

## For the Parents

When you sign up for junior coaching, your child must also be a member of the club. To do this you must ensure you or your child completes the junior application form. This not only allows them to become club members, but it also contains, medical and emergency contact information, without this your child should not be left during their lesson. We also expect you to let us know of any changes to this information.

There are various ways you can support your child whilst they are learning to play tennis. Firstly ensure your child has the correct equipment; for tennis this means tennis shoes, tennis clothes and the correct size racquet. (The coaches will be able to give you advice on sizing.)

It is also important that when you are picking up and dropping children for coaching, matches and tournaments that you keep to agreed timings or let the coach/team captain know, if you have any problems. As your child gets older it is important they continue this behavior.

Remember your child will not necessarily progress steadily, and plateaus are common, so please be patient. Children should never be forced to take part, and, as always it is the taking part that is important; it is about enjoyment not winning.

We believe it is important you encourage your child to show good sportsmanship;

- by showing respect and understanding to other players.

- by not being rude to officials and always using correct and appropriate language.

It is therefore important that you as parents also set a good example.

### Club information.

When your child attends the club it is important they follow the rules of the club. On page 4 there are a few that apply directly to our Junior members, and we recommend you are also aware of these rules. The rules are predominantly for your child's safety.

If at any time you have concerns, please raise them with your child's coach, the Head Coach or our Welfare Officer (details are on the Junior club notice board).

You may also wish to be aware that the coaches, run adult lessons. We have found that these sessions help parents to join the club and also support their children on court.

Finally, the club is managed and run by volunteers so if you feel you would like to be involved, we would be very pleased to have your help. Please contact one of the coaches or a member of the General Committee - again details are on the club Noticeboard.

## Avondale Lawn Tennis Club

### Information for Junior Members, and their parents

Welcome to the Junior Section of Avondale Tennis Club. This pamphlet is designed to give you important information about the club and its activities. I hope you will enjoy learning and playing tennis at the club. In the meantime, I and all the coaches are fully committed to ensuring you will be safe during your lessons, but mostly we hope you will enjoy them and have fun.

If you have any questions the coaches and I will be happy to help.

Kathy Charles  
Head Coach

# Junior Club Information

Our coaching groups are held from Monday to Saturday. The time of your coaching session, will depend on your age and ability. We also have coaching in the school holidays, at Easter, May half term and during the summer holidays.

Your membership includes the chance to play socially with others of your age. This is held on a Monday evening between 6.00 and 8.00. There are also "pay as you go" family drills sessions taking place during this period, should your parents want to join in too.

Every summer, the club runs a tournament, where you can play singles and/or doubles. During the rest of the year we run box leagues, timed tennis sessions and we enter teams into the local and the Aegon National Leagues.

Information regarding court bookings and priority use are available on our website, but are also detailed within the booking folder in the clubhouse. Remember to bring along your own tennis balls, although there is a bucket of older balls in the hall of the clubhouse which maybe used. (Please don't use the balls in the rack for adult members.)

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Should you wish to bring along a friend who is not a member they are welcome to come as a visitor up to 5 times. Just follow the instructions for paying the visitors fee in the clubhouse.

You also have the opportunity of joining British Tennis; (BTM) this will give you a LTA rating which is a way of measuring your tennis ability. BTM and club membership also gives you the opportunity, if you are over 9, to enter the club draw for Wimbledon tickets.

Members who are at least 14 years of age maybe invited to become a "senior Junior" by the club coach, and as such will be able to play as a Senior Member.

***For more information always check the Junior/coaching Notice Board in the Clubhouse or our website [www.avondaletennisclub.co.uk](http://www.avondaletennisclub.co.uk)***

## **Fair Play Values**

**Enjoy** - Tennis is your sport so have fun & enjoy it.

**Respect** - Tennis is a game for everyone. Respect other players, parents and officials.

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## **Club Rules that apply to Junior players<sup>1</sup>**

All members should follow the instructions displayed on the court fencing. Particularly remember sports drinks or water only are allowed on court, and take away your rubbish.

All members must wear a current membership tag on their tennis shoes when visiting the club.

Hard soled shoes are not permitted on the courts, as they damage the surface. All members therefore must play in acceptable tennis shoes.

Junior members may not turn on the floodlights or be left with them turned on.

Junior members can't vote at the AGM

Parents are responsible for their children, (either those playing or watching) whilst at the Club premises. However Junior members, over the age of 15 - should parents wish - are able to hold a key to the clubhouse. Until Junior members, are over 15 it is at their parents' discretion, whether they are left to play at the club, or use the clubhouse ( if it is open). We suggest that the child has a mobile phone, if left playing, and they should not be left in charge of a younger sibling.

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<sup>1</sup> A full version of the Club's Rules and By-Laws are available on our website