

WPTC Rules and Regulations



Revised: 1984, 1991, 1993, 1994, 1999, 2024

DEFINITIONS

Club – Whitehall Pool and Tennis Club

Club Facilities- The physical and real property, and the improvements thereto, which are provided for, and made available to the Members for their use and occupancy, and include, but are not limited to: tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts; pools and decks; snack bar; parking lot and driveway; and all other areas between the fence which encloses the physical facilities, and the club property line.

Club Member- Member of a family unit, residing at the same physical location, and listed on the membership form, which has paid the yearly annual dues and said dues having been duly accepted by the Club.

Special Member- A member who has a current deferred payment contract and is entitled to all rights and privileges of membership except the right to vote at membership meetings.

Guest - A non-member of the Club who is invited, accompanied, and registered by a member in good standing, and whose guest fee has been paid. Residents of the membership area may attend as guests during Special Events. Guest children under seven years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Board of Directors – Governing body of the Club

Officers of the Club - President, Vice Presidents, Secretary, and Treasurer

Director of Operations - Oversees the club's daily business activities and reports directly to the Board of Directors.

Club Manager – Employed by the Club and responsible for the operation of the Club facilities.

Club Staff – Employee hired by the Club whose work and how to accomplish the work is defined and control by the Board of Directors and or the Club Manager

Physical Club Address- Whitehall Pool and Tennis Club, 12414 Whitehall Drive, Bowie, MD 20715

Official Club Mailing Address – Whitehall Pool and Tennis Club, P.O. Box 521, Bowie, MD 20718

Pool Email: WPTCBoard@gmail.com

Pool Phone: 301-464-2662 (Note: The phone line is only operational during the summer pool season.)

GENERAL

A member in good standing is entitled to the use of Club facilities. The rights and privileges of such use are not unlimited, however. Associated with the use of Club facilities, the Member assumes certain duties and responsibilities. These are set forth herein.

The Board of Directors has established Rules and Regulations pertaining to the use of Club facilities. These Rules and Regulations, set forth herein, are for the protection and benefit of the entire membership of the Club, and in compliance with health and safety regulations by which the Club must abide. As a result, Members are urged to read these Rules and Regulations and comply with them. Members are required to familiarize their guests with the content of these rules, and to ensure that their children observe them. Your cooperation in these matters will enable the Club to provide maximum recreation and relaxation to all members.

Powers of enforcement of the Rules and Regulations rest with the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors has delegated certain powers of enforcement, listed herein, to the Manager and Director of Operations. Parents are requested to ensure that their children obey instructions of all Club employees, the Manager, Board of Directors, and Director of Operations. Members are requested to remind any violators of these Rules and Regulations and to generally assist the Manager, Club staff, Director of Operations, and Board of Directors in maintaining the Club facilities in an attractive, safe, and sanitary condition.

I. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A. Duties, Responsibilities, and Privileges of Members

1. The use and occupancy of Club facilities is restricted to Members and their guests. Facilities are the physical and real property, and the improvements thereto, which are provided for, and made available to the Members for their use and occupancy, and include, but are not limited to: tennis, volleyball, and basketball courts; pools and decks; snack bar; parking lot and driveway; and all other areas between the fence which encloses the physical facilities, and the club property line.
2. The use of Club facilities is restricted to times determined and established by the Board of Directors. Any person, including but not limited to Members' and Guests, who shall use or attempt to use any Club facility at any time other than when it is official open or authorized for use may be prosecuted or be subject to other actions including suspension or Member forfeiture by the Board of Directors as they may deem appropriate to the circumstances.
3. The use of Club facilities is permitted upon proper identification of Membership, and subject to these Rules and Regulations and other rules which may be, from time to time, established by the Board of Directors.
4. All persons using the Club facilities do so at their own risk and accept sole responsibility for any accident, injury, loss or damage to personal property, or any loss incurred in connection with such use.
5. The Member covenants and agrees with the Club and the Manager, for and in consideration of the use of Club facilities and other food and valuable considerations, to make no claim against the Club and/or Manager for, on account of any loss or damage of life, limb, or property sustained.
6. The Member agrees to save harmless the Club and/or Manager from any and all liabilities and action of whatsoever nature by any Guest of the Member.
7. Members will be held responsible for their actions and the actions of their Guests.

