

Dear Member,

In order to play you will need to have paid your 2020/2021 membership subscription, be registered on clubspark, and have booked a court in advance on our new booking system.

In accordance with the Government's Covid-19 announcements and guidance received from the LTA, we have put in place detailed rules to provide a safe environment and ensure social distancing restrictions can be complied with. These rules must be observed at all times, and failure to do so might result in the courts being closed again.

A full risk assessment has been made – if you would like to see this assessment or have any other queries, please contact Sue Wells at sue@suewellsassociates.com.

Ember Sports Club - Rules for play under Covid-19 restrictions

Court booking

- You can only play at Ember Tennis if you have booked a court in advance
- Every adult paid member has been given a link to login to the booking page on Ember Sports club tennis page, by Rob Blundell.
- Booking slots are for 90 minutes, and members are expected to stop play (regardless of the score) and leave 15 minutes before the end of the session to allow for safe changeovers
- Only members who have booked a court should go to the club.
- Members may book 3 sessions in any 7 day period.
- Members can play singles **and doubles with members of other households**
- **For doubles, consider agreeing in advance which player will take the shot if a ball travels to the centre of the court**
- **Stay at least two metres away from other players (including during taking breaks, and before and after play)**
- Members should keep a record of their court bookings, court number and opponents for tracking purposes
- Members should not play if self isolating or feeling ill
- Members should inform the chairman if a person develops Covid-19 within 14 days of using the courts. Members should follow the Government's test and trace guidelines.
- Juniors under the age of 13 must always be supervised by an adult
- Juniors should contact Rob Blundell regarding court bookings
- Visitors are not permitted, unless they are members of your household.
- Visitors fees (£4) for members of your household should be paid by bank transfer using the following details : Ember Sports Club, Sort code 30-99-09, Acc no. 00856286, Reference "Tennis visitor fee"
- The ball machine and floodlights are NOT in use at the current time
- Members should ensure the gates to the courts are shut at the end of play

At the club

- Members should not access the clubhouse – it will be locked

The only exception to this is for emergency first aid – the first aid kit and defibrillator are stored in the telephone kiosk in the clubhouse, and members can access this in an emergency

- Please wash your hands at home before coming to the club, and again when you return home
- Please do not congregate on or around the courts before and after your game.
- Members should bring their own hand sanitiser and full water bottle
- Hand hygiene is imperative – use alcohol gel to clean your hands after touching a shared surface. Members should use alcohol gel after touching any court gates, fences, benches etc, and avoid touching where possible
- Players do not need to use their own clearly marked 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 clean your hands before play and immediately after finishing. We advise that members should still bring their own tennis balls, preferably clearly marked. and should not touch anyone else’s racquet if possible. Ensure racquets are thoroughly cleaned before and after use if shared. The club balls are not available.
- If a ball needs moving to another court, it should be kicked back or pushed with your racket. Please collect any balls hit over the netting before leaving. Avoid chasing the ball down to another court if other players are using it.
- Please change ends at opposite sides of the net
- Please always observe the 2m social distancing rule. Please wait for players to leave before going on court.
- Members are encouraged to use the car park entrance to the club
- If you arrive before your allotted time, please wait in your car or at a safe distance until your court time, and your court has been vacated
- Players on court 3 should use the side gate
- Players should avoid crossing on the drive and the path to courts 6 and 7, including with members of the bowls and croquet sections
- It is suggested members wear gloves to open gates and pick up balls
- Members should not use the benches or hooks on the courts
- Members should not brush the courts
- Please leave the club directly playing – do not linger in the club grounds or car park
- No-one is allowed to watch or wait for another player, except those supervising the U13 players or a parent whose child is being coached

Coaching

- One to one coaching will be taking place on court 5.
- Lessons are available on a 1:1 basis or in groups of up to 6 (including the coach)
- If you are feeling ill in any way please cancel your lesson.
- Please wash hands before arriving at the club and again when you return back home. Please bring any hand sanitiser/wipes/gloves you wish to use.
- Please remember to bring your own racket, refreshments, towel etc. Under no circumstances will any equipment be lent out.
- If you would like to practice your serve during the lesson then please bring your own tennis balls.
- Remember the clubhouse and toilets will be closed.
- Please enter the club via the car park entrance on Grove Way and not the alleyway on The Drive.
- If you are early please wait in your car, the clubhouse is currently closed.
- Unfortunately, there won't be anywhere for accompanying parents to wait at the club (apart from in the car).

- During the lesson we will observe the 2 metre social distancing rules at all times. Most of the time I will be on the other side of the net.
- Please do not touch anything at the club (gates, benches, tennis balls, equipment) the coach will do it for you. Only the coach will pick up the tennis balls during and after the lesson.
- Please cough/sneeze into a tissue or your elbow and you are advised not to touch your face.
- If you do become ill within 14 days of being at the club please do let me know.
- Payments are to be made online.

If you would like to take a lesson with Rob, please get in touch with them using the contact details below.

Rob Blundell 07708704216

Emergencies

In a medical emergency the First Aid Box and Defibrillator are located inside the telephone kiosk in the clubhouse. This is the only circumstance under which anyone may enter the clubhouse.

Remember to wash your hands at home before and after play.

And enjoy your tennis, but please, please act responsibly – it is in everyone’s interest!

Playing tennis in England during the coronavirus outbreak

- Singles & doubles with different households allowed
- Clean equipment after use
- Group coaching for up to 6 people permitted (including the coach)
- Maintain social distancing (2m rule) at all times
- Online/phone bookings and payments advised
- Buffer period between bookings (e.g. 10 mins)
- Follow public health guidelines for hygiene
- Do not play if you are self-isolating

LTA TENNIS FOR BRITAIN

Full guidelines for players, coaches and venues at lta.org.uk/coronavirus