

BY-LAWS OF THE BELMONT TENNIS CLUB

Article I – Purpose

The purpose of the Club shall be to provide tennis recreation, primarily, for the residents of the Town of Belmont and neighboring communities.

Article II – Seal of the Club

The seal of the club shall be a circular die and in the circumference the words “Belmont Tennis Club”, and in the center shall appear two, old wooden tennis rackets and the date “1884”.

Article III – Officers of the Club

Sec. 1. The officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Clerk, who shall be called Secretary, and five persons with the powers of Directors. The Directors and the other officers above named shall constitute the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. The President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall be elected by ballot for the term of two years to alternate annually with of the Board of Directors election, at the Club’s annual meeting (even years for Officer elections, odd years for BOD elections). Directors shall be elected annually by ballot at such meetings for the term of two years. (Updated June 21, 2014). The term of office of each of the Directors and other officers shall begin upon his/her election and each of the Directors and other officers, except in case of death, resignation or removal, shall hold his/her office during the term for which he/she shall have been elected and until his his/her successor shall be elected and accept office.

Sec. 3. The Board of Directors, by majority vote of those for the time being in office, shall have the power to fill, at any time, any vacancy or vacancies in the offices of the Directors of the Club, however caused, for the unexpired term of such office or offices.

Sec. 4. The President shall, in the first two weeks of January of each year, appoint a nominating committee to submit to the members at the annual meeting, the nominees to be considered for election to the office or offices of those term(s) that will be expiring. The nominating committee shall consist of two members of the Board of Directors and three people from the general membership.

Article IV – President and Vice-President

The President, or in his/her absence the Vice-President, shall preside at all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. If these officers shall be absent from any meeting, either of the Club or the Board of Directors, a temporary chairman/chairwoman may be chosen at such meeting.

The President and Vice-President shall also perform such other duties as they may severally be authorized or requested to do by the Board of Directors.

Article V – Treasurer

The Treasurer shall keep the accounts and have charge of all the funds of the Club, shall collect all annual dues and guest fees, if any, and other payments due the Club. He/She shall make a statement of the accounts of the Club at each annual meeting of the Club and whenever requested to do so by a vote of the Board of Directors of the Club. He/She shall sign in the name of the Club all written contracts and obligations of the Club as authorized and directed by a vote of the Board of Directors. The person holding the office of Treasurer shall receive free dues in his/her category of membership as compensation for performing the duties of Treasurer.

In the absence of the Treasurer, or during a vacancy in the office of Treasurer, the duties of the Treasurer may be performed by a temporary Treasurer to be appointed by the Board of Directors.

Article VI – Secretary

The Secretary shall keep a record of all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. He/She shall conduct the correspondence of the Club, and as provided in these By-Laws, or any amendments thereof, give notice of all meetings of the Club and of the Board of Directors. He/She shall keep a correct list of the name and last address of every member of the Club as sent to him/her from time to time by each member. He/She shall give notice of election to all persons elected to membership in the Club, and shall inform the Treasurer of the names of such persons. The person holding the office of Secretary shall receive free dues in his/her category of membership as compensation for performing the duties of Secretary.

In the absence of the Secretary, or during a vacancy in the office of Secretary, the duties of the Secretary may be performed by a temporary Secretary to be appointed by the Board of Directors. If neither the Secretary, nor the temporary Secretary, appointed as above provided, shall be present at a meeting of the Club or of the Board of Directors, a clerk pro tempore may be chosen at such meeting to make a record of the meeting.

Article VII – Board of Directors

Sec. 1. The Board of Directors shall have the management and control of the Club, including the election of its members, and all its property and affairs; they shall authorize the execution on behalf of the Club of such contracts and other instruments and the making of such payments by the Club as they shall deem necessary or proper; they shall control the expenses and charges of the Club and authorize the employment of such assistants and servants as they deem proper; and may terminate the employment of any such assistant or servant; and generally they shall act for the Club in all matters provided, however, that 1) all the powers conferred by this section of the By-Laws shall be exercised subject to all other provisions of these By-Laws and to the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and amendments thereof and additions thereto and 2) The Board of Directors shall obtain the consent of the general membership for any single expenditure in excess of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars.

Sec. 2. The Board of Directors shall enforce the observance of these By-Laws and all amendments thereto, and may make from time to time and amend and repeal the Rules and Regulations for the government and welfare of the Club and as shall be consistent, with these By-Laws, or any amendments thereof, and shall enforce the rules so made. Note that the By-Laws and the Rules and Regulations are two different documents. The chief difference between them is the Rules and Regulations may be changed by the Board of Directors without the member's approval, whereas, changes in the By-Laws will require the consent of the general membership. The Board of Directors shall have the power to extend the privileges of the Club to any person(s) for such period as they may prescribe, subject to the power of the Board of Directors to withdraw such privileges at any time.

Sec. 3. The Board of Directors may appoint such committees and delegate to them such powers for such terms as the Board of Directors may deem best, subject to the powers of the Board of Directors to revoke any such appointment at any time.

Sec. 4. Meetings of the Board of Directors may be called at any time by the President or the Vice-President, or by any two members of the Board. Notice of each meeting shall be given to each member of the Board of Directors by written or oral notice at least twenty-four hours prior to the day of holding such meeting, but the presence of any member of the Board shall be deemed the equivalent of due and sufficient notice to him/her and any member of the Board of Directors may waive notice of any meeting of the Board. A quorum of the Board of Directors shall be five and a majority of a quorum present at a meeting shall, unless otherwise provided, be entitled to take any action.