8. All damages to property of the Club caused by a Member or their Guest(s) shall constitute a debt of that Member to the Club.

9. Except as otherwise provided for in these Rules, use or occupancy by Members or their Guests of any area between the fence which encloses the Club's physical facilities, and the Club's property line, is prohibited unless the Member requests a use in writing, and receives an affirmative written response for that use from the Manager or his/her designated representative.

10. A second violation of the Rules and Regulations by the same person (Club Member, individual of the family member holding Club membership, or Guests of that Member) may result in suspension of the Membership. The Club Member will be notified in writing by the Board of Directors of the suspension. The Club Member may petition the Board of Directors for reinstatement prior to the end of the period of suspension.

B. Powers vested in the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors, under the By-laws of the Club, manages the affairs and exercises all powers of the clubs. **The Board, drawing upon that authority, is empowered to prescribe, amend in whole or part, or rescind any and all of these Rules and Regulations.** The Board has authority to enforce these Rules and Regulations and to impose appropriate penalties for violations thereof.

1. Any authority of the Board of Directors delegated to others may nevertheless be exercised by the Board.
2. The Board of Directors may temporarily suspend any of these Rules or Regulations as may be deemed appropriate.

C. Enforcement Powers Delegated to the Manager

1. The Manager may, at any time, and at his/her discretion, close any Club facility for safety reasons (such as weather), because of breakdown, or operational difficulties.
2. Any person may be barred from any Club facility at the discretion of the Manager for any reason which in the judgment of the Manager constitutes a hazard to others.
3. Any person may be barred by the Manager from use of any Club facilities for any violation of these Rules and Regulations.
4. Action by the Manager, under 2 and 3 above, must be reported in writing to the Board of Directors within 24 hours of the time such action is taken.
5. Action taken by the Manager, under 2 and 3 above is limited to a time period of 72 consecutive hours for any single violation.
6. Members and Guests against whom action is taken under 2 and 3 above, may appeal in writing to the Board of Directors. Pending action on the appeal, violators must abide by the decision of the Manager.
7. The Manager is empowered, upon written instructions from the Board of Directors, to deprive any person of the use of any and all Club facilities for such time as is ordered by the Board of Directors.

II. Rules and Regulations

A. General Regulations

1. All members and guests of members must follow Federal, state, and local laws, this includes, but is not limited to stealing, assault, possession of controlled substances.
2. All correspondence with the Club, or any member of the Board, which deals with membership must be in writing and must be sent by mail or email to the Club's official mailing or email address.
3. All fees due to the club must be sent by mail to the Club at the Club's official address, or paid electronically in the formats dictated by the Club. Electronic forms of payment may incur a service charge. Fees may not be tendered to officers, directors, employees, or contractors of the Club, nor to any of their family members.
4. No annual maintenance fee will be accepted from tenants, realtors, or any other agent of a Member unless that member has a letter on file with the Club granting that agent his/her power of attorney. Such power of attorney must bear the notarized signature of the Member (Members, if jointly owned).
5. It is the responsibility of the member to pay the annual dues each season and be in good standing each year. Failure to be in good standing means that you are no longer able to use the Club or sell your bond. Your bond is forfeited back to the Club once a season of dues are not paid
6. Membership photographs must be on file for each family member prior to admission to the facility. The Club has the option of refusing non-distinguishable photographs.
7. Each Member must be identified with the attendant at the main gate before admission
8. Members must personally register their Guest(s) with the attendant at the main gate and pay applicable fees. Guest(s) may be required to show proof of residence. Special Guest privilege will be extended under conditions outlined in paragraph F.
9. Members are responsible for their guests at all times. Members are responsible for ensuring that their guests are made aware of and understand the rules of the Club.
10. Members and Guests must drive slowly and carefully in the parking areas. The parking areas are for vehicular parking only. Sidewalks and driveways are for direct entry to and exit from Club facilities by Members and their guests. Use and occupancy of these areas other than for parking or the direct entry to or exit from club facilities by Members or their Guests is prohibited.
11. No abusive or profane language or breach of peace is permitted on the Club Premises.
12. During operating hours, alcohol beverages may be consumed by only those of the legal drinking age on the Club grounds . Those consuming alcohol beverages must drink responsibly and adhere to all applicable laws Proof of age must be provided upon Manager request.
13. No glass or hard plastic containers are permitted.
 - a. Coolers are subject to inspection for glass.
 - b. Members and Guests are responsible for placing all debris in trash receptacles.
14. No pets of any kind are permitted within the fenced area of the Club during Club operating hours with the exception of Club sanctioned events such as the Puppy Swim.

