

Reopening Racquet Sports at Private Clubs

May 28, 2020

Presented by

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Henry Wallmeyer

**President and CEO
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Coronavirus What Clubs Need to Know

Listen: NCA's Joe Trauger Updates Clubs on a New Relief Bill and How Your Voice Can Help

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Resources

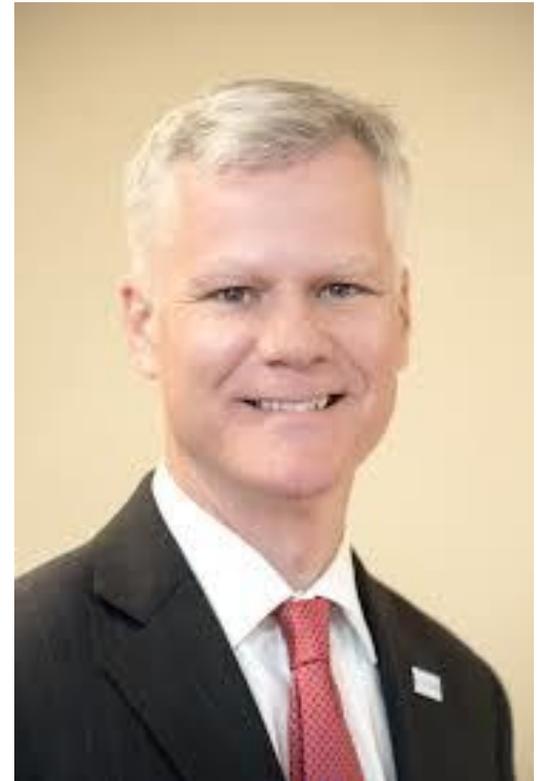
Clubs are facing challenging times as they navigate the day-to-day operations while facing the COVID-19 crisis. From closed operations, increased absenteeism, flexible work schedules, cancelled events, NCA is working to provide club leaders with resources they need to operate during this unprecedented time.

Reopening

- [Considerations for Youth and Summer Camps](#), CDC
- [Activities Supporting the Opening of America](#), CDC
- [Opening Camps Decision Tree](#), CDC
- [CDC Releases Guidelines for Reopening Restaurant Dining Rooms and Bars](#), Restaurant Hospitality
- [Field Guide for Camps on Implementation of CDC Guidance](#), American Camp Association and YMCA of the USA
- [Route to Recovery: Healing Through Sports](#), Sports Turf Managers Association
- [Equinox, SoulCycle, Life Time, Others Release Reopening Protocols](#), Club Industry
- [Getting F&B Back to Business: Focus on Employees](#), Hotels Mag
- [Bar Industry Guidelines](#), American Industrial Hygiene Association
- [Childcare Centers Guidelines](#), American Industrial Hygiene Association
- [Field Guide for Camps on Implementation of CDC Guidance](#), American Camp Association and YMCA of the USA
- [COVID-19 Reopening Fitness Facilities and Return to Play Resources](#), American College of Sports Medicine
- [Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds During COVID-19](#), CDC

Joe Trauger

**Vice President of Government Relations
National Club Association**



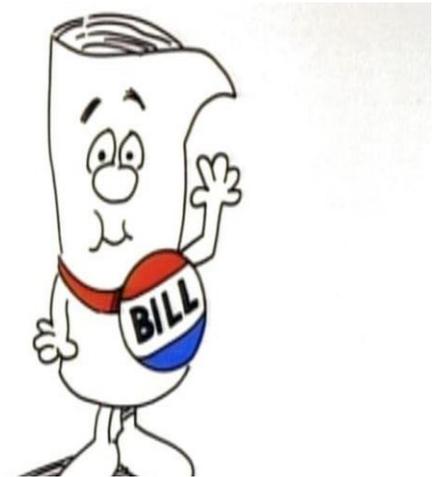
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The Path Ahead

- H.R. 6800, The HEROES Act is a piece of legislation that has only passed the House
- Republicans have dismissed as a wish list
- Included an expansion of PPP to all 501(c) organizations
- PPP legislation in the House this week - "skinny version"
- Effort late last week in Senate, but deferred to House

