/Martin Johnson/Dave
Malcolm/Sam Atherton/Darren
Wagstaff – Volunteer Men's Captain
Group

Vacant – Volunteer Social Rep

Darren O'Donnell – Volunteer Junior
Rep

Will Laverick – Volunteer Grounds
Rep

Matt Wheatley/Charlotte Wheatley –
Volunteer Social Media Reps

Meet the Coach



Darren O'Donnell

Darren O'Donnell has been Head Coach at the club for 19 years now and for good reason! He holds the top level LTA affiliated coach qualification at Level 5. He coaches both adults and juniors alike, either individually, as part of a team couple, or as a group. He currently runs a senior beginners group on Wednesday evenings which is free of charge to those members who have just taken up the game. He runs regular courses of coaching sessions for juniors throughout the week and tennis camps during Easter, Whit, Summer and October. If you are interested in joining any of his coaching sessions, please go to his website <https://bramhall.wackit.net/Club/MQ> or contact him directly on 07789 905895.

If you need any advice on the type of racket to buy or tennis shoes to be wearing, our coaching team will be able to help you.

BQTC Branded Club Clothing Shop - [Click to go shopping](#)



If you fancy being on brand and promoting the club by wearing some branded clothing with the Bramhall Queensgate Tennis Club logo on it, we now have Team Togs as our supplier. We have chosen a good range of items, colours and styles to suit everyone, adults and juniors alike, the quality is good and the prices are reasonable with a small p&p fee.

Sponsorship

Would you like to sponsor your club? We have many different options, including banners for the side of the courts, team shirts, shopping online via the easyfundraising app (see QR code below) or sponsoring a tournament. If you would be interested, please contact Sue

Pettigrew on 07771 937349 Susan.pettigrew4@gmail.com Sponsorship options and how to join the easyfundraising campaign can be found on our website here – [sponsorship options](#)

Easyfundraising QR Code



Wimbledon Ticket Ballot – British Tennis Membership

Wimbledon ticket ballots are now being run solely by the LTA in much the same way that the public ballot is run. If you would like to be included in the ballot, you will need to Opt In via your British Tennis Membership profile on the LTA website when the process opens. If you don't have a British Tennis Membership, you can join online free of charge here – www.lta.org.uk. Don't forget to link your membership to your club (Bramhall Queensgate Tennis Club). **If you become a volunteer at the club, you will also be entered into the LTA's Volunteer ballot which gives you another chance of getting tickets.**

Tennis Etiquette

For those new to the game of tennis, you may want to take a look at the general court rules and tennis etiquette together with how to look after our courts on our website here [Court care and tennis rules/etiquette](#)

Membership Categories

Membership runs from April 1st through to March 31st each year. The fees are agreed at the AGM every November. These are the categories of membership on offer:

- Family (2 seniors + 1 or more under 24 in full-time education)
- Partnership (2 seniors who are partners)
- Family (1 Senior + 2 or more under 24 in full-time education)
- Senior (over 24)
- Intermediate (18-24 not in full-time education)
- Junior Plus (12-24 in full-time education)
- Junior (under 12)
- Infant (upto Yr 2)
- Students (finish date June 2027 or later)
- Country (adult living more than 25 miles from club)
- Hitting Parent (parent of junior member who only wants to hit balls with their child)
- Adult Walking Tennis (can play anytime but excluded from other adult tennis sessions)

For current membership prices and incentives for introducing a new member, please see the website here – [membership options](#)

Club Hire

Did you know that as a member of the tennis club, you can hire the clubhouse and bar for just £20 per hour (£30 per hour for non-members)? Why not think about utilising this facility for your next function or party? If you would like more information or to check availability, please contact Mike Sarginson on 07712 531449 or queensgateroomhire@gmail.com



Jim Hall Sports in Bramhall

Jim Hall Sports offer all members of the club a 10% discount off any non-sale items in store.

Dates for your diary

- Open Day/Wimbledon Fun Day – Saturday 4 July + BBQ
- Senior Tournament Apr-Sept. Finals day tbc
- Social/Junior Tournament Finals Day – September (date tbc)
- AGM –November (date tbc)

Name, Aim, Membership, Management and Rules

Name

1. The club is Bramhall Queensgate Tennis Club which is an associate club of the Bramhall Queensgate Sports Club (see above).

