

SALE SPORTS CLUB

RULES FOR PLAYING TENNIS DURING COVID-19 EMERGENCY



The following rules are based on risk assessments carried out by the Tennis Committee using government and LTA advice. Please be patient, we may not have got everything right, and we are moving cautiously. Things may change.

We expect members to follow the rules scrupulously and not to take the threat to themselves or others of the virus lightly.

We are open to suggestions and clarifications as well as explanations.

For general enquires and suggestion please email Sue Walmsley - walmsleysusan@yahoo.co.uk.

For queries about the ClubSpark booking process please email John Graves - john.graves@ntlworld.com

**WE HAVE MEMBERS IN THE VULNERABLE GROUPS AND JUNIORS.
PLEASE OBSERVE THESE RULES RELIGIOUSLY**

GENERAL

1. The clubhouse will not be open so there are NO toilet facilities or washing facilities on site.
2. The car park will be open but players must arrive and leave in a timely manner.
3. Social distancing must be observed AT ALL TIMES – BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER PLAY.
4. Do not play if you have Covid-19 symptoms or have tested positive or you are in quarantine. If you develop symptoms after playing you should arrange for a suitable test.
5. Hand sanitisers MUST be brought and used before and after play.
6. Disinfectant spray or wipes MUST be brought to wipe the key pad and gate handles before and after play – do not assume that the last group has sanitised the locks.
7. If there is a need to administer first aid you should sanitise your hands before and after. There is a first aid kit inside the courts. If you need advice on first aid contact the NHS helpline by phoning 111. If you need help urgently phone 112 or 999. More guidance can be found on the St. John's Ambulance website :
<https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/first-aid-advice/covid-19-advice-for-first-aiders/>

BOOKING COURTS

8. Currently all players must be paid up current members –guests are not permitted.
9. All courts must be booked using the ClubSpark online system.
10. Tennis Section members may book 7 days in advance, with a maximum of 1 booking per day. Each booking can be up to 2 hours in duration, i.e. 4 x 30 minute slots.
11. Non-Tennis Section members may book to 2 days in advance, with a maximum of 1 booking per day. Each booking can be up to 1.5 hours in duration, i.e. 3 x 30 minute slots.
12. The floodlights will not be in use so please make bookings accordingly.
13. Allow five minutes before your session and five minutes at the end to avoid contact with previous and following players.
14. Players under 16 MUST be accompanied by a parent or nominated guardian, either as the other player or as a supervisor.

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15. Social and team practice sessions may now take place. These sessions involve the mixing of players across multiple courts. Courts 4-6 will be block booked on ClubSpark from 14:00-17:00 for Club Social. Attendance of the sessions will be coordinated on the Tennis Whatsapp group, so that all attendees are recorded. All players must observe social distancing rules and sanitize their hands between sets.

RULES FOR PLAY

16. All Tennis Section members may play doubles – but must still observe the rules about social distancing on and off the court and rules concerning use of tennis balls.
17. Non-Tennis Section members may only play singles apart from parents and children from the same household.
18. Players can share tennis balls – however, if you choose to use shared balls then extra care must be taken to ensure you do not touch your face during play, and you should sanitise your hands before play and immediately after finishing, e.g. with a 70% alcohol hand gel.
19. It is recommended to use only 3 balls per court in play at any one time, i.e. the balls belonging to the server. Balls belonging to the non-serving players should be positioned out of the way at the back of the court. A maximum of 8 balls should be used for knocking-up.
20. Players should avoid touching their face and sanitise between games if you have made handled the ball, e.g. by serving.
21. Note – the courts are not cleaned regularly. If you fall you will need to wash.
22. Net winders have been removed for your safety – do not touch the nets OR posts.
23. It is recommended that players remain at one end with no changing ends between games and sets. Where changing of ends takes place, players must change ends from different ends of the net, e.g. in a clockwise rotation.
24. Stray balls must be removed or returned to other players using the end of the racquet – DO NOT USE YOUR HANDS TO RETURN TENNIS BALLS OF OTHERS.
25. Players should not to request people passing the courts (e.g. on the Dane Road pavement) to return stray tennis balls. These should be recovered after the session.
26. PLEASE ALSO SEE THE GUIDANCE FOR PLAYERS ON THE LTA WEBSITE:
<https://www.lta.org.uk/globalassets/news/2020/lta-guidance-for-tennis-players---covid-19.pdf>

ENJOY YOUR TENNIS. FOLLOW THE RULES. STAY SAFE. KEEP OTHERS SAFE.

Players using the courts do so at their own risk; the club cannot not be responsible for ensuring these instructions are adhered to.

Please report any issues using the emails above.

There is a security camera monitoring the courts at all times.