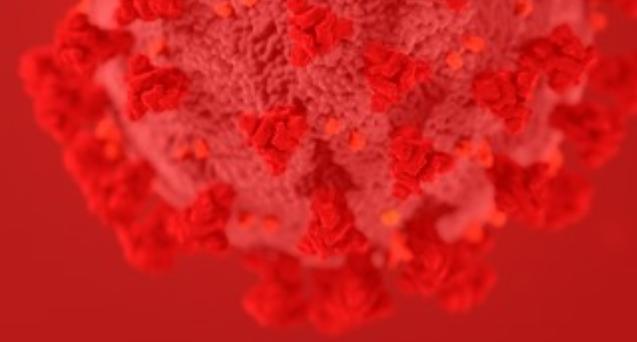
- Liability protections being discussed for businesses
- Early to mid-June before anything happens

- H-2B program being discussed
- NCA signed letter to President
- Senate letter to President



Visit nationalclub.org/coronavirus for more information

Dan Santorum



**Chief Executive Officer
Professional Tennis Registry / Professional Pickleball Registry**



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Reopening Racquet Sports at Private Clubs



TENNIS INDUSTRY UNITED



Relief. Recover. Rebuild.

Your weekly newsletter for information, resources and advice to navigate this unprecedented time.

THIS WEEK:

- Federal Updates: New EEOC Guidance for Return to Work
- Daily Blog: "Re-Opening, How To Decide If It Is Safe to Do So"
- Webinar On Demand: "Game Planning your Coaching for the Return to Tennis: Safe & Steady Measures"
- Podcast Episode 7: "USTA Grants for Teaching Pros and Getting Back on Court"

[LEARN MORE](#)

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Tennis Industry United website:

<https://www.usta.com/en/home/organize/program-resources/national/tennis-industry-united-overview.html>



"The (USOPC) issued what I think are really strong return-to-play guidelines," said Tom Farrey, executive director of the institute's Sport & Society program. "What you have are a lot of organizations who are not paying attention to (those) and are just sort of drawing up their own ideas on how to bring back play. They've been waiting for the [CDC guidelines](#) which came out May 20th -- also super solid. But these are advisory. And the only group that needs to check off on return to play is that local public health official."



Guiding Principles to Keep in Mind

The risk of COVID-19 spread increases in youth sports settings as follows: (Play/*Programming*)

- **Lowest Risk:** Playing singles; doubles with family
Private Lessons (Key: self improvement!)
- **Increasing Risk:** Playing doubles. *Semi-private*
- **More Risk:** team practice or intra-competition.
Group lessons
- **Even More Risk:** Full competition between teams from the same local geographic area. *Social events intracub*
- **Highest Risk:** Full competition between teams from different geographic areas. *Social events with guests*



RETURN TO PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

USTA ADULT LEAGUE

Updated May 14, 2020

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has been affecting different parts of the country in different ways and with different timing. Therefore, we believe safely returning to play will be possible in some cities and states sooner than in others. Before doing so, please review federal, state and local guidelines to make informed decisions as to when play can recommence.

In addition to the Playing Tennis Safely recommendations for players, facilities, and programming issued by the USTA on April 22, 2020, available on tennisindustryunited.com, here are some additional recommendations to consider when hosting a USTA Adult League.

FORMAT / PLAY MODIFICATIONS	FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use alternate scoring formats and stagger match courts and times to decrease the amount of time on-site per player. <p>Advise Players to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check with the host facility ahead of time for any protocols that may apply at that facility. Arrive at the facility close to assigned start time, ready to play, and depart immediately. Bring their own water bottles, towel, or any other personal equipment and store them inside their tennis bag when not in use. Bring their own chairs and avoid sharing a bench with a teammate and/or opponent. Use headbands, hats, towels or wristbands to avoid touching their faces during play. Wash hands often (before / after matches.) Clearly verbalize score at the start of each point and use technology to report scores (text and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow all state and CDC guidelines in reference to cleaning and disinfecting of all facility areas. Post safety notices for players, officials, and spectators. Provide antibacterial wipes and hand sanitizer near all courts and common areas. Advise staff to wear masks and gloves when checking players in, and wash hands often. Keep gates open (where possible, and not dangerous) to minimize contact with common surfaces upon entering/exiting the court. Capture and retain accurate participant information in the event contact tracing becomes necessary. Observe social distancing in all areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit large congregations at the tournament desk, players' lounge/locker rooms, and everywhere on site. Designate areas for players to position personal items/equipment during play



RETURN TO PLAY RECOMMENDATIONS

USTA ADULT TOURNAMENTS

Updated May 14, 2020

The United States Tennis Association (USTA) recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has been affecting different parts of the country in different ways and with different timing. Therefore, we believe safely returning to play will be possible in some cities and states sooner than in others. Before doing so, please review federal, state and local guidelines to make informed decisions as to when play can recommence.

