**Stroud Squash Club – Information for Members**

Welcome back to Squash! After a long break, Stroud Squash Club will be restarting play at our new facility rented from Wycliffe College. We are grateful to the school for welcoming us to play there where will be able to use 3 high quality glass backed courts. I hope that you will agree this is a major upgrade to the facilities we had at Stroud Rugby Club and we hope that many new members will join us a result.

We open on May 17th 2021 and in order to help you start using the facilities, we have prepared the following instructions to guide you through the use of the courts. We hope they fully explain all you need to know but if you do have any queries, please contact any member of the committee.

**Membership Fees**

To cater for the move from Stroud Rugby club to Wycliffe college, the adult membership fee will be revised from £100pa to £250pa. However, the payment of a fee for the lights will be abolished and courts will now be free. This new rate is equivalent to the annual cost of squash at the old site for a member who plays once per week throughout the year.

For those of you who are already members for 2020-21, this will mean a small additional payment of £20 to cover the cost for the balance of the membership year from May 17th until August 31st 2021. For returning and new members who were not members from September 2020, the member fee to August 31st 2021 will be £80.

**Opening times**

During school terms, our opening times will initially be:

6pm to 10pm Monday and Tuesday

8pm to 10pm Wednesday

6pm to 10pm Thursday and Friday

9am to 1pm & 4pm to 10pm Saturday and Sunday

During school holidays (including half term breaks), this will be 9am – 10pm everyday

The club will be closed on Xmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s day.

**Website**

We have now built a website for member so that they can access key club information and book courts online. This site is now live at <https://stroudsquash.org.uk>. You will shortly receive an activation email which will enable you to confirm your membership and login to the member only areas of the site. Once you have completed these formalities you will be able to book courts through the system.

**Account Management**

Each member will have a personal account on the website to which they login to make their bookings and register their club activities. When booking an activity which has an associated cost, for example bringing a guest to play at the club, payment can be made through the website using a credit or debit card. This is a secure system operated by Stripe, one of the largest online digital payment companies in the world. You can choose to pay as you go or pay to put credit into your account so that you may book multiple activities utilising this credit.

**Court Booking**

Court booking will now be online and you will not have to use the physical book at the club. Courts will become available for booking 14 days ahead of time.

When you book a court, the system will require you to input your name and the name of the person or people you intend to play. You may book for singles or doubles.

**Guests**

You may introduce guests to the club and bring them along to play at your convenience. There will be a £6 fee for each guest each time they play. This can be paid via the club website when you book.

**Courts**

We will have use of 3 courts, numbered 1, 2 and 3 in the primary playing area. Court 4 beyond the blue fire door is not available to the club. During our opening times, this blue fire door will be closed and is not for general use. Members are required to remain in the court area and do not have access to the remainder of the sports complex or the Café.

**Access & Parking**

Access to the courts is to be via Gate 9 to the School. This is from Regent Street in Stonehouse. There is a blue door with a mechanical coded door lock which all members will be given the combination. On entry, turn left to enter the court area where the changing rooms are on your right.

We are explicitly required **NOT** to use the main school gate or to enter the courts via the entrance which the college staff and pupils use.

There is a small car park at gate 9. Members may park here during playing hours after 6pm in the evenings, and all day at weekends. During daytime weekdays this is parking for school staff and must not be used by members who must park elsewhere.

**Changing Facilities**

Ladies and gents changing facilities are located in the playing area behind court 2. They are available for members use and have shower facilities. Lockers are primarily for use of school staff but where they are free members may use them to store belongings while playing. This is done at the member’s sole risk. Members should not leave any belongings at the club when they leave the premises, any such property found will be removed by the school.

**Identification & Behaviour**

Under school safeguarding rules, you are required to carry photo ID while on the school premises. This is so that you can be identified as a member of the club by school staff. A current valid UK photo driving licence is acceptable for this.

The school has installed CCTV at the courts and will be monitoring the courts. It is a condition of our contract that all members behave to an acceptable standard while on school premises.

Alcohol must not be brought onto the premises unless explicit permission has been obtained from the Committee (We in turn need permission from the School).

**Teams / Box leagues / Competitions**

The club will restart team squash once the GSA confirms when leagues will restart. If there is sufficient interest, and health rules allow, we may organise some friendly matches ahead of league restart.

The website also has the facility to operate internal box leagues which will also be setup if there is interest from the members.

**Coaching & Development**

The club plan to offer coaching to members via a formal programme commencing in September 2021. This is initially planned to take place on Sunday mornings from 9am to 12noon.

The school also runs coaching sessions on Wednesday evening from 6pm to 8pm which are open to club members.

We are also lucky enough to have a Level 4 England Squash coach available to provide individual coaching sessions to members. Members can use club courts booked in the normal way for this and will be responsible for paying the coaches directly for their time on any session booked.

**Volunteers**

The majority of your committee has now served the club for a long period of time and some of them are contemplating standing down after many years of service to you as the playing members. We are therefore seeking volunteers to join the committee to take the club forward.

We also need help from volunteers to assist with junior coaching and someone with IT expertise to administer the website and Facebook page to support publicity of the club. If you can help, please contact any member of the committee.