
Return to Play Tennis Court Guidelines

Issued: June 20, 2020

Mt. Pleasant Tennis Courts - 555 Burtch Rd. (2 courts)

Burford Elementary School Tennis Courts - 14 Potter Drive (2 courts)

Tennis Court Hours:

Public Access Hours are daily (7 days a week) 7:00 am - 10:30 pm.

Gates will be unlocked during these hours.

Physical Distancing:

- Players must practice physical distancing; staying a minimum of 2 metres away from others at any time. Handshakes, high-fives and/or elbow taps are not recommended. A simple thumbs up from a distance is a recommended alternative.
- For singles and doubles play, players are required to bring their own uniquely marked balls or different colours to identify their own set of balls.
- Each player should only pick up balls by hand that are marked as their own. When returning balls to a partner, or if balls travel to another court, players should return them using only their racquet - never their hands.

Cleanliness & Hygiene Strategies:

It is estimated that the virus responsible for COVID-19 can be transmitted through the sharing and handling of tennis/pickle balls, gate locks, benches, the net and possibly the court itself. Use at your own risk. Players are urged to take extra precautions before, during and after their time on the court:

- Use hand sanitizer before and after opening gates and locks or activating lights
- All individuals are encouraged to thoroughly wash their hands and bring plenty of hand sanitizer with them to sterilize their hands often during play. Players should avoid touching their face.

- Players are reminded to be vigilant about coughing or sneezing into a tissue or into the crook of their elbow and to immediately dispose of any used tissue; always wash your hands immediately after (or use sanitizer if soap and water is not readily available).
- For extra protection, players may wear a glove on the hand that tosses the ball during their serve, noting that, even wearing a glove is not safe if a player touches their face with it. Alternately, players are encouraged to use hand sanitizer often - between points and/or during changeovers.
- Players should refrain from touching nets and net posts.
- Players should refrain from sharing racquets, water bottles, towels and other personal items with their playing partners.
- Note - outdoor court surfaces will not be sanitized or disinfected.
- Upon returning home, it is recommended that players sanitize the bottom of their court shoes (prior to entering the home) and then wash their hands.
- Players must refrain from playing and stay home if they:
 - are not feeling well or are exhibiting flu-like symptoms, or any known coronavirus symptoms, (incl. fever, cough, difficulty breathing, etc.).
 - have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 and/or flu-like symptoms in the previous 14 days.
 - have been out of the country in the previous 14 days.
 - are considered vulnerable or at risk (elderly individuals, immunosuppressed persons and/or individuals suffering from serious health problems - notably high blood pressure, pulmonary diseases, diabetes, obesity and asthma).

Tennis Activities:

- All courts are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- Tennis courts are available from 7:00 am until dusk, unless lights are installed, then play can be extended until 10:30 pm
- Singles play should occur on all courts
- Doubles may only be played in accordance to the Ontario Tennis Association, HOW TO PLAY DOUBLES SAFELY DURING COVID-19 document posted on their website.
<https://www.tennisontario.com/pages/playing-doubles-safely>
- Players will be permitted to play in 45 minute blocks of time. The time can be extended if no one is waiting to play. Please wait 5 minutes for the court to be cleared before setting up for the next block of time.
- Where possible, only one parent/guardian should accompany younger children. Parents should remain outside the courts and away from entry points while waiting
- No large group activities, spectators or social gatherings are permitted on the court
- Private lessons are permitted with one instructor and four students as long as physical distancing measures can be maintained.

Court Protocols:

- No street shoes are allowed on courts. Only tennis shoes may be worn. Proper tennis attire, including a shirt, is required at all times.

- Gates shall be closed at all times. Each user is responsible for locking the gate when finished playing, where applicable
- All tennis court rules, regulations and courtesies shall be observed.
- Tennis courts are to be used for tennis only. No bicycles, skates, skateboards, in-line skates, hockey or other activities permitted.
- No glass containers, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products or pets are permitted in the tennis court area.
- Sitting, pushing or pulling on tennis nets is prohibited.
- Climbing on, hitting or kicking balls into, or running into fences is prohibited.
- Non-players must stay out of the court area at all times.
- No littering, use garbage cans that are provided.
- Anyone causing a disturbance will be required to leave the tennis court area. Disturbances include, but are not limited to fighting, foul language, inappropriate music and music volume.

Any violation of the tennis court protocols may result in denial of access or revocation of your key or membership.

**Please report any facility problems to: parksandrec@brant.ca
or call 519-44-BRANT (519-442-7268)**

For the following concerns, please email COVID-19@brant.ca or call 519.761.8391

- Suspected breach of quarantine or self-isolation
- Groups of more than five people congregating
- Those not practicing social distancing

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