In addition to the Playing Tennis Safely recommendations for players, facilities, and programming issued by the USTA on April 22, 2020, available on tennisindustryunited.com, here are some additional recommendations to consider when hosting a USTA Adult Tournament.

FORMAT / PLAY MODIFICATIONS	FACILITY RECOMMENDATIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start with one-day tournaments. Use alternate scoring formats and stagger match courts and times to decrease the amount of time on-site per player. Use the round-robin app to facilitate check-in and communication with players. Use USTA Officials when possible to assist with your event. (See USTA Officiating Recommendations.) <p>Advise Players to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check with the host facility ahead of time for any protocols that may apply at that facility. Arrive at the facility close to assigned start time, ready to play, and depart immediately. Bring their own water bottles, towel, or any other personal equipment and store them inside their tennis bag when not in use. Bring their own chairs and avoid sharing a bench with a teammate and/or opponent. Use headbands, hats, towels or wristbands to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow all state and CDC guidelines in reference to cleaning and disinfecting of all facility areas. Post safety notices for players, officials, and spectators. Provide antibacterial wipes and hand sanitizer near all courts and common areas. Advise staff to wear masks and gloves when checking players in, and wash hands often. Keep gates open (where possible, and not dangerous) to minimize contact with common surfaces upon entering/exiting the court. Capture and retain accurate participant information in the event contact tracing becomes necessary. Observe social distancing in all areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limit large congregations at the tournament desk, players' lounge/locker rooms, and everywhere on site. Designate areas for players to position personal items/equipment during play.



COVID-19
PLAYING TENNIS SAFELY
PLAYER TIPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



WHEN PLAYING, PRACTICE THESE SAFETY GUIDELINES:



Try to stay at least six feet apart from other players.

Do not make physical contact with them (such as shaking hands or a high five).



Consider playing singles.

Playing singles could help prevent incidental contact and unwanted proximity. If you do play doubles, avoid all incidental contact.



Use Four Balls or Six Balls

Although unlikely, it's possible that a tennis ball can transmit the COVID-19 virus, as virtually any hard surface can transmit the disease. So here is an extra precaution you can take to keep safe when playing tennis:

Open two cans of tennis balls that do not share the same number on the ball.

Take one set of numbered balls, and have your playing partner take a set of balls from the other can.

Proceed with play, making sure to pick up your set of numbered balls only. Should a ball with the other number wind up on your side of the court, do not touch the ball with your hands. Use your racquet head or feet to advance the ball to the other side of the court.



Between points, use your racquet/foot to pick up balls and hit them to your opponent.

Avoid using your hands also when returning balls to another court.



Wash your hands thoroughly or use a hand sanitizer before, during, and after play.



Stay on your side of court.

Avoid changing ends of the court.



Clean and wipe down your equipment, including racquets and water bottles.

Use new balls and a new grip, if possible.



Avoid touching your face after handling a ball, racquet or other equipment.

Wash your hands promptly if you have touched your eyes, nose or mouth.



Use only your own towels and water bottles.

Avoid sharing food and touching common surfaces such as court gates, fences, benches, etc.

- Physical Distancing
- Proper ball pick up
- Switch sides?
- Avoid Touching Face
- Start with singles
- Wash hands/hand sanitizer
- Wipe down equipment
- Bring towel and water
- Tennis ball use

To see the USTA's full list of guidelines and recommendations, visit:

[usta.com/playersafety](https://www.usta.com/playersafety)



Sanitizing Tennis Balls

What eliminates the Corona Virus on surfaces?

- UV
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Ozone - O₃

Meeting with USTA Medical Advisory Staff



**Ozone vs. Coronavirus:
Ozone's Efficacy as a
Virucidal Disinfectant**
Restoration & Remediation Magazine

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Will **ozone** work as a virucide, especially in regard to SARS-CoV-2?

“You betcha! Ozone is very effective at inactivating viruses, especially enveloped viruses like the SARS-CoV-2. Within seconds, ozone solubilizes the lipid membrane of the virus. Ozone will inactivate SARS-CoV-2”

Dr. Paul Meechan PhD, MPH, RPB, CBSP, SM(NRCM). Center for Disease Control (CDC),



How do you sanitize tennis balls?