Article VIII – Removal of Officers

Any officer of the Club, including any member of the Board of Directors, may be removed from office at any time by a vote of the majority of the members of the Club. Any member of a committee appointed by the Board of Directors may be removed at any time by a vote of a majority of the members of the Board of Directors.

Article IX – Membership

Sec. 1. Any person more than the age of twenty-one shall be eligible for election to regular membership in the Club.

Sec. 2. Classes of Membership. There shall be three classes of membership in the Club.

- a) Senior/Individual Membership
- b) Family Membership
- c) Junior/Individual Membership

a) Senior/Individual Membership.

Upon election as a Senior/Individual member and the payment of an initiation fee equivalent to one year's dues and annual dues at such rate recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the general membership, a Senior/Individual member shall be entitled to the use of the facilities and enjoyment of privileges of the Club in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Club.

b) Family Membership.

Sec.1. Upon election as a Family member and the payment of an initiation fee equivalent to one year's dues and annual dues at such rate as recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the general membership, a Family member and his or her spouse shall be entitled to the use of the facilities and enjoyment of the privileges of the Club in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Club. Unmarried children within a Family Membership under the age of twenty-one and residing with such member(s), shall also enjoy such use of the facilities and privileges of the Club as a junior Family member in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Club.

Sec. 2. Upon election as a Family or Single Family member and the payment of appropriate annual dues and all his/her indebtedness to the Club the membership of such persons shall continue from year to year. A Family or Single member may change to a Single or Family membership respectively, at the beginning of any year provided he/she first obtains the consent of the Board of Directors. He/She shall then make payment of the appropriate dues and initiation fees, if any, for such class. The transfer from one class membership as described herein, shall take precedent over the acceptance of new members into the Club

c) Junior/Individual Membership.

Upon election as a Junior/Individual member he/she must be under the age of twenty-one. The payment of an initiation fee equivalent to one year's dues and annual dues at such rate recommended by the Board of Directors and approved by the general membership, the Junior/Individual member shall be entitled, to the use of the facilities and enjoyment of privileges of the Club, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Club.

In addition to the three classes of regular membership, the Board of Directors may establish such other classes of non-regular memberships as it may deem desirable, at such dues, and with such privileges as it may from time to time determine.

The total sum of regular memberships of the Club shall not exceed 125 memberships.

Article X – Termination of Membership

Sec.1. Resignation of any given membership should be made in writing and delivered to the Secretary. No resignation shall be accepted unless all indebtedness to the Club by the member(s) resigning shall have been paid, including indebtedness for annual dues payable under Article IX, which dues by rule or regulation may be made payable in advance of the season during which the Club's facilities are normally in operation, provided, however, that the Treasurer may, upon cause satisfactory to him/her remit on a pro rata basis on a portion of any such dues.

Sec. 2. Any member(s) may be suspended or expelled for due cause at a regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors by a vote of two-thirds of the members if said Board for the time being in office. Such member(s) shall be given notice of the charges against him/her and shall be given the opportunity to be heard at such meeting.

Sec. 3. In the event of the death, resignation, suspension, expulsion, of other termination of the membership of a member(s), all his/her rights and privileges as a member of the Club and in and to the property of the Club shall cease.

Article XI – Meetings and Quorum

Sec. 1. The annual meeting of the Club shall be held within the third week of March of each year or at such time in March and at such place in Belmont as is designated by the Board of Directors.

Sec. 2. A special meeting of the Club may be called at any time by the President or the Vice-President or on the written request of 20 members of the Club or any 5 members of the Board of Directors, given to the Secretary. Every such call shall state the object for which the meeting is called, and no business unless related to such object shall be in order at the meeting.

Sec. 3. Those persons present and entitled to vote shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business at any meeting.

Sec. 4. There shall be no voting by proxy. Each Senior/Individual member shall be entitled to one vote on any question at any meeting. In the case of a Family Membership, one adult and his or her spouse/partner shall each be entitled to one vote on any question at any meeting. Voting by written or electronic means, to be specified by the Board of Directors, may be allowed. Unless otherwise provided, a majority of those present and voting at a meeting, including by any specified alternate means, shall decide any question. (Updated June 14, 2015).

Article XII – Notice of Meetings

It shall be the duty of each member of the Club to give the Secretary his/her correct address to be recorded on the Secretary's membership list, and notice of every meeting of the club shall be sent to the address so given by mail by the Secretary at least seven days prior to the meeting.

Article XIII – Fiscal Year

The fiscal year of the Club shall be the calendar year.

Article XIV – Audit

The Board of Directors shall have the authority to have the books and accounts of the Treasurer audited if, as, and when the Board of Directors deems it appropriate.

Article XV – Amendment of By-Laws

Notwithstanding anything hereinabove to the contrary, these By-Laws may be amended or repealed and additions may be made thereto at any annual or special meeting of the Club by a two-thirds vote of those all persons entitled to vote; provided, however, that proper notice has been sent to the membership and, that no such action shall be taken at any meeting unless at least thirty-five persons entitled to vote are present at the meeting. If at any meeting, no quorum is present, the presiding officer will adjourn such meeting to some future date.