## GRAFTON CLUB CHAMPS 2020: Entries Now Open!

It’s that time of year again! Everyone can begin to look forward to some warmer climes and gear up to a great summer of tennis; which of course will be accompanied by some quality reporting on The Grafton Chronicle. We are delighted to announce that Summer Club Championships entries are now open.

The tournament will yet again have something for everyone culminating in a one-day festival of fun & competition on Finals Day - Saturday 25th July 2020.

Some important things to note about this year’s championships:

* All your favourite tournaments are set for a return including Men’s and Ladies Singles plates, as well as Men’s, Ladies’ and Mixed Doubles Plate competitions (assuming each tournament has enough entrants). Everyone is guaranteed two matches and a greater chance of taking part in Final’s Day.
* Legends are eligible if they are 50 or over in 2020; Legendettes need to be 45 or over in 2020.
* Finals Day will again see the addition of junior events - more to come shortly on the format and how to get involved.
* Finals Day will see the return of some of your favourite off-court activities like Bake Off and no doubt there will be some more surprises in store that will be announced in due course.
* Those theme tunes will be returning so get your thinking caps on as to that special anthem that will welcome you onto the court on Final’s Day.

All in all, it’s shaping up to be one not to be missed in the Grafton diary.

Here is everything you need to know about entering the Tennis Champs. Not that you need an incentive BUT for every event you pay to enter, your name will be entered into a draw to win some special prizes so please read on…

ENTERING THE TOURNAMENT

* The tournament will run from SUNDAY 22ND MARCH 2020 until finals day on SATURDAY 25TH JULY 2020 – mark those dates firmly in your diary now please.
* Please enter by clicking the links below for each tournament you wish to play in or fill in a form provided at bar in the clubhouse. Entries must be received by FRIDAY 20TH MARCH.
* Tournaments will only run if we have enough entries. If you wish to enter a doubles tournament but don’t have a partner, let us know via the links below and we’ll do our best to pair you up.
	+ Men's Singles: graftonclubchamps@gmail.com?subject=Mens\_Singles\_2020
	+ Ladies' Singles: graftonclubchamps@gmail.com?subject=Ladies\_Singles\_2020
	+ Men's Doubles: graftonclubchamps@gmail.com?subject=Mens\_Doubles\_2020
	+ Ladies' Doubles: graftonclubchamps@gmail.com?subject=Ladies\_Doubles\_2020
	+ Mixed Doubles: graftonclubchamps@gmail.com?subject=Mixed\_Doubles\_2020
	+ Legends: Men's Over 50 Singles (eligible if 50 in 2020): graftonclubchamps@gmail.com?subject=Mens\_O50\_Singles\_2020
	+ Legendettes: Ladies' Over 45 Singles (eligible if 45 in 2020): graftonclubchamps@gmail.com?subject=Ladies\_O45\_Singles\_2020
* Adult entry fees are: £5 per person per event (so that’s £10 per doubles pair) if paid for before the draw on Saturday 21st March (or £6 per person per event; £12 per doubles pair thereafter).
* There will be a public tournament draw in the clubhouse on Saturday 21st March after the Winter Mixed has finished, so please stay on for the party or come along and watch the drama unfold later that evening. The draw will be published online shortly after.
* For every event you pay to enter, your name will be entered into a prize draw. The winner will be drawn at the tournament draw.
* We will be operating a ‘no pay no play’ policy therefore please ensure you are a fully paid up member and have paid your tournament entry fees to the bar or by bank transfer before 21st March 2020. (Grafton Tennis and Squash Club sort code 20-21-78; account number 70408271 – please use your name as a reference).
* Singles and Doubles Plate tournaments will run for those knocked-out of their first-round matches if there are enough entries. Unfortunately, due to time constraints, if you have a bye in the first round of the main draws we may not be able to enter you in the Plate. You must have played your first-round match to be eligible or be a new member who joined between 21st March and 27th April 2020.
* Junior events will also be played on finals day - more details on the format and how to enter coming soon.

PLAYING THE TOURNAMENT

* All finals will be played on Saturday 25th July 2020. If you are entering multiple events you are expected to play all the finals on the same day.
* Please help us by adhering to the play by dates. To help, there are pre booked courts (1&2) for Tournaments Matches on Monday, Tuesday AND Wednesday 7-8.30. You need to email graftonclubchamps@gmail.com to book a slot. If they are not requested by the Sunday before they will be released for general booking.
* Players who are not available on finals day will have to scratch at semi-final match point.
* Although we try and promise glorious sunshine, please save Sunday 26th July 2020 as the rain day for the event that any matches are weathered off.

We’d like to see everyone in the club get involved this year – it’s a great chance to take to the court against opponents old and new. There will also be plenty of opportunities to support your friends, family and the club over the summer and we can’t wait to see you there!

If you are not a part of The Grafton Chronicle WhatsApp group already, you can join and keep up to date on all the tournament news (including some fantastic blow by blow tournament match commentary) by following this link: <https://chat.whatsapp.com/KaPTwmEwk6lL1xRc62ZkSt>

If you have any queries or would like to volunteer to help out, please email graftonclubchamps@gmail.com.

Thanks!
The Grafton Club Champs Team