

**CONSTITUTION OF THE ROWLANDS CASTLE TENNIS CLUB
JANUARY 2009**

1. The name of the Club shall be the 'Rowlands Castle Tennis Club'. The objects of the Club shall be to promote the game of lawn tennis and to organise both tennis and social events for members. The Club is constituted by the following Rules as a non-profit making members club. At no time shall any funds or assets be distributed to any person or organisation which is not either non-profit making or a charity.
2. Membership is available in the following categories: Adult (18 years of age and over); Junior (under 18 or Full Time Student under 26 years of age); Family (two adults and all children under 18 years of age and full time students under 26 years of age); joint (two adults living at the same address). Ages are those on 1 April.
3. Membership of the Club shall be open to all local residents upon completion of an application form, having it accepted by the committee, and payment of the appropriate fees. No previous tennis experience is required. The committee's decision regarding acceptance of an application is final.
4. There will be a joining fee and an annual subscription, each to be decided at the Annual General Meeting on the recommendation of the Treasurer.
5. The management of the Club shall be entrusted to a committee consisting of the following officers; Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary and three other members all of whom shall be elected at the AGM, but no nominations will be accepted without the consent of the nominee.
6. Officers and members of the Committee shall not be eligible to serve for more than three consecutive years, with the exception of the Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary who shall not be eligible to serve more than five consecutive years.
7. Membership of the Committee will be renewable annually at the AGM if eligible under paragraph 6 above. New or alternative nominations for membership of the Committee may be made at the AGM, but no nominations will be accepted without the consent of the nominee.
8. There shall be the offices of President and Vice President of the Club. These may be offered at the discretion of the Committee.
9. The property of the club shall be vested in four Custodian Trustees, who shall be appointed by the Committee and the property of the Club shall be vested in them. The primary purpose of the Trustees is to provide continuity of ownership, which is especially important for the lease of the ground from the Parish Council. The day to day management of the Club including any discussion or re-negotiation of the lease will be undertaken by the Committee, however exceptionally the Committee may direct the Trustees by resolution (of which an entry in the minute book shall be conclusive evidence). The Trustees shall be indemnified against risk and expense out of the Club property. The Trustees shall hold office until death or resignation, or until removed from office by the Committee. Where by reason of such death, resignation or removal, it is necessary that a new trustee or trustees be appointed, the Committee shall nominate the

person or persons to be appointed the new trustee or trustees. For the purpose of giving effect to such nomination the Chairman is nominated as the person to appoint new trustees within the meaning of the Trustee Act 1925 Section 36 and he/she shall by Deed appoint the person or persons so nominated by the Committee.

10. The Committee shall be responsible for implementing the conditions of the Lease granted by the Rowlands Castle Parish Council for the land on which the Courts are built and the payment of the annual rent. It is also responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the courts.
11. All finances which are the property of the Club shall be received by the Treasurer and shall be paid into the banking account of the Club. All payments made by the Club by cheque under the amount of £150 need only the signature of the Chairman, Secretary or Treasurer. All other cheques shall be signed by two of the aforementioned. An audited income and expenditure account shall be presented by the Treasurer at the AGM.
12. In the event of the Club being wound up completely, all assets are to be held by the Parish Council for a period of 3 years after which if the club has not restarted, the assets are to be handed to a registered charity. A meeting of paid members on the date of transfer of the club's assets to the Parish Council will be held to determine the specific charity.
13. General Meetings. The Constitution may only be changed or added to at a General Meeting. A minimum of 10 members may demand an Extraordinary General Meeting which must be held not later than 28 days from the date of the written notice to the Secretary, who must arrange the meeting and give 14 days notice to all members. The same notice must be given for the AGM. Only paid up members shall be entitled to vote at General Meetings. The Chairman of the meeting shall have a second casting vote in the event of a tie. No member under the age of 16 shall be entitled to vote. The AGM shall be held within 60 days of the end of the Club's financial year (30 November).