15. No wheeled vehicles (with the exception of baby carriages, wheelchairs, wagons, and strollers) are permitted within the fenced area.
16. Baby carriages, strollers, and playpens must remain out of main throughways to ensure the safety of all Members and Guests.
17. Food is permitted only in the dining and grassy areas.
18. Bathing suits must be worn in the pool. Cutoff pants or Bermuda shorts, will not be used as a substitute for a bathing suit in the main pool.
19. No person may give lessons of any nature for a fee unless authorized by the Board of Directors. Any member wanting to provide lessons for a fee must formally request to do so in writing to the Clubs address or email. The Board of Directors reserves the right to charge the member providing lessons with a facility usage fee.
20. Membership list information and waiting list information of the Club are considered confidential and shall not be made available for any outside reasons. Only the Board of Directors and Club Management and Staff may review the current membership file. For the protection of the membership, no notes may be taken or copies of any information written down at any time.
21. Smoking and vaping are prohibited in the Club facility, except in designated smoking areas. A designated smoking area can be found at the far end of the parking lot and is marked with signage.
22. Dining area under the canopy is not to be used for storing items during normal operating hours.
23. Music volume and cell phone conversations must be kept to a minimum. Be considerate of those around you.
24. Shoes with wheels, scooters, skateboards, hoverboards, etc. may not be ridden within the fenced area of the Club.

B. Swimming Pool Area

1. Behavioral Rules

- a. Running, pushing, wrestling, or causing undue disturbance in or about the pool is prohibited.
- b. No toys, play equipment, or pool floats are permitted in the main pool unless special permission is given for social events or team practices by the Club Manager, Director of Operations, or Board of Directors. Adults may use a pool noodle if needed for stability purposes during adult swims.
- c. Excessive splashing and throwing of individuals is not permitted.
- d. No person shall be on the shoulders of any other person.
- e. No life preservers, face masks, flippers, snorkels, inner tubes, or water wings are permitted in the pool. This does not include instructional devices used in conjunction with training under the direction of qualified pool attendants or safety equipment needed for medical conditions which has received permission from the Club manager. Protective eyewear of a non-breakable material, designed to cover the eye area only is permitted. Goggles may not cover the nose.

- f. A 15 minute break period from swimming will be enforced for all bathers under 16 years of age, with the exception of Club Staff, every hour on the hour between opening and closing, unless otherwise noted by the Manager.
- g. Swimmers shall refrain from swimming over or hanging on the lane lines/ropes.
- h. Only forward jumping is permitted off the side of the pool. There shall be no cannonballs, backward facing jumps, etc.
- i. There shall be no hanging by ones legs off the side of the pool with their body in the water and their legs not
- j. Drinking beverages in the main pool is only permitted by adults within arms length of the pool's edge.
- k. Bouncing of balls (i.e., basketball, volleyball, tennis) is not permitted on the pool deck or snackbar area. Bouncing of balls is restricted to areas of ball play such as the basketball courts, volleyball court, and tennis courts.
- l. To ensure that Members and Guests can enter and exit the pool, no person is permitted to stand or sit on the steps leading into/out of the water.