<https://youtu.be/FS8gBiDtLAE>

Portable Ozone Generators

www.boie.us/dc-sportsman-junior.php

What some PTR members are also doing

- Arrive ready to play and shower at home
- Use every other court
- Lessons/play = 50 minutes with 10 minutes in between
- Removing benches
- Leave court gates open

What some PTR members are doing

- Remove the net crank
- Remove score cards
- Umpires Chairs
- Install/secure hand sanitizers to each side of net post
- Semi-private lessons (2 to 3 players):
 - Three students on the court and rotate in a triangle

What some PTR members are doing

- Members sign a participant waiver prior to playing
- No racquet or paddle demos
- No ball machines
- Contact tracing



Tennis gloves - Bionic

- My story
- Good grip on the racquet
- Forces not to grip racquet too tight due to grip changes
- Natural Sunscreen and no slippery mess
- Does not transmit germs

www.bionicgloves.com



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COVID-19: An incredible opportunity for the Club Industry But you have to get it right!



What we know

- In times of uncertainty or distress people return to where they feel safe/comfortable – That is country clubs.
- We have the opportunity and responsibility to think outside the box and try new things without fear of failing
- It only takes 1 person to ruin a great thing – Procedures and Guidelines must be implemented, followed and enforced by all.
- We have 2 responsibilities. 1 to our Staff and 2 to our Membership



Phased Openings / Procedures

- Why this is important and what happens if this is not followed?
- What does tennis and pickleball courts look like?
- How that may change from Phase 1 to Phase 5?
- It is ok to step back to jump forward – Look to your phases.

(the more phases - smoother the transition)

Phased Openings / Procedures

- Bathrooms/Locker rooms
- Chairs and Trash cans
- Water
- Tennis/Pickle Balls and teaching equipment
- Guest Policy
- How this will change as you move through your phases

Phased Openings / Procedures

- Demos – Always consider touch points
- Limit the amount of courts
- If you offer doubles how can you say no to leagues?
- Singles, Doubles with couples, Doubles – 3 phases right there
- Members responses and how you can go back to phasing forward or backward
- Examples of what we are currently offering at BCC and other clubs around the country



Staffing

- What you do when you are closed, determines the success you have when you are open.
- You must be both adaptable and prepared. You can't be one without the other. (Tennis/Pickleball – Who is now coming to tennis that wasn't before)
- Racquets Professionals over Tennis Professionals
- Increased demand for Pickleball means increased demand for racquets



Staffing

- Increased demand for Cardio (why and how to prepare)
- **For every adult clinic you need to offer a junior option at the same time!**
- Invest in more staff to enforce social distancing and meet member demand in a safe environment. (Yes this means costs go up but so does revenue. Long term picture is membership growth)
- It is our job to make sure we are welcoming members home to a safe environment to bring their families
- Your staff will be your greatest success.



Programming

- It is imperative to have more options/programs than ever before
- How many players per pro on a court – Why this matters
- Examples of successful clinics – Cardio, Ladies/Men’s drills, 8 and under, Juniors
- Pickleball and now Junior Pickleball
- Adapt, Adapt, Adapt
- This will change our industry forever



Programming

- Most Important – For every adult clinic you need to offer a junior clinic at the same time
- More staffing – It comes down to safety – Only book what you can handle
- There are no 40 hour work weeks anymore and that is FANTASTIC!
- What we've seen – New players coming to tennis from all over the club for the first time
- Camps or multiple extended Junior Clinic Options – You can work with what your Government allows
- What we have seen at BCC and throughout the country



Pro Shop

- Limit Capacity
- Masks and Gloves -- at all times
- What is most important to stock and what is selling
- Staff the Shop or Staff the court? Making smart decisions
- Racquet stringing



Finally

- What is our responsibility to our membership
- How can we achieve success while staying safe
- It is ok to be scared but make sure you are also an expert
- Greater expense but at end of the storm a surplus in membership
- Make sure you do it right – There are no shortcuts
- Never been a greater opportunity to lead/succeed than right now



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Thank you !
&
Questions ?



Jarrett Chirico

**Director of Racquets
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"I need to do my part in supporting NCA the way you are supporting everyone else."