



**Urmston Tennis Club
Welcome booklet**

2024 season

Welcome to Urmston Sports Club – Tennis Section

Please find below some general information on tennis play at the club. If you have any questions that are not answered here, please see the end of this document for key contact details depending on what you need to know.

Court usage

We have 3 all-weather astro-turf courts, 3 Italian clay courts and 4 grass courts.

Please note the grass courts are only open from around May-September dependent on the weather each year and can only be played on from 12pm onwards. The entrance to the grass courts is by the bowling green.

Entrance gates to the astro-turf, clay and grass courts are padlocked to ensure they are only played on by members and are not subject to any misuse. The padlock combination is 2430 – members will be notified if this number changes. Please ensure you replace the padlock and scramble the combination if you are the last person to leave the courts and take your rubbish with you.

PLEASE NOTE: If you accidentally hit a ball over the court into the flats at the side of the courts, players are reminded that this is private property and you are not allowed to go round to retrieve your ball.

Court maintenance

Clay courts

The clay courts must be dragged after play to re-smooth the surface – please re-hang the drag mats and line sweepers on the hooks after use.

The exception to this is at the height of summer when the courts become extremely dry and dusty and require constant watering. You can use the hosepipe at the back of the courts to do this. When conditions are like this, please do not drag the courts.

Astro-turf courts

There is a leaf brush cleaner on the Astro-turf courts which can be used to clear leaves and debris (generally in the autumn months) and clean the courts when needed. Please replace after use.

When the weather is bad, please bear in mind the courts can puddle and take some time to drain and dry out and can be slippery (and muddy in the case of the clay courts). Please use your common sense with regards to the conditions as to whether they are safe to play on!

Equipment

Please bring your own racquets and balls. We do not have equipment for hire with the exception of during coaching sessions and any team matchplay sessions.

Club house and toilets/changing rooms

The club house (where the bar and toilets/changing rooms are situated) is generally open Monday – Friday from 6pm and at the weekends from 12pm onwards. There is no access to the toilets when the club house is shut.

If you require water, there is an outside drinking water tap by the side of the club house on the ramp to the kitchen. If this is padlocked, the combination is the same as for the courts. Please replace after use and please note - there is no cold drinking water in the clubhouse toilets.

If using the changing rooms please read our safeguarding policy on use of changing room facilities [here](#)

You can show your membership card to receive a discount on drinks and also members receive a discount if booking the function room. Ask at the bar or email for more information:

venuehire@urmstonsportsclub.co.uk

Car Parking

Please be mindful and responsible when driving in club grounds and parking your car. In the summer months and during weekends, the club can be very busy and the driveway can get congested. If the small parking area outside the club house is full, please do not park your car on the driveway pavement by the tennis courts or bowling green, but continue to follow the road round where additional parking is available by the grammar school buildings. The Urmston Grammar School car park cannot be used in school hours.

Court bookings

Once you are a member you will be given rights to book courts via our booking system Clubspark: [Urmston Sports Club / Booking \(Ita.org.uk\)](https://www.clubspark.com/Booking/Ita.org.uk)

You will need to sign up to the LTA in order to access the system which is run through this site.

Coaching takes place on the astro turf at certain times of the week (see below). These can be seen on the court booking system and is locked for bookings. Likewise, matches take precedence over general member bookings.

Tennis Guests

Members can invite a non-member to play on up to 3 occasions during the course of a membership year. However, after this, we would then expect them to join the club as a paying member.

During the summer season we run 'Welcome Wednesday' sessions which are free coach-led sessions over 6 weeks aimed at welcoming the local community to try or get back into tennis. We also aim to

run a tennis open day where anyone can come and play. However, aside from these occasions, we are a member's club and there is no pay to play option.

Viewing/Seating area

There is a viewing area behind the Astro-turf courts. If the gate for this is padlocked, the combination is the same as for the courts. Please ensure you close the gate and re-lock the padlock if you are the last person to leave.

