

Cheam LTC Club Championships 2021 Rules

Please read these rules thoroughly before entering any event as by definition entering means acceptance of these terms. Thank you.

All draws will be completed by **Sunday 2nd May**. Entries are to be submitted via the website for all events and will be open from **1st April to 31st April**.

Finals Day is scheduled for **Saturday 24th July all afternoon**. Any finalists are expected to be available at any time this afternoon. Matches on the day are scheduled according to the tournament organiser and will not be altered by request. The exception to this is if bad weather prevents play, whereupon players will be notified when the matches will resume. The following Saturday will be held as the reserve date if play cannot happen at all.

Conditions of play:

- Submitting an entry is accepting that your availability, particularly Friday-Sunday is high. Mon – Thurs evenings are quite full with coaching sessions therefore you should aim to play in the daytimes or on Friday evenings, Saturdays after 5pm or Sundays. Bear in mind on Sunday mornings 4 courts are prioritised for Aegon and league fixtures. Please consider your availability including on Finals Day before submitting an entry.
- All events require a minimum of 8 entries to run (i.e. 16 players for all doubles events). Any event failing to achieve this will not go ahead. In the Vet's Singles 45s and 55s, both draws will be condensed into a single over 45s event should either event fail to reach the minimum 8 entries.
- Both sides take equal responsibility for ensuring their match is played on or before the play by date. All problems should be explained in writing to the secretary address in advance of the play by date and a request for any extension given and explained. Extensions are not guaranteed and are at the discretion of the tournament organiser on consultation with the committee. In Doubles events, please ensure you partner someone that shares your general availability as this has caused issues previously.
- Balls of new or 'nearly new' standard are to be provided by the players not the club. Dave can sell cans of Wilson US Open Balls to anyone in need. Pressured balls are to be used (ie not pressureless balls such as Tretorn).
- Results are to be emailed to the secretary address on the same day they were played so as to allow any waiting opponent to be notified asap.
- Matches are 2 tiebreak sets with a ten-point match tiebreak should the score reach 1 set all. Slots for matches are 90 minutes so please restrict the warm up to under 10 minutes. If a coaching session or league match follows you must finish the game you are on and resume another time from the same score line. If you are at 1 set all and a tournament match or free play session is due on please politely ask if they mind you playing the last tiebreak. They have the right to say no.

- Please arrive in good time for any match and be ready to play. There are many matches to get through and so in the interest of completing matches on the day if you are 15 minutes or more late you forfeit the opening set. If you are more than 30 minutes late you forfeit the match.
- We may run qualifying matches if entries are high – this decision will be taken once numbers are finalised. In any case first round losing players and losing players in qualification events will automatically enter the plate for any event with at least 16 entries according to demand. Let us know if you wish to opt out of any plate event.
- Match play is not social play therefore as a rule of thumb you must only call a ball out if you are certain it was out. If you are not sure then the ball is in and you should give benefit of the doubt and not request a let. A let can only happen if a serve goes in off the net or if an outside influence directly affects play – this would include a ball rolling on court but either player must halt play during the live point not request a let after the point has concluded.
- If you act in such a way as to put your opponent off their shot intentionally or otherwise this is hindrance and you forfeit the point. For example, shouting out before the ball has bounced twice just before the opponent is about to possibly make contact with it. Grunting is permitted provided it is at impact with the ball and does not linger on so as to be still going on when the opponent is hitting the ball. Grunts can easily be confused as call a ball out so please make every effort to differentiate between the two.
- If playing on clay marks may be left on the court and an opponent can ask to see the mark so please make an effort to accurately identify it where necessary. If you call a winning shot out that can be proven in on inspection of the mark then you lose the point; however if it was a rally shot and you had a play on it then a let is played should you have mistakenly called the ball out. This occurs once only per player and if you are wrong again you lose the point. The opponent has no right to cross the net to see the mark but may ask you if you mind him or her coming over. Do NOT rub the mark out with your foot before both parties looking at it, instead circle the correct mark and discuss with you opponent if needed.
- Finals will be umpired and players call the lines. Umpires will overrule if required and their decision is final. The Men's Singles final and Doubles finals will be best of 3 full tiebreak sets. All other finals to be the same format as the rounds previously.

Any questions please contact Simon or email the Secretary account.

Good luck to all competitors!