

SECURE YOUR OWN WINTER COURT BOOKING

4th June 2024

Block booking courts for winter 2024/2025

Dear Member

We are writing to tennis players who are a member at Thongsbridge, or have been in a syndicate as a non-member, to explain how the Syndicate bookings will work for the coming season. Indoor winter syndicates are an excellent way for players to guarantee regular tennis over the winter season and maintain their standard for the following summer. Please note the price of the syndicate is for the cost of the court booking only and does not include any membership or visitor's fee. Your membership must run the full term of the syndicate. If your membership expires before the end of the syndicate, you must either renew your membership or pay a visitor's fee of £7 (a maximum of 5 visits in 12 months).

Basic explanation:

- Winter indoor syndicates allow groups of members (and non-members) to join together to block book a court for the 33-week winter period, which runs from the first week in September (starting Monday 2nd September 2024) to the last week of the Easter Holiday (week ending Sunday 20th April 2025).
- Syndicates can choose to EITHER pay the entire amount up front strictly by Sunday 11th August to receive a discount of 5% or pay in two instalments in August and October. First instalment due Sunday 11th August, second instalment due Sunday 20th October.
- Every syndicate will have a "nominated payer" who will be responsible for paying the Club and retrieving the money from the other members of their syndicate. The Club will only accept payment in full from the nominated payer. The nominated payer **must** name and sign (if possible) the syndicate application.
- Most syndicates choose to have between six and eight members, splitting the total payment equally between themselves and operating a rota system to allow everyone to play. This gives some flexibility with regards to holidays and illness, which inevitably disrupts any rota system. However, the members of a syndicate can ultimately choose to have as few or as many people as they wish and split the payments however they decide.
- ***The available syndicate time slots and court are enclosed with this letter. Each syndicate will choose their preferred three times, and include these times and the names of every member of their syndicate on the enclosed form. Entering one slot only does not improve your chances. This entry form needs to be returned to the Club no later than Sunday 30th June. The Club will then conduct the Syndicate draw on Monday 1st July and will announce the results shortly afterwards. The Club will endeavour to ensure every syndicate gets one of its choices but cannot guarantee this.***
- In the Syndicate Draw, syndicates which only contain members will be drawn first and receive their allotted times. Syndicates with a mixture of members and non-members will be drawn second, and syndicates with no members at all will be drawn third.
- Please note that the Club will be closed from 4pm the evening of 24th to 26th December

2024, 4pm the evening of 31st December 2024 to 1st January 2025 and all day Sunday 20th April 2025, which will reduce the number of weeks available on certain days.

- If a syndicate is made up solely from non-members, the hourly court rate is higher.
- Your court payment **DOES NOT** cover visitors to the club. If you choose to bring a visitor who has not paid for a syndicate membership, £7 per visitor must be paid on the day. This visitor can only attend a maximum of 5 visits in a 12 month period. It is the syndicate leader's responsibility to ensure that all visitors pay the fee when visiting the club.

Non-member syndicate fee:

The non-member syndicate fee is £152. This allows a non-member to be part of **one** winter syndicate. Non-members wishing to play in more than one syndicate are required to join as a full member.

Off-peak members:

Off-peak members will require a full membership to play in the syndicates out of the off-peak hours.

Court etiquette

Please where possible, enter the indoor courts as one group to avoid as little disruption as possible to games that are already in play. When leaving the indoor courts please leave in one group and pass courts that are in play as quickly as possible.

Your next step:

If you would like to put together a syndicate, please return the form by **Sunday 30th June.**

If you would like to be in a syndicate but do not have enough people, please inform reception asap and we will attempt to put members looking for a syndicate in touch with each other!

Kind Regards



Angela Horsfall
Operations Manager