2. Health Regulations

- a. Admission may be refused by all persons having an infectious disease, sore or inflamed eyes, colds, nasal or ear discharges, or a communicable disease of any kind. Persons with excessive sunburn, open sores, or wearing bandages of any kind will not be permitted.
- b. All bathers should shower before entering the pool.
- c. Spouting of water and similar unhygienic action is prohibited.
- d. Diapered children are not permitted in the main or wading pool unless they have water diapers or rubber pants.

C. Wading Pool Area

1. Behavioral Rules

- a. Anyone using the main pool, or who exceeds age 6, may not use the wading pool. Children restricted to the wading pool shall be supervised by someone 13 years of age or older. One sibling or friend is allowed to be in the pool with a child under age six if and only if they are playing or watching the sibling/friend.
- b. Pushing, wrestling, or causing undue disturbance in or about the wading pool is prohibited.
- c. Toys are permitted in the wading pool area and must be soft and unbreakable. The Club Manager has the right to ask for toys to be removed if they are unsafe or could cause a hazardous situation.
- d. For safety reasons, children may only use one inflatable tube at a time.
- e. No chairs are allowed on the beach entrance in the baby pool except for the lifeguard on duty.

D. Diving Boards and Well

1. Behavioral Rules

- a. All diving board users must pass a swimming test of swimming 25 consecutive meters (1 lap). All high dive users must pass a swimming test of 25 consecutive meters and be at least 46" tall. The manager or their designee will give the swim test to interested diving board users.
- b. Only one person is permitted on a diving board at a time.
- c. Diving is permitted straight away from the board only. No diving or jumping toward the walls or off the side wall of the diving area is permitted during normal business hours.
- d. No member is allowed to swim in the diving well during operating hours, with the exception of the swimming required to exit the pool after the use of the diving board, unless otherwise permitted by the Manager.
- e. In the well, the kids can't grab onto the side of the wall, they have to swim from the board to the ladder.
- f. The person on the middle diving board has to swim straight out to the rope, and then to a ladder.
- g. No gainers, even for the experienced divers
- h. The person on the board has to wait until the person in front of them has made it past the lifeguard chair.
- i. Limit of one jump on the diving board.
- j. Goggles are not to be worn while going off the diving boards.

E. Slide

1. Behavioral Rules

- a. Use of the slide is limited to children of suitable size and weight. The defined weight capacity is 100 pounds and is posted on the slide. Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children meet this requirement.
- b. Goggles may not be worn when going down the slide.
- c. No one aside the child going down the slide is permitted in the slide box unless otherwise permitted by management.
- d. Children using the slide must exit the slide box immediately after going down the slide, using the ladder located within the slide box.
- e. Only one child may go down the slide at the time. Children must wait at the bottom of the stairs until the child in front of them has gone down the slide prior to climbing the stairs.
- f. The child at the top of the slide can slide down once the previous swimmer reaches the ladder.
- g. The child must go down the slide feet first, on their back.

F. Photography/Videos

- a. No photography/videography is permitted from inside the pool.

b. Whitehall will never publish any names when using photos for our website, advertisements, or social media platforms, unless permission is explicitly granted.

c. Please be courteous of those around you when taking pictures or videos.

d. No photography/videography is permitted in the bathroom or changing room areas.

G. Tennis and Pickleball

1. Rules of the Courts

a. Tennis, sometimes referred to as sneakers, or athletic shoes are encouraged to be worn on the courts. Hard sole shoes or cleats are not permitted on the courts at any time.

b. Tennis and pickleball courts are first come, first serve with a 1 ½ hour time limit if others are waiting to use the court.

c. Be courteous to those waiting to play.

d. If a tournament, league play, or lesson is occurring under the direction of Board of Directors approved designee, the time limit in b. is not valid.

e. Any tournament and league play which would cause for the tennis/pickleball courts to be unavailable to members must be communicated to the members in advance.

f. Courts 1-3 are reserved for tennis and pickleball playing only. Courts 4-6 may be used for tennis, pickleball, and other sports but should not be used as a playground or babysitting area.