For junior coaching, please use this area to enter and leave the courts by the access gate by Astro-court number 3 (nearest to the flats). This is so children and parents/carers can be safe from cars.

We ask that if you are staying for a junior coaching session to watch your child, you use this area rather than on the court itself or the pavement.

Coaching

Junior and adult group coaching sessions are run on Saturday mornings and early afternoon and after school in the summer season by our head coach and his team. For the most up to date list of sessions, see our website here [Urmston Sports Club / Coaching \(lta.org.uk\)](http://Urmston Sports Club / Coaching (lta.org.uk)) or contact head coach Mike Edwards via email on medwardsnom1@hotmail.co.uk or call 07876 193871.

Our coaching team are all LTA accredited coaches and also hold qualifications in emergency first aid and safeguarding.

One to one coaching lessons can also be arranged on an individual basis with Mike.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's business and as a new member, you will be sent information on who is our safeguarding lead for the tennis section and what to do if you have any concerns. This information is shared with members by email on a yearly basis as mandated by the LTA.

There is a notice board on the entrance to the Astro-turf courts with further information on safeguarding and our policies which are also available on our website [here](#).

Keeping in touch - social media and What's App group

Visit our website: Urmston Sports Club - Manchester

We also have a Facebook page and a general Tennis What's App group where people share information and look for games.

If you wish to be added to the tennis What's App group, please supply your mobile number to the membership secretary (below) who can add you to the group.

We will generally send information regarding the tennis section and wider club to the email address you registered with. Emails (particularly those from Clubspark which is the LTA system we use to

administer our membership, coaching and court bookings) may well go into your junk items. Please check your junk email box and make us a 'contact' so you can be sure to receive our emails.

Matchplay and Team Tennis

The club typically runs 3 ladies and 4 men's doubles teams for players of different standards in the summer season (April – August) and 3 mixed doubles teams in the winter (October – March). If you are interested in joining a team please contact our ladies and men's captains for more information:

Dave Warne: 07730 686171

Dorothy Flynn: 07733 931103

Matches are normally played on the Astro-turf courts from 6.30pm alternate weekday evenings in summer and at 10am and 1.30pm on alternate Sundays. All matches are shown on the court booking system.

Social tennis and events

In the summer season (April-September) the courts are open access on a Wednesday evening over a 6 week period (generally May and June but will be advertised) for our Welcome Wednesday sessions which are open to new and non-members to partake in free introductory coach-led sessions and be paired with people of a similar standard. This is a great way for new and prospective members to meet people and find out which teams they may be best suited to join if this is of interest. Current members can also play social tennis on Wednesdays where there are no matches and our breakfast club session for turn up and play social tennis for all standards runs all year from 8-10am on Saturday mornings.

In the winter season (Oct-March) social tennis is ad-hoc and advertised on our Facebook page and What's app group.

We also run a number of social match events during the summer season. Members will be emailed in advance of this and information will also be posted on our Facebook and What's app pages and on our club noticeboards.

Between October and the end of March, the tennis section runs a table tennis session in the upstairs room of the clubhouse from 7pm every Tuesday evening. This is open to all members and non-members to turn up and play.

Tennis committee

Urmston Tennis Club committee runs the tennis section on behalf of its members. The committee is run by a number of volunteers who are members of the tennis section and reports to the Urmston Sports Club Committee. We meet once every two months in the club house and we are always

looking for new volunteers. Please contact Jeanette Livings on 07939 582821 if you are interested in this.

Our AGM takes place each year around April time and members will be notified via email and Facebook/What's app. At this meeting the committee reports on progress during the year, finances and can answer questions. AGM meeting minutes will be emailed to all tennis members following the meeting.

Key contacts

If you have any further questions or need more information, please contact one of the named individuals below:

Tennis general contact: Jeanette Livings 07939 582821 jeanette_hurdle@hotmail.com

or Grant Hine 07792 121672 grant.hine@googlemail.com

Membership queries: Phil Ouseby 07545 313583

Safeguarding queries: Kirsty Long 07760 228140

Coaching: Mike Edwards: 07876 193871