Aim

2. The aim of the Club is to help people improve their physical and social well-being by providing facilities, organising and supporting participation, development and improvement in tennis and related activities for all abilities and ages.

Membership

3. Membership of the club is open to anyone regardless of age, gender, disability, nationality, sexual orientation, religion, colour or race and without proposal or recommendation. By definition, all members of Bramhall Queensgate Tennis Club automatically become members of Queensgate Sports Club and Bramhall Queensgate Sports Club. Terms and Conditions of Membership are included in the renewal process and sent to new members. The document is also available to download from the Membership page of the website. Acceptance of, or application for membership means they are implicitly accepted by the members.

Management

4. The management of the club is vested in a General Committee - see clause 7.

Officers

5. Officers of the club are elected at the AGM. These shall consist of the Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary and Membership Secretary. Nominations must be proposed and seconded and their names displayed on the notice board at least 14 days before the AGM.

Other Officials

6. Comprising:

- Ladies' Club Captain(s)
- Men's Club Captain(s)
- Social Representative
- Junior Representative
- House & Grounds Representative
- Child Welfare Officer
- Webmaster

These people are also proposed, seconded and elected at the AGM. Some of these roles may be undertaken by the same volunteer or as a dual role.

The Club Coach will also form part of the General Committee.

General Committee

7. The general committee will manage the club and will:

- a) comprise the Officers plus Officials;
- b) nominate 2 members to represent the Tennis Club on the Queensgate Sports Club (QSC) Committee and one on the Executive Committee of Bramhall Queensgate Sports Club (see Background);
- c) aim to meet at least six times per year; the minutes of meetings will be displayed on the club notice board. Four representatives will constitute a quorum;
- d) be able to appoint sub-committees and co-opt members to attend meetings but not vote at them.

Annual General Meeting

8. The AGM of the Tennis Club shall be held between 25th October and 25th December with at least 14 days' notice in writing. All members over the age of 18 are entitled to attend, speak and vote. A quorum shall be 15 members. The main purpose of the meeting shall be adoption of reports, including annual accounts, the election of officers and agreement of proposed subscription levels (see clause 12a) and capital expenditure plans.

Special General Meeting (Extraordinary Meeting)

9. A Special General Meeting of the club may be called by the Committee or following a written request of 12 full members addressed to the Secretary. Within 21 days of a resolution of the Committee or a written request the Secretary shall send out notices convening the Special General Meeting which shall be held within 6 weeks from the date of

the resolution or request. The convening notice shall state the place and business of the meeting of which at least 14 days clear notice shall be given.

Voting

10. Full members and life members are entitled to vote at the General Meeting. Elected officers also have full voting rights. Junior members and social members are entitled to attend and speak but not vote.

Finance

11. The club is self-financing, mainly via member subscriptions. It may not borrow money against the assets of the club or of the property in the legal ownership of the trustees of BQSC. The Treasurer shall safeguard the club's funds and produce annual accounts and budgets. The accounts will be subject to independent scrutiny.

Subscriptions

12. All categories of members apart from Life Members will pay subscriptions.

- a) these will be set annually by the General Committee. Where they exceed the increase in the RPI they will be submitted to the AGM for approval;
- b) subscriptions for new members will be reduced pro rata from May-Aug, divided by 2.1 from Sept and then pro rata from that for Oct-Mar;
- c) Payment of subscriptions should be made by 1st April. Members who have not paid their subscriptions by 30th May will be deemed to have left the club;
- d) Clubhouse electronic entry cards are available to all senior members and can be obtained from the Membership Secretary.

Visitors

13. Visitors are welcome to use the club's facilities. They should be accompanied by a member and pay the current visitor fee of £5 per adult. If a member wishes to invite more than 2 visitors they should get agreement from the Coach, Chairman or Secretary. No visitor should be allowed more than 6 visits in any one year.

Court Rules

14. The club aims to make its environment friendly and welcoming to people from all backgrounds, especially young people and keeps its court rules to an essential minimum consistent with the long-term health and well-being of the club, members and other users.

