

Warwick Tennis Club

Covid Protocol v5

Note: At the time of preparing this Protocol, 5th August 2020 and in line with Government and LTA guidelines, both singles and doubles play are allowed at the club. There is also no restriction for the doubles pairings to be from the same household; as such all players can be from different households. Adult Club Sessions are now being regularly organised on a Wednesday evening, a Friday evening and Sunday afternoon, but other than that members need to contact one another to arrange play and book courts. **The latest LTA Guidelines can be found on <https://www.lta.org.uk/globalassets/news/2020/lta-guidance-for-tennis-venues---covid-19.pdf>**

For the safety of all concerned, it is paramount that the rules/advice set out below are followed. It is for members and coaches to take responsibility to ensure that this is the case. Members and coaches are expected to use their common sense and act responsibly to ensure that the required level of hygiene and social distancing is maintained at all times.

1 General

In order to access the courts at Warwick Tennis Club, every player on court must:

- a) Be a current member. Please pay the appropriate fee and contact Pat Drummond for her to register you and allow you access to the Booking System. The only exceptions are for: 1) a parent of a Junior (aged 9 or under as of 1st April 2020) who can feed the ball to their child. Note, only one parent at a time allowed to do this;
- b) **Be a guest of a member and that the appropriate fee is paid to Pat Drummond (£5 for Adults and £2 for a Junior). The guest must be made aware of the club rules by the member playing with that person.**
- c) **Have a lesson with one of the club's coaches. If that person is a non-member, then that person (or their parent/guardian if under 18 years) must be made aware of all the club rules by the coach taking the lesson.**
- d) Not have been out of the country in the last 14 days **to a country not on the Government's 'green list'.**
- e) Not have been around someone with symptoms of Covid-19 in the last 14 days
- f) Not be in a period of self-isolation and/or shielding under the current Health Policy Rules
- g) Not be displaying COVID-19 symptoms
- h) Have a court booked.

NB A parent/guardian must accompany any player under 18 years

2 Booking and Arrival

- a) Booking a court time in advance is required; this will assist should contact tracing be required subsequently. To be clear, if you haven't booked a court or had one booked for you, then you cannot use the courts.
- b) All players must ensure Pat Drummond and ClubSpark have their up-to-date contact details (at least their phone number(s) and email address).
- c) All players, and not just the player making the booking, **and whether being coached or not, must be recorded on the ClubSpark booking system. If this is not possible then a record in their personal diary would be acceptable until they were able to use the ClubSpark system. Please let a Committee member know that ClubSpark would not accept the details.** If there is a change to who is playing, please ensure the record is updated.
- d) Players should travel to the club alone or only with a member of the same household.
- e) Ample car parking spaces should be available to ensure social distancing. If players must park next to another car, they must wait for the other person to exit or enter before doing so themselves.

- f) Players should arrive at the court entrance no more than 5 minutes prior to the reserved playing time. It is important that players maintain social distancing and wait in a place that allows for social distancing, particularly when players are leaving the court.
- g) Players must observe social distancing at all times and resist the temptation to mingle.
- h) Do not go onto the court until such time as the previous players have come off.
- i) The Clubhouse, changing rooms and toilets **will remain closed for the most part, although the toilets can be opened if necessary, but should they use them then any surfaces they touch must be cleaned. Players are advised to utilise toilet facilities at home prior to coming to the club.**
- j) Players should arrive in Tennis attire and change footwear in the car or at home if necessary.
- k) Players **must** sanitise their hands before going on court. Members are encouraged to bring their own hand gel, but failing that, members can use the dispensers that will be provided at the entrance to the courts; please do not remove them.

3 Play on Court

- a) Play can be singles play or doubles play and, for the avoidance of doubt, those on court at the same time can be from different households.
- b) In both singles and doubles play where the players are not from the same household, there is now no official requirement to use different sets of tennis balls. Nevertheless, some members may be more comfortable still to have their own marked tennis balls for them to serve with. Please respect that players request.
- c) Players should use their racquet / foot to pick up balls and hit them to their opponent and should avoid using their hands to pick up the balls.
- d) If a ball from another court comes across, players must not pick the ball up, but instead they must send it back with a kick.
- e) Stay at least two metres away from other players (including during play, when taking breaks and before and after play).
- f) Do not make physical contact with other players (such as shaking hands or high five).
- g) Avoid chasing the ball down to another court if other players are using it.
- h) For doubles, consider agreeing in advance which player will take the shot if a ball travels to the centre of the court.
- i) Courts that are side by side can be utilised.
- j) Court 6 can be used for play against the Tennis Wall and if more than one player then please apply the rules as **above where possible**.
- k) Players should avoid touching their face after handling a ball, racquet, or other equipment.
- l) Players should ideally bring a small bottle of hand sanitizer gel with them and keep it in their pocket or bag for use. Whilst the club will attempt to provide some sanitiser, members are encouraged to bring and use their own.
- m) Whereas Courts 1,2 and 6 do not need to be swept/brushed, the clay courts do after each session of play. Using gloves for when you do this is advisable, **but if you do not have any**, then please sanitise your hands before and after doing sweeping the courts and brushing the lines.
- n) Please close the gate after use unless there is someone else waiting to come on.

4. Club Sessions

a) The Club is **allowed again to have** 'Club Sessions', where a member will organise the pairings. **The maximum number of players permitted is 30**. Should there be a need to apply any other restrictions, so as to comply with the latest Government and LTA guidelines, then either the member will communicate the restrictions to you at the time of play or through a change to this Protocol.

Approved by Warwick Tennis Club Committee

Dated 11th August 2020 (updated from 3rd July 2020)