

Team Selection Process

Formby Holy Trinity Tennis Club Affiliated to Lancashire LTA

The following selection procedures, **approved by the Club Committee** in respect of our teams participating in the Wilson Southport & District League, are displayed to give all members greater understanding of the process. Although adding significant detail, the process substantially retains the main elements used in recent seasons.

1. _____ has been appointed as **the Chairperson of the Selectors**

The Chairperson's role is primarily one of guidance to ensure that the Selection Committee are fairly applying the procedures

- *agreed by the Club Committee and*
- *as set out in the League Rules and*
- *to assist in resolving any differing views arising within the Selection Committee*

2. **The Selection Committee** will consist of the Team Captains of each team as follows:

1st Team -----
2nd Team -----
3rd Team -----
4th Team -----
5th Team -----
6th Team -----

3. **Selection Meetings**

Normally the Selection Committee shall meet on a weekly basis throughout the league season.

In the event of the Chairperson not being available for a particular meeting, The 1st Team Captain or a member of the Club Committee may substitute. Similarly, if a team captain is not available, a regular team colleague from that team may assume that role.

4. **Basic Selection Criteria**

Players to be selected by reference to the following criteria:

- reference to their playing ability/strength
- commitment/involvement at the Club
- level of availability
- attitude both on and of the court

Only fully paid Senior members and fully paid “*invited*” Secondary Juniors (those juniors authorised by the Club Committee to play on Saturday afternoon or Wednesday evenings) should be considered for selection.

In the event of insufficient such players being available, then 5-day members may be considered together with *other* Secondary Junior members. If this exception is applied, the Chairperson must notify the Club Committee. The Committee will then determine whether the selected individual should be offered full senior membership or to become an “*invited*” Secondary Junior as appropriate. The Selection committee need to check that player(s) registration with League (*see 5 and 6(f) below*)

- 5 **Wilson Southport & District Tennis League Rules**

The Selection Committee shall fully adhere to the League rules. The Rules are contained in the League's annual Fixtures and Rules handbook which are provided for

each regular team player.

6 **Selection requirements laid down by the League**

It is the chair of selection and team captain's responsibility to ensure that all players selected are eligible based on the criteria set out in the "current year's" Southport & District Tennis League hand book.

7 **Annual League's AGM (refer to hand book for date)**

The League's Executive Committee in discussions at AGM stressed that the starring system was intended to prevent Clubs using squad systems for selecting teams and to ensure that players are selected on basis of playing ability. The League had a system in place to ensure that intention is not abused. The Selection Committee shall adhere to that requirement.

8 **Committees Aims/Encouraging Members to Participate in League**

The Club Committee aims to afford as many members as possible the opportunity to play League tennis. In reflecting that aim, we are proud that Formby Holy Trinity has six teams in the League.

Having a substantial number of teams and match players generally increases the playing standards within the Club and helps promote the social aspects.

The Club Committee aims to have all teams and members treated fairly. The sixth team is as important to the Club as the first. The established player as important as the newcomer.

To support these aims, the Selection Committee (with help as necessary from the Committee) should:

- (a) organise and manage ***Match Practices (nights to be approve by main committee)each*** with effect from mid March until the start of the playing season
- (b) encourage all Senior and "invited" Secondary Juniors to participate in the ***Match Practices*** with use of the appropriate Notice board & Club e-mail for publicity.
- (c) consider playing practice matches between the various potential teams (e.g. 5th versus 6th team) and possibly using Sunday afternoons for such (as this is when the Courts are least used for general Club play)
- (d) record the names of all members attending ***Match Practices***. This may then be used by the Club Committee to consider the viability of organising out of season friendly matches should some players not achieve team selection.
- (e) the Selection Committee should arrange for all Senior Club members, 5-day members (if required) and "invited" Secondary Juniors to be registered with the League.

9 **Administration Aspects**

(a) Team Captains must be fully aware of their duties as outlined in the League handbook to ensure that none of the Rules are broken. They must also ensure that the team players are familiar with their role in relation to such Rules.

(b) Team Captains must ensure **that scorecards for each match are completed accurately before signing with the home/away box ticked and sent by 1st class within 72 hours to the League Match Secretary.**

10 **Selection Notifications/alterations**

(a) Once the Selection Committee have reached their team selection for a match, a team

sheet should be displayed on the relevant Club **Notice board no later than the Wednesday night** for the following week's matches. Each player should confirm his availability on that sheet as soon as possible after the list has been displayed **and at the latest by 4 pm on Saturday**.

- (b) The Team Captain should **at the end of each match** check the availability of all the players in that team for the following week. In addition, if one of his regular players is missing from that game, the Team Captain should also check that player's availability for the following week. This is essential to ensure that at the weekly Selection Committee meeting availability is known and should avoid unnecessary changes to the team sheet once the team sheets have been displayed.
- (c) In addition, the Selection Committee should arrange for a suitable **"Unavailable Chart"** to be displayed on the relevant Notice board so that players/members can report their unavailability at earliest possible date.
- (d) If a player of a particular team shows he is unable to play after Team Sheet displayed, the replacement player should generally come from the strongest player of the next team (usually the already identified reserve) to comply with League Rules. It is appreciated that the knock on effect is sometimes considerable (particularly to the 6th team).

The Team Captain for the original team should ascertain the reason for withdrawal and record such for purposes of future application of 4 above. This information should also be provided on request to Club Committee for analysis with aim of producing improved guidance and communication to reduce the knock on effect on Team Captains and players.

- (e) It is very important that any Team Captain taking a player from a lower team **immediately** notifies the lower Team Captain. It is hoped that this coupled with strict application of (b) and (c) above will keep the knock on effect referred to above to a minimum.

11 Clarification of Process

If clarification of any aspect of process is required, this should in the first instance be referred to the Chairperson of the Selectors and, if matter remains unresolved, to a member of the Club Committee.

Similarly, any member wishing to make representations against the selection process should in first instance refer to the Chairperson of the Selection Committee and, if matter remains unresolved, it will then be referred to the Committee for consideration at their next meeting.

12 Suggestions

Any member, who wishes the Committee to submit change/improvements to the processes referred to above, is invited to make his/her comments in writing to the Committee and such will be considered by them at their next meeting. The Committee will notify the member of their decision as soon as possible thereafter.