g. When courts are in use, members using the practice wall behind court #6 must relinquish the court to members desiring to play tennis or pickleball. A single member cannot use any court for serve practice, etc. or "save" a court while other members are waiting to play.

h. Refuse, trash, garbage, empty cans, lids, etc., must be placed in trash receptacles.

i. No chairs, tables, bicycles, skateboards, etc., are permitted in the tennis court area.

j. No food, gum, or drinks, except water, is permitted on the courts.

k. There are times when some courts are more desirable than others, such as drier courts after rain. In such situations, the members waiting for a court have priority over those already playing when the more desirable court becomes available.

l. Members are responsible for the proper use of their keys. Lending keys to non-members will result in suspension from the Club.

m. Hang up roll drier after use.

2. The Unwritten Rules of Tennis/Pickleball

- a. Do not walk through, behind, or beside someone's court while they are playing. Wait until the ball is out of play, a point is made, or players change sides, then run across court (preferably behind the base line) to your court.
- b. Do not talk or shout to a player while he or she is in the middle of a point. Never talk to any player who is involved in a match until the match is over.
- c. If a ball rolls into your court from an adjacent court, return the ball immediately to one of the people in the next court. If you are in the middle of a point when the ball rolls through, either stop playing if the ball disturbs you or your opponent, or return the ball as soon as the point is over.

E. Other Facilities and Equipment

1. No Club property shall be removed from the Club premises without prior authorization from the Board of Directors or Manager.
2. Club-owned sporting and other equipment may be checked out from the Club Staff for use on Club premises.
3. Chairs have been allocated to several areas of the Club premises. If you move a chair(s) from the allocated area, upon completion of use return it to its original location. For safety reasons, under no circumstance can chairs be placed in main throughways.
4. No Member or Guest may save a chair for a person not on the premises if all of the chairs on the premises are occupied
5. Chairs must be used properly and not turned over for a backrest, tilted backwards while sat in, or abused in any way or manner.
6. Parking lot lined areas and restricted areas shall be strictly observed by all Members and Guests.
7. On weekends and holidays, children under 16 years of age shall defer to adults on the use of chaise lounges.
8. Anyone signing out sports equipment must personally return the same equipment.
9. A minimum of 2 heads of membership households, on Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays, may preempt any activity by junior members on the volleyball or basketball courts. Discretion of the Manager will prevail in all situations.
10. Ball playing may occur in their designated areas: basketball court, volleyball court, and tennis/pickleball courts

F. Special Guest Privileges.

There will be specific occasions or occurrences on which the rules concerning Guests may be modified. These are limited to:

- a. Parties and adult and family Swims- Guests are permitted with a member and are subject to paying a guest fee as determined by the Board of Directors.
- b. Waivers of Guest fees for Grandparents- Parents of adult

Members (regardless of residency) will be permitted to enter the Club premises without charge while the Members are present.

b. Special Guest Pass - The Board of Directors may, at its discretion, issue a Special Guest Pass.

c. Babysitter Pass- A member may add a babysitter to their membership for the season. The babysitter's name and birthdate must be given to the manager and a non-transferable, non refundable payment must be paid.

d. Grandchildren- Grandchildren of a Member in good standing who reside in the membership area will be permitted as Guests at a fee determined by the Board of Directors.

d. Bowie Day- On Tuesdays, residency requirements are waived for Guests.

G. Divorced or Separated Guardian Membership

Divorced or Separated Guardians of minor children (under the age of 21) shall have the rights of Membership as defined in Article VI, Section 2, Definitions B, C, D, and E as long as that Guardian is listed on the Membership Form which is submitted with the annual maintenance fee. This Membership shall only be extended to the divorced or separated guardian. In the event that a divorced or separated guardian does not have the consent of the other party for Membership privileges during the current membership year, then both parties must submit, in writing, notification to the Board of Directors of such decree. Upon acknowledgment by both parties, the Board of Directors or Director of Operations will remove said party from the membership.