

CITY TENNIS LEAGUE

CONSTITUTION

Adoption Date: AGM 24 February 2026

1. Name

The League shall be called **City Tennis League** (“the League”).

2. History and Purpose

- 2.1 The League was founded in **1953** by five clubs associated with industrial organisations and was originally known as the **Federation of Industrial Clubs (Lawn Tennis Section)**.
- 2.2 By **1964**, membership had increased to eleven clubs.
- 2.3 In **1968**, it was resolved to wind up the original Federation, and six clubs established the **City Tennis League**, which has continued to operate since that date.
- 2.4 The League has grown steadily and currently operates multiple Men’s and Ladies’ divisions, comprising teams drawn from clubs throughout **Norfolk and North Suffolk**. The League season normally runs between **May and August**, with extension into September where agreed by the Officers.
- 2.5 The League is a **non-profit-making unincorporated association** and exists to provide organised, competitive league tennis for tennis clubs in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Lawn Tennis Association.

3. Definitions

In this Constitution, unless the context otherwise requires:

- “**the Chair**” means the person elected from time to time to chair the League in accordance with Rule 9.
- “**the Men’s League Secretary and Treasurer**” means the Officer elected from time to time to administer the Men’s League and to be responsible for the League’s financial affairs.
- “**the Ladies League Secretary**” means the Officer elected from time to time to administer the Ladies’ League.
- “**the Officers**” means collectively the Chair, the Men’s League Secretary and Treasurer, and the Ladies League Secretary.
- “**the Officers’ Committee**” means the Officers acting collectively as the governing committee of the League.
- “**the Member Clubs**” means clubs admitted to membership of the League in accordance with Rule 6.

- “**the LTA**” means Lawn Tennis Association CLG and its subsidiaries or any successor body governing the game of tennis in Great Britain.
- “**the NLTA**” means the Norfolk Lawn Tennis Association.
- “**Rules**” means the rules and regulations of the LTA as in force from time to time.
- “**Disciplinary Code**” means the LTA Disciplinary Code as in force from time to time.

Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa, and words importing any gender shall include all genders.

4. Objects

The objects of the League are:

- (a) to organise, promote and regulate competitive league tennis for Member Clubs;
- (b) to promote and support participation in tennis in accordance with LTA policies;
- (c) to do all such lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

5. Application of Income and Property

- 5.1 The League is non-profit-making.
- 5.2 All income and property of the League shall be applied solely towards the furtherance of the League’s objects.
- 5.3 No portion of the income or property of the League shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of profit to any Member Club.

6. Membership

6.1 Eligibility

Membership of the League shall be open to tennis clubs located in **Norfolk or North Suffolk**.

No club shall be denied membership on the grounds of race, ethnic origin, colour, creed, sex, disability, occupation, religion, or political persuasion.

6.2 Admission

Applications for membership shall be made in such form as the Officers’ Committee may require and shall be considered at the absolute discretion of the Officers’ Committee.

6.3 Classes of Membership

There shall be a single class of membership: **Member Club**.

Only Member Clubs shall be entitled to receive notice of, attend, and vote at General Meetings.

7. Subscriptions and Entry Fees

- 7.1 League entry fees per team shall be determined annually at the Annual General Meeting following a recommendation from the Officers' Committee.
- 7.2 Membership is conditional upon agreement to be bound by this Constitution, the Rules, and the Disciplinary Code.
- 7.3 Rule 7.2 confers a benefit on the LTA and is intended to be enforceable by the LTA under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

8. Discipline and Expulsion

- 8.1 The Officers' Committee may suspend or expel a Member Club where it considers such action to be in the best interests of the League.
- 8.2 No Member Club shall be expelled without being given at least **14 days' written notice** of the proposed action and an opportunity to make representations.
- 8.3 A decision to expel shall require a **two-thirds majority** of the Officers.
- 8.4 Where appropriate, disciplinary matters shall be referred to and dealt with under the LTA Disciplinary Code.

9. Officers

- 9.1 The League shall be administered by the Officers.
- 9.2 Officers shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting, unless they resign or are removed earlier.
- 9.3 Retiring Officers shall be eligible for re-election.
- 9.4 An Officer shall vacate office if they:
 - resign by written notice;
 - become bankrupt or make arrangements with creditors;
 - are suspended by the LTA or NLTA;
 - are absent from 3 consecutive Officers' Committee meetings without good reason; or
 - are requested to resign by not less than two-thirds of the other Officers.

10. Officers' Committee

- 10.1 The Officers' Committee shall be responsible for the management and administration of the League.

- 10.2 The Officers' Committee shall meet as often as necessary and not fewer than **two times per year**, which may be online.
- 10.3 The quorum for an Officers' Committee meeting shall be **two Officers**.
- 10.4 Decisions shall be made by simple majority; in the event of equality of votes, the Chair shall have a casting vote.
- 10.5 The Officers' Committee may appoint sub-committees or delegate functions as it considers appropriate.

11. General Meetings

11.1 Annual General Meeting

An Annual General Meeting ("AGM") shall be held each year to:

- (a) receive the Chair's and /or Secretary reports;
- (b) receive and consider the financial accounts;
- (c) elect Officers;
- (d) decide resolutions submitted in accordance with Rule 11.2.

11.2 Member Resolutions

Notice of resolutions proposed by at least **four Member Clubs** shall be given in writing to the Ladies League Secretary not less than **28 days** before the AGM.

11.3 Extraordinary General Meetings

An Extraordinary General Meeting may be called by the Officers or upon written requisition by at least **ten Member Clubs**.

12. Procedures at General Meetings

- 12.1 At least **14 days' notice** shall be given to Member Clubs.
- 12.2 The quorum shall be **eight Member Clubs**.
- 12.3 Each Member Club shall have **one vote**. Voting by proxy shall not be permitted.
- 12.4 Resolutions shall be passed by simple majority unless otherwise stated in this Constitution.

13. Finance

- 13.1 The Men's League Secretary and Treasurer shall maintain proper financial records.
- 13.2 A bank account shall be maintained in the name of the League.
- 13.3 Accounts shall be presented to the AGM.

14. Property and Liability

- 14.1 League property, including trophies, shall be held by the Officers **on behalf of and for the benefit of the League**.

- 14.2 No Officer shall be personally liable for loss or damage to League property provided they have acted honestly and in good faith.
- 14.3 The League shall indemnify the Officers against liabilities properly incurred in the execution of their duties.

15. Regulations

The Officers' Committee may make, amend, or revoke regulations consistent with this Constitution and LTA Rules.

16. Alteration of the Constitution

This Constitution may be amended at a General Meeting by a majority of not less than **two-thirds** of the Member Clubs present and voting.

17. Dissolution

- 17.1 The League may be dissolved only by resolution passed by at least **three-quarters** of the Member Clubs present and voting at an Extraordinary General Meeting.
- 17.2 Upon dissolution, any remaining assets shall be distributed equally among the Member Clubs after discharge of liabilities.