Reopening Racquet Sports at Private Clubs

May 28, 2020

Presented by
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Jarrett Chirico, Director of Racquets, Baltimore Country Club

Moderated by
Joe Trauger, VP of Government Relations, National Club Association
Henry Wallmeyer

President and CEO
National Club Association

Visit nationalclub.org/coronavirus for more information
Coronavirus
What Clubs Need to Know

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

Become Part of the NCA Network
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: Focust 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
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

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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 intraclub*

- **Highest Risk**: Full competition between teams from different geographic areas. *Social events with guests*
## Format / Play Modifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modification</th>
<th>Facility Recommendations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Use alternate scoring formats and stagger match</td>
<td>Follow all state and CDC guidelines in reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>courts and times to decrease the amount</td>
<td>to cleaning and disinfecting of all facility areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of time on-site per player.</td>
<td>Post safety notices for players, officials, and spectators.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advise Players to:</td>
<td>Provide antibacterial wipes and hand sanitizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Check with the host facility ahead of time for</td>
<td>near all courts and common areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>any protocols that may apply at that facility.</td>
<td>Advise staff to wear masks and gloves when</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Arrive at the facility close to assigned start</td>
<td>checking players in, and wash hands often.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>time, ready to play, and depart immediately.</td>
<td>Keep gates open (where possible, and not</td>
</tr>
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<td>- Bring their own water bottles, towel, or any</td>
<td>dangerous) to minimize contact with common</td>
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<tr>
<td>other personal equipment and store them</td>
<td>surfaces upon entering/exiting the court.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inside their tennis bag when not in use.</td>
<td>Capture and retain accurate participant information in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Bring their own chairs and avoid sharing a</td>
<td>the event contact tracing becomes necessary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bench with a teammate and/or opponent.</td>
<td>Observe social distancing in all areas:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Use headbands, hats, towels or wristbands to</td>
<td>- Limit large congregations at the tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>avoid touching their faces during play.</td>
<td>desk, players’ lounge/locker rooms, and everywhere on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Wash hands often (before / after matches.)</td>
<td>site.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Clearly verbalize score at the start of each</td>
<td>- Designate areas for players to position</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>point and use technology to report scores (text and</td>
<td>non-tournament items/amenities.</td>
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## Facility Recommendations

- 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:
  - Limit large congregations at the tournament desk, players’ lounge/locker rooms, and everywhere on site.
  - Designate areas for players to position non-tournament items/amenities.

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<td>Use the round-robin app to facilitate check-in</td>
<td>near all courts and common areas.</td>
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<td>and communication with players.</td>
<td>Advise staff to wear masks and gloves when</td>
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<td>Use USTA Officials when possible to assist with</td>
<td>checking players in, and wash hands often.</td>
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<td>your event. (See USTA Officiating Recommendations.)</td>
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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 tennisingularity.com, here are some additional recommendations to consider when hosting a USTA Adult Tournament.
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
Sanitizing Tennis Balls

What eliminates the Corona Virus on surfaces?

- UV
- Hydrogen peroxide
- Ozone - $O_3$

Meeting with USTA Medical Advisory Staff
Ozone vs. Coronavirus: Ozone’s Efficacy as a Virucidal Disinfectant
Restoration & Remediation Magazine
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
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
Thank you!

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Questions?
Jarrett Chirico

Director of Racquets
Baltimore Country Club

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Effective & Responsive Leadership

“\text{\textit{I need to do my part in supporting NCA the way you are supporting everyone else.}}}”