

## **Approved SSTA Indoor Tennis COVID 19 Restart Plan – June, 2020**

### **Preamble**

Tennis BC in consultation with Provincial stakeholder groups has recently provided member clubs with some draft preventative and protective measures to assist clubs in re-opening for recreational play only. These measures have been used and adapted recently by several municipal and private clubs in the Province to open. They have been adapted and endorsed by the Board for our Salt Spring Tennis Association (SSTA).

In order to accommodate members' play under public health restrictions imposed due to COVID 19, the following preventative and protective measures are to be observed. These measures are consistent with the Orders; Notices & Guidance provided by the Office of the Provincial Health Officer and are intended to:

1. enable SSTA members to utilize the indoor courts under safe conditions during the period of COVID 19 restrictions;
2. demonstrate to government, public health officials, members and neighbours that the SSTA is adopting reasonable preventative and protective measures to safeguard members and neighbours while conducting tennis association activities;
3. remain in place until the Board deems it appropriate to make changes to the measures below, taking into consideration the latest public health rules and guidelines applicable to the Association.

All players entering the indoor courts do so at their own risk and are required to adhere to the measures outlined below. If blatant disregard of the measures below are observed by any person, the Board should be informed as soon as possible. Members of the Association have a unique and unprecedented responsibility to ensure the safety of all on the property and to protect the Association. We also have a responsibility to respect the interests of the Salt

Spring community as a whole. We need to be vigilant on the key issues of social distancing, personal hygiene, and surface cleansing.

### **SSTA Restart Protocols in response to COVID 19**

1. The SSTA start up plan will apply to indoor only. We will not run tournaments or drop-in tennis outdoor when Portlock re-opens because we have no authority to control what happens on the public courts and we don't want to incur any liability.
2. The SSTA indoor start up will not include public bookings. Bookings will be for Members only for the foreseeable future. New memberships will only be issued to persons with a residential address on Salt Spring. New Members must allow 5 days for the processing of their membership. New Membership payments are only accepted through an e-transfer.
3. The SSTA waivers (available on website) are adapted to our needs from prototypes prepared by Tennis BC and in use at the Jericho Tennis Club in Vancouver. Only Members who have acknowledged the waiver via return email to [news@saltspringtennis.ca](mailto:news@saltspringtennis.ca) , studied the protocols listed below and viewed the video demonstrating the protocols will be allowed to play.
4. Junior Members are only eligible to play if their parents (guardians) have acknowledged the SSTA Minor Waiver via email and are accompanied by their parents for the time they have booked. All Junior Bookings must be made through the Club Pro, Marjorie Blackwood.

## **SSTA Indoor Tennis Protocols**

SSTA has developed a protocol for Singles and Doubles tennis at its indoor facility. As these protocols are somewhat unnatural for seasoned tennis players, we encourage you to adopt and practice them during outdoor play as well.

### **Before you play**

Play only with family members, persons living in your household, or individuals considered to be low risk and within your personal bubble. Do not play if you or your playing partner(s): Exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms, such as a fever, cough, difficulty breathing, or other symptoms identified by health experts, or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days, or are considered vulnerable or at risk (elderly individuals, immune suppressed persons, individuals suffering from serious health problems, notably high blood pressure, pulmonary diseases, diabetes, obesity and asthma).

### **Preparing to play**

Only enter and exit the court where you are going to play: either Ross or Elliott court

Protect yourself and others against infections:

- Players must bring their own personal wipes to sanitize surfaces touched before, during and after their game [door keypads, handles, light switches, etc.]. Retain wipes for your own disposal.
- Wash your hands with hand sanitizer when entering and exiting the indoor courts
- Players are to sanitize their equipment including racquets and water bottles
- Players are not to share equipment

Each Court entrance will have a hand sanitizer provided by SSTA

No water will be provided. Players are to bring their own full water bottle.

Avoid touching any surfaces where possible. Frequently touched surfaces like benches, chairs and score cards will be removed.

There is to be no use of the carpeted area between the two courts. This area is difficult to clean and we do not want any player crossing over between courts.

If you wish to sit, please bring your own chair, and remove when leaving.

Leave no garbage, including used wipes, or anything behind.

## **Bookings**

All courts must be pre-booked online through Acebook. Acebook will require the person booking to identify all players for the drop down list of club members and to confirm that all players have met the eligibility requirements by reviewing and agreeing to the waiver, reviewing and agreeing to abide by the protocols and watching the Salt Spring Tennis Centre Safety Protocols video. All players must be identified at the time of booking and must be on the eligible list. All bookings are paid through PayPal. SSTA has moved to a summer rate of \$16/hour for all bookings. Junior Members cannot book through Acebook and must go through the Club Pro, Marjorie Blackwood for their bookings.

Booking times slots will be available for 1, 1 ½, and 2 hours. Acebook will automatically space out bookings allowing 30 minutes between bookings to allow leaving group to sanitize and leave before new group sanitizes and comes in. Block Bookings will not be available until further notice.

## **Entering Indoor Courts**

Players must not enter the Green or Blue waiting areas until previous players have left.

## **While playing**

As much as possible, players should keep a 2 metre distance with others.

Avoid touching surfaces. Clean if touched.

Avoid all physical contact (Such as shaking hands, high fives, etc)

Avoid touching your face

Each player must use their own balls for serving, initialled with a permanent marker. ONLY where all players on the court live in the same household may one can of balls be used and shared.

Convey your opponent's balls back to them without touching them with your hands, sanitized racquets only.

Doubles players are to maintain awareness of the 6 ft. rule for physical distancing. Players are encouraged to monitor and remind other Doubles players of the physical distancing rule to safeguard the interests of all players and the community.

The person who is responsible for opening and closing the overhead gates should sanitize their hands before and after.

## **After playing**

Leave the court immediately after the booking time elapses.

Wipe surfaces as you leave

Wash your hands carefully with hand sanitizer after you have left

## **Miscellaneous**

Washrooms are for emergencies only. Members will be responsible for cleaning and sanitizing if use is required.

Change and shower at home.

Ball machine is not available

No spectators

Volunteer monitors will be performing random checks to ensure that players understand and are utilizing the protocols.

Due to the specific nature of lessons, Coaches have produced their own lesson flow which will apply to Junior and Adult Members who come for lessons. Lessons will be available for Members only.

### **Video Demonstration on YouTube**

SSTA has produced a YouTube video demonstrating how these protocols work for singles and doubles play. All players must view the video, Salt Spring Tennis Centre Safety Protocols (<https://youtu.be/X1OgsepgCk4>) before they make a booking and commence play.

### **Indoor Court Cleaning Procedures**

SSTA has purchased a robotic vacuum system to clean each court every other day. Volunteer cleaners will have appropriate gloves, coveralls and masks available to them for emptying the vacuum and conducting any ancillary cleaning activities.

Persons requiring the use of the washroom facilities on emergency basis only will have the equipment available to them to clean and sanitize washroom after use.