

PONTELAND LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Darras Road, Ponteland, Newcastle upon Tyne. NE20 9NX

Membership 2010-2011

Ponteland Lawn Tennis Club is a well established and forward thinking club in Northumberland. We have a large and active junior section and have recently achieved the British Tennis Club Mark. All standards and ages are welcome, including complete beginners. There is a strong family atmosphere at the Club and a warm welcome for everyone.

The Tennis Club is located behind the Memorial Hall on Darras Road, Ponteland. We have free parking for members in the Memorial Hall car park. The three courts are made from artificial sand filled grass and have floodlights available for darker days. Our new Clubhouse has both ladies and gents changing rooms with a shower and a toilet and there is a separate toilet with wheelchair access. The Clubhouse also has a kitchen as well as a fair sized seating and viewing area. Free tea and coffee is provided in the kitchen to all members.

Access to the Tennis Club is by electronic key fob, which is black with a green stripe. There are two readers, operated by the same key fob, on the main entry gate to the Tennis Club and on the clubhouse door.

Playing

The artificial grass courts are available for play from 9.00 am to 10.00 pm, although official team matches and coaching sessions have priority. Tennis balls are provided in the clubhouse. Floodlights, which are operated by token at a cost of £1 per half-hour, are available from specific club members (details on the clubhouse notice board).

The key fobs also give access to the three acrylic surfaced tennis courts at the rear of Ponteland Middle School, Callerton Lane, Ponteland.

The Middle School courts are available for play as follows:

Monday – Thursday 5.00 pm to 10.00 pm (term time), 9.00 am to 10.00 pm (holidays)
Friday 5.00 pm to 8.00 pm (term time), 9.00 am to 8.00 pm (holidays)
Saturday & Sunday 9.00 am to 6.00 pm.

Organised tennis courses take priority. The current timetable is displayed in the clubhouse. Floodlights are currently not available for use on the School courts.

Club Play

These open play sessions run on Wednesdays from 6.30 pm and Saturdays from 1.30 pm and are for any senior member to come along and participate.

Team Play

If you wish to play on a club team, please contact either Christine Fair (01661 822059) or Keith Linsley (01661 860068) for details of joining in on a Team Practice night.

Match Practice (Ladies) Thursdays 6.30 pm to 9.00 pm

Match Practice (Men) Tuesdays from 6.30 pm

We are currently running six senior teams, and six veteran teams in the Northumberland and Durham League. Match Practice begins around March/April in readiness for the match season. The playing standard is varied throughout the Divisions A to E. A Winter League is also usually played where the format is a combination of Mixed Doubles and Ladies' and Gentlemen's Doubles. Ladies become eligible for Vets status at 40 and men at 45.

Junior Club Play

Juniors have priority over seniors as follows:

Monday – Friday	4.00 pm to 6.30 pm (6.15 pm on match nights)
Saturday	9.00 am to 1.30 pm and after 4.00 pm as a family
Sunday	4.00 – 5.00pm

Juniors can also play at any other time when courts are not required by senior members.

Juniors can join in on free coaching sessions on a Saturday morning as follows:

9.00 am to 10.00 am	Under 8's Mixed
10.00 am to 11.00 am	Under 9's Mixed
11.00 am to 12.00 pm.	Under 10's Mixed
12.00 am to 1.00 pm	Mixed Juniors

Sunday 4.00 – 5.00 pm Under 17 Juniors Mixed, suitable for match or tournament players.

Juniors aged under 13 years are permitted on the courts only under adult supervision. Juniors have their own membership cards which list team fixtures for the year. A variety of junior teams play in local leagues. A junior sub-committee operates under the direction of Nick Clark.

Tournaments

The Club holds annual single and doubles tournaments for seniors and juniors, which are open to all members. The Ponteland Junior Open tournament takes place during July each year. In addition, box leagues are run throughout the year to give more competitive playing opportunities.

Little and Large Tournaments involving adults and juniors playing together, an American Tournament in which members play short sets with different partners and a Mince Pie Competition for Juniors are also annual features.

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Coaching

Nick Clark runs a variety of playing opportunities and coaching courses for both adults and youngsters. The club is a fully accredited member of the mini tennis programme having adopted the LTA's tennis criteria. Several youngsters have progressed through to participation at County Squad level whilst many others feed into the Club's teams or simply enjoy greater confidence on the courts. Coaching to develop strokes, and match strategy takes place for club members on various occasions. (See club notice boards for details).

A comprehensive programme of coaching for children and adults of all ages and abilities is also run by Ponteland Community Tennis Programme which is part of Castle Morpeth Tennis. Its aim is to get the community involved in tennis and it has been running for over 10 years. Courses run at the Club site, Ponteland Leisure Centre and The Middle School. For further information please contact Sue Harrison (01661 822102 or sue.harrison@mail.com).

This sheet has been compiled to give prospective members information about Ponteland Lawn Tennis Club. For further information on membership, please contact Christine Fair (01661 822059). Our Club Coach and Junior Organiser, Nick Clark, can be contacted on 01661 823540.

Tennis for all – all year round