

New Member Information

Welcome to Rushbrooke Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, we hope you will enjoy your membership with us and make full use of the clubs facilities. A very brief history of the club – Rushbrooke Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club is steeped in the best traditions of not only Cork and Munster tennis but also of tennis on a national level. The club was initially formed as a croquet venue, and its purpose was to provide a social outlet where stationed British military officers and the Anglo-Irish professional classes could relax and enjoy the leafy suburb of Rushbrooke. Club records indicate that the club was operating as a croquet venue with two lawns from 1870 although the exact date of inception is not known. The first official record of competitive tennis been played at Rushbrooke is 21st July 1880, but we believe that social tennis was an integral part of the club prior to this date.

The club has currently circa 600 members. We have 4 club coaches operating within the club and their details can be found at the bottom of the page. Along with our 9 all weather tennis courts we have 2 grass courts (open from June to September) which were renovated last year by a volunteer group of members. We also have 2 croquet lawns and a bowls green. Our clubhouse which was renovated back in 2006 now boasts one of the finest bar and function rooms in the area. Additional facilities include a balcony looking out onto the front 5 courts, changing rooms, office, meeting room and a junior/croquet room, with BBQ/patio facilities at the rear of the building. Our function room is available to members and their friends and is an ideal venue for hosting many different events. If you have any requirements for same you can contact Ber Kelleher our bar manager who will be happy to discuss your function requirements.

The most popular nights for playing tennis are Monday to Thursday inclusive and therefore courts need to be booked in advance. We have recently introduced an online booking facility (details below). You must have credit in your club account to book a court, this can only be done by lodging money into your account in the bar. We have two court times available in the evening 7.00 to 8.30 and 8.30 to 10.00. The cost of booking a court is €10 for 90 minutes(which is paid by the 2 or 4 players) and this cost reduces during the summer months when floodlighting is not required. Courts are naturally more available during the daytime and at weekends when there is no need to book courts in advance. On Sunday mornings we have a traditional men's morning from 10.30 to 12.30 and Frank Walley and can be contacted about playing at this time.

Club and open tournaments are held throughout the year with the first competition of the year being the annual Tribes event in February. We hold club nights as well and these can be good opportunities for new members to meet other members and enjoy a game of tennis and a drink afterwards. Details of all our club and interclub events can be found on the club notice board on the ground floor of the building or on our club website. Also members can have their phone numbers added to the club text list and details of upcoming events will always be texted to members as well as being displayed on our club facebook page.

Croquet is traditionally played on a Wednesday and Saturday afternoons and is an excellent way to relax and enjoy the beautiful surrounds the club has to offer. Croquet balls and mallets are available at the club for use if required. The club holds 7 croquet competitions throughout the summer months. If croquet is a game you would be interested in playing or trying out please contact Mercy Murphy for further details or coaching if required. Lawn bowls is also played over the summer months and an open tournament is held in June every year.

The bar opens Monday to Saturday at 7pm and on Sundays from 12 noon. Visitors to the club need to be signed in to the visitors book in the bar and can only visit the club a maximum of three times. Visitors who are playing tennis/croquet/bowls must pay a green fee of €5 which can be paid at the bar. Social membership is available to those who may wish to come to the bar but would not be participating in the sport side of the club.

While on court appropriate tennis gear must be worn at all times no rugby/soccer jerseys or footwear that marks the court surfaces are permitted. Members should be respectful of the club facilities and fellow members at all times. Private or group coaching sessions are available from each of the clubs four coaches on request directly to them. Any general queries related to tennis can be directed to the current tennis captain, Eddie Ronayne. Tennis coaching takes place most days and at weekends for juniors and seniors and group coaching is also available. Those joining who wish to play competitively can arrange to meet with a club coach and have their grade assessed and determined. Anyone wishing to play on a club team can put their name on the notice board at the appropriate time of the year. Details of same will be sent to all members by text and put on our facebook page.

We do hope you will enjoy your experience with Rushbrooke Lawn Tennis and Croquet club over the coming months and years, and that you make the most out of the clubs superb facilities. Should you have any questions or queries please feel free to approach any member of the committee or the bar staff.