

Polytunnel Rules.

Most plot owners are 'kings of their own castle' but, as the polytunnel will be shared by over a dozen people, it is necessary to have some rules to ensure cooperation.

1. Cultivation
 - 1a. The tunnel area is to be used only for sowing seeds and potting seedlings and/or growing crops in the ground. Only growing plants are allowed on the polytunnel floor.
 - 1b. The area should be kept weed free.
 - 1c. Weedkillers are not allowed. Weeding should be by hand.
 - 1d. Some users will wish to grow organically so, as the bays are in very close proximity, crops should be grown organically without any non-organic sprays, slug pellets, fertilizers etc.; organic slug pellets and beer traps may be used.

2. Equipment
 - 2a. Sowing and potting equipment, such as seed trays, modules, plant pots and compost should be kept on the benches. The bench shelf can store other equipment such as hand tools and watering can.
 - 2b. Canes, metal poles, large structures such as wigwams, etc. are not allowed; this is to prevent accidental damage to the polythene. Taller plants, such as tomatoes, can be trained up strings attached to the overhead wire; plants, such as early peas, can be trained up netting attached to vertical strings.
 - 2c. To preserve a pleasant environment for all and to avoid the polytunnel becoming a 'Steptoe's Yard', nothing should be brought into the tunnel or stored in the tunnel other than that which is needed for the purposes listed above.

3. General
 - 3a. The polytunnel should be kept closed unless you are working inside or on your own nearby plot. It must be closed before you leave the site.
 - 3b. The ground on the outside of the polytunnel needs to be maintained and each bay holder will be allocated a small area to maintain, just as you would be expected to on your own allotment.
 - 3c. The polytunnel will be used infrequently for the Beginners' Vegetable Growing Course classes (a few hours each month) and will not be available to bay holders during these times. Times will be posted in the polytunnel.
 - 3d. Although the bays are the responsibility of individuals it is hoped that there will be a sense of community and help will be given by other users during holidays, periods of illness, etc.
 - 3e Plot HL74B, which includes the polytunnel, is a no-smoking/no-vaping area.

4. Rental, Applying for, and Allocation of bays
 - 4a. Rental is for one year, for the same period as plot rental, and it is assumed that users will be able to continue year-on-year, as long as their circumstances (see note re allocation) do not change.
 - 4b. Application for a bay should be in writing with name of plot holder and plot number. Applications should reach the Plot Coordinator before 20th December
 - 4c. Allocation of bays should follow the following criteria:
Be a plot holder

Having a plot in good order both in terms of cultivation and being clear of 'stuff'
Not having a polytunnel or greenhouse

5. Rules and Sanctions

5a. Any general EDAA rules also apply to the polytunnel.

5b. The rules are subject to an annual review but may be adjusted at any time if it is deemed necessary by the EDAA committee.

5c. Failure to observe the EDAA and polytunnel rules may result in immediate termination of rental although normally a two-week warning will be given. Owing to the dependence of users on good practice by all, a lengthy series of warnings is not appropriate.

Agreed by EDAA committee on 18th September 2019