

Gosforth Lawn Tennis Club - Limited re-opening.

As members have probably read, the government guidelines for dealing with the pandemic have eased so that tennis can be played in limited circumstances. Your committee have considered those guidelines in conjunction with guidelines and advice from LTA and propose that the club will re-open as from **9am Monday 18 May 2020**. Play will be permitted, subject to important restrictions, imposed to strike a balance between the enjoyment of playing and being responsible in these difficult times.

The restrictions and principles are set out below. They are subject to review. Hopefully any future review will be in the direction of easing, but if the committee consider that people are being put at risk because the restrictions are not being observed or for general factors in the fight against the disease, the easing may have to be reversed:

Stay safe. Social distancing.

- Maximum of two people per court (singles play only). Players can be from different households.
- The only exception to the above is where a group of up to four players are all from the same household who are permitted to play doubles or in a threesome.
- All play to be **pre-booked** by going on our website and finding the **booking system** under **Latest News**.
- A court may be booked for 30, 60 or maximum 90 minutes. Players **must** leave 10 minutes before the end of their chosen session, in order to allow time to leave the court **and** the site before other players arrive
- Members playing together must not attempt to defeat the system in order to play for longer than the maximum by booking in two names.
- Booking can only be a week ahead and the maximum any one player can pre-book and play during any week under this system is 2 separate sessions of play of any length up to the maximum described above.
- The booking restrictions shall not apply to our coach who shall use his discretion in the interests of the club.
- **NOTE** - only 3 courts will be in use - 1,3 and 5
- **NOTE** - booking rules will be kept under review as the take up is observed.
- **NOTE** - the Clubhouse is to remain closed so that toilets are not available, and players will need to bring their own water.
- Floodlight system which is operated from within the clubhouse will not be used.
- Stay at least 2 metres away from other players at all times (including during play, when taking breaks and before and after play). No handshakes or high fives.

- Stay on your side of the court and avoid changing ends or agree to change ends at the opposite side of the net.
- No spectators are allowed.
- Use your own tennis balls, clearly marked if using a ball of a type not easily distinguished from another. Avoid using your hands on tennis balls which are not your own.
- Bring your own sanitiser and/or your own sanitised wipes and use appropriately on all surfaces touched such as doors and handles. Sanitise your own hands after touching surfaces.
- Because of the risk from touching doors, door handles, gates etc, you may find the front gate propped open. Whether it is propped open or not, and you are the last person leaving the ground, this includes bowlers **AND WHATEVER TIME OF DAY**, you must lock the gate and it is imperative therefore you follow the guideline as to hygiene immediately above this. Anyone not confident of complying with locking the gate, should not book a court.
- To gain admittance to the courts themselves, players will need to use their key to the padlock for this purpose. Such activity will involve handling the padlock and parts of the door which should be cleaned as should hands in manner previously described. Upon vacating court, it is the responsibility of the players to close court down by padlock unless you have been playing on court 1 or 3 and someone remains on the other court
- The table and seating outside the clubhouse have been taped over and are out of bounds.
- Take all your own equipment (do not share equipment such as rackets, grips, hats or towels).
- The club first aid kit is located in a box behind the clubhouse, in case of emergency; however, players are advised to bring their own first aid.
- Any members of the club under 16 shall be accompanied by an adult at all times.

NOTE - THE ABOVE IS IMPORTANT GUIDANCE BUT ALL ACTIVITIES AT THE CLUB ARE UNDERTAKEN ENTIRELY AT YOUR OWN RISK