- a) There are no particular dress requirements beyond proper regard for attire to be appropriately safe;
- b) Footwear must be clean and suitable for playing on the artificial clay and astroturf. Casual trainers with ridged or studded soles are unsuitable;
- c) Artificial clay courts should be dragged after play; astroturf courts should be dragged before play;
- d) Litter must be removed from the courts and placed in bins.
- e) Members must not try to retrieve a ball from a neighbouring garden without first getting permission from the house owner

Equality

15. The club's Equality policy will be displayed on its notice board. All members, non-members and visitors will be treated fairly and with respect. The club will not tolerate harassment, bullying, abuse or victimisation of an individual.

Members Welfare

16. The club will:

- e) produce and publish guidelines for members' welfare including behaviour and disputes; have a Club Welfare Officer and adopt a code of practice for child protection and safeguarding and code of conduct for people working with children; our BQTC Code of Conduct is sent out to all members renewing their memberships and to all new members. The document is on the Membership page of the website and also posted up in the clubhouse;
- f) display its child protection policy on the club's noticeboard;
- g) be guided by the LTA minimum standard requirements for procedures on safe recruitment, on away/overnight events and code of practice for parents and guardians
- h) our BQTC Complaints Procedure is sent out to all members renewing their memberships and to all new members. The document is on the Membership page of the website.

Disciplinary Procedures

17. The General Committee has the power to impose disciplinary action, including expulsion from the club, on any member who, in its opinion, is guilty of conduct grievous to the interests of the club and other members, providing that the intention has been put in writing to the member and that member has been given opportunity to reply in person or in writing.

Alteration of Rules

18. The rules may be changed at the AGM or at a Special Meeting convened for that purpose. Changes will require a two thirds majority of those entitled to vote.

Licensed Bar

19. Conditions will be displayed on club's notice board.

Dissolution

20. In the event of dissolution of the club, its assets (if any) not legally held by the BQSC holding trustees, will be transferred to its successor organisation and/or other local sports clubs.

A brief history of the Club



Tennis has been played on the Bramhall Queensgate site since the late 1800's. Information is sketchy but we do know that in the 1930's there were 3 grass courts next to the cricket pitch (which is now Oakfield Close!) and the tennis nets were taken down on cricket match days to ensure a lengthy straight boundary! The Bowls section used to use the cricket square to practice their sport when not in use by the cricketers! The hockey section joined in 1967 and two squash courts were built in 1977.

In 1996, after falling on hard times financially, due to falling squash membership and a general disarray amongst the different sections, the original building and site which had encompassed a Cricket/Hockey pitch, 2 Bowling greens, 3 shale and 3 hard Tennis courts, 2 Squash courts and a two-storey clubhouse, was knocked down and the land sold for a housing development.

With the proceeds of the sale of the land, Bramhall Queensgate Sports Club funded the following:

- building of a new clubhouse on the Queensgate site, replacing the 6 tennis court surfaces, complete with floodlights
- bought land and built a pavilion at Church Lane for the cricket section
- bought a lease on the land and look after the management of the hockey pitch at Seal Road

Bramhall Queensgate Sports Club's (BQSC) funds are generated by the hockey pitch income and the first call on those funds is the maintenance and sustainability of that facility. All land and property at Church Lane and Queensgate is owned by BQSC (landlord) through its Trustees. Bramhall Queensgate Sports Club is run by a volunteer management committee made up of representatives from all the different sports sections.

The Tennis Section itself has gone from strength to strength with the original grass courts changing to a mix of hard and shale courts and then to AstroTurf when they were resurfaced following the sale of the land. In 2012 we changed 3 courts to artificial clay (the first club in Bramhall to have these) and 3 new dual-tone AstroTurf courts were put down in 2017 making us a multi-surface club providing variety to our members.

In 2010 we were the first club in the area to achieve the LTA Clubmark status and we continue to achieve their high standards of registration each year.

You can find some early photos of the club on our website here – [History](#)

Can we please ask that you help us promote our club by following us on Twitter (@queensgatetc), Facebook (Bramhall Queensgate Tennis and Bowls Club) and Instagram (queensgatetennisclub) to help spread the word by retweeting, sharing and liking our posts? This will really help us get word about the club to more people and help build awareness in the local community. Our website is also packed full of information and updated regularly.



www.bramhalltennis.com