

Sportspace Hemel Hempstead Squash Club

About the Hemel Hempstead Squash Club

The Hemel Hempstead Squash Club is associated with Sportspace Dacorum, the local sports trust in this area. As at 01/12/2013 we have over 60 members in 11 leagues.

Fees

- Currently there are no membership fees to join the club. You are responsible for paying the cost of the court.
- Court costs must be paid directly to Sportspace. You can either join as a member paying a monthly fee, or pay on attendance as a non-member. They offer a Platinum membership, currently £48 a month (Dec 2013), discounted to £41 if you're a member of the squash club. Platinum membership entitles you use of all of the centres facilities, including squash courts. Costs for other membership types are also available, however they won't cover your squash court costs - contact Sportspace directly re membership on <http://connect.sportspace.co.uk/joinathome> or 01442 507100. Alternatively visit them in person in Hemel Hempstead Sportspace, Park Road, Hemel Hempstead HP1 1JS

Non membership squash court costs starts from £7.30 (Dec 13), and increases during peak time to approximately £9.50 for a 40 minute court.

- **Note** – if you're a platinum member, if you book a court this is covered under your membership, however if your partner is a non-Platinum member they need to pay half the court cost.

Platinum member playing a Non Platinum Member –Bookings

If a Platinum member plays a non-platinum member, the Platinum member should always book the court (this can be done online or in person). If this isn't done, the non-Platinum member would be charged the full amount of the court, and may expect you to pay half!

Guideline

- If a Platinum plays a non-Platinum members book under the online category 'Platinum +1'. You'll need to pay for the non-platinum member on-line at the time of booking and obtain the money from the non-platinum member when you play
- If this isn't done, and you book under the standard 'Platinum' category, the non-member will encounter difficulties entering the centre as the correct court type wasn't booked by the platinum member.

- Also, if this isn't done and the Platinum is switched to Platinum+1 on the day, a late notice cancellation fee may accidentally end up on your account. To avoid this – book the correct category online.

Playing Rules

- Best of 5 games. American scoring (PAR = Point after Rally) up to 15. If the score reaches 14/14, the recipient of the serves decides whether the game goes to 1 or 2 clear points.

Scoring guidelines

Match Result	Points
3-0	5-1
3-1	5-2
3-2	5-3
2-2	3-3
2-1	4-2
2-0	4-1
1-1	2-2
0-0	1-1

- Once you've played your game, add your points to the table outside of court 2
- No show – if your opponent fails to attend a pre-arranged match you can choose either take the points 5-0, or to rearrange the match.

Calling/Contact plan

All members are responsible for contacting each other to arrange a game. If you cannot find a mutually suitable time for a game with an opponent, neither of you scores any points therefore it's important to arrange your games early. The best way to contact members is normally by email or text – contact details are shown on the league spreadsheet.

Bonus Points

As well as deducting points for not playing games, there is also an added incentive to play all of your games. If you play all of your matches in the allotted time then there will be **3 bonus points** added to your score. This is designed to encourage and reward those who make the effort to play all of their games. Note – refer to the Injury Scoring Rule, shown below, for additional information on bonus points.

League Positioning

Generally, the top player goes up two boxes, second player goes up one box, middle players stay, fifth goes down one and sixth goes down two. However, this does get adjusted when people drop out of the league or are added in to it. Also – in order to get into League 1 a player will have to qualify through League 2 (the top 2 from League 2 goes into League 1). There is no jump from League 3 into League 1.

Fast Track

If you win all of your matches 3-0 we will endeavour to move you up 3 or 4 leagues. This will help members find their correct level quickly.

Non- Playing of Matches

1 league cycle with no games played (without letting me know why - e.g. injury, holidays, etc) and you'll be put on probation! You're name will appear in **RED** on the leagues and if you play no games during the next league cycle without advanced warning to the league organiser, you will be removed from the league. If you are injured please let me know whether you're out indefinitely or just for the current league cycle. Please also tell the other people in your league.

If you do drop out of the league temporarily, please bear in mind that it is difficult to slot you back in at exactly the same place as before. I'll try to put people back in as close as possible to where they were before, but this depends on spaces available.

Injury Scoring Rule

1. If a player is unable to play games due to injury by the end of the league cycle, all outstanding games will be scored 5-0 to the opponent(s)
2. If other players have previously played the injured member, they'll be given a 5 point win. However, any points already accrued by the injured player will remain.
3. If a player is injured could the injured player, or members in the affected league, let me know please
4. The 3 bonus points are awarded if you are granted a 5-0 score due to this injury rule, resulting in all of your games being completed.

This change should ensure that no opponents are penalised due to a member becoming injured midway through a league cycle because all league members will be awarded 5 points. Also, if the injured member is only unable to play 1 or 2 games this will ensure that points already accrued will remain.

Social Squash

Squash club sessions are held on the first Saturday of each month, on all 3 courts, between 10.20am – 12.20pm. Players of all abilities are welcome to turn up and play - it's a great opportunity to play different players of all standards and maybe pick up some tips!

Cost = £3 for platinum members. £5 for non platinum members

Squash Club Corporate Membership Discount

If you're a Platinum or Gold member of Sportspace, being part of this squash club entitles you to a corporate discount of around 15%. For example, your Platinum membership monthly fee of £48 will be reduced to £41 (rates as at Sept 2013). If you are a Platinum or Gold member and would like to have discounted rates please let me know.

Website

We now have a club website, www.hemelsquash.co.uk. Details on the club, training videos, news, club rules and details of upcoming events are shown here.

Facebook Group – Hemel Squash Club

The club now has its own private Facebook Group now. This can be accessed by you entering the following hyperlink, and then selecting 'Join Group'. Historic information on the club is on here, details on future events in addition to being able to converse with club members about your squash achievements.

www.facebook.com/groups/hemelsquash

General Enquiries

Should you have any queries about the squash league or ladder, or if you have ideas about how to improve it, please contact me, Donald Luke on 07921 409234 or dLuke@wearemdg.com