

Clubhouse Information Sheet



Introduction

The clubhouse and its immediate environs is without argument the most used facility within any tennis club. It is the visible face of the tennis club and creates a lasting first impression. It is one of the major selling points in attracting and keeping members.

The purpose of this Information Sheet is to bring to the attention of tennis clubs, points and issues to consider in any project of building or extending their clubhouse.

So you want a new clubhouse

There are many things to consider when building or extending your clubhouse facility and there are a number of group considerations to take into account.

Firstly there are external issues to consider such as laws, building codes, local requirement.

Secondly, there are your internal considerations such as finance and needs. The latter is probably your most important consideration; ensure that you conduct a thorough investigation of your member's needs and make due allowance for those needs. It may also be appropriate to consider broader community benefits of external users of your facilities.

Things to consider

Before we get into discussing specifics, you need to be aware of some overriding issues to consider, they are:

- the clubhouse is a focal point beyond the playing of tennis,
- a lot of thought and planning is needed before embarking on a clubhouse project,
- consider the number of people who may use the facility at any one time to determine sizes,
- consider future expansion options.

The following is a suggestion list of points that you should at least take into consideration, it is a starting point, not an all inclusive list.



Additional facilities

- Pro Shop.
- Drinks & sweets sales.
- Café.
- Bar and Liquor license.
- Racquet restringing.
- Storage for excess chairs and tables.
- Secure storage for equipment and tools (e.g. nets).

Construction

- Build with long term durability products.
- Use low maintenance products wherever possible (e.g. aluminium windows, vinyl flooring).
- Use energy efficient design and construction.
- Use solar protection and thermal insulation.
- Group external amenity services together.
- Use natural light wherever possible.

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Environs

- Siting with allowance for landscaping and viewing.
- Connection to external services.
- Space for future expansion.
- Easily viewed from outside for security checking.

Internal facilities

- Internal layout, consider an open plan.
- Sufficient kitchen facilities for functions.
- Office come Tournament room.
- A secure safe.
- Sufficient tables & chairs for visitors and functions.
- Sufficient toilets for number of attendees.
- First aid kit or a first aid room.
- Storage locker / facilities for players gear.
- Shower and changing facilities.
- Childcare facilities for pre-school children of visitors.
- Sufficient space for maximum number of attendees at events (during inclement weather) and functions (allow for tables and chairs).

People with a physical disability

- Provide adequate wheelchair / disabled access (e.g. carpark, gutters, paths, ramps, door widths).
- Placement of services at a height / location easily reached by people with a physical disability.
- Unisex disabled persons toilet and shower.

Safety

- Good physical security.
- Alarm system.
- Laminated safety glass.
- Good visibility for visiting security personal.

Social usage

- All ancillary needs for social events provided for.
- Adequate space for expected attendees, tables, chairs both internal and external.
- What alternative use can be made of the clubhouse by external users.

Risk mitigation

Be ever vigilant and pro-active in the reduction of injury risks.

Prevention is better than cure.