

## **Bolton Swim and Tennis**

### **Message to BST Membership Regarding Reopening of Tennis Courts**

**May 29, 2020**

BST Members:

Governor Hogan and Mayor Young have made recent announcements that directly impact the use of BST's facilities by members. We have begun developing new rules and guidelines related to opening all aspects of our facility, but this message addresses BST's tennis courts only.

With Baltimore City tennis courts now open, BST will open our tennis courts on Friday, May 29.

As the Board has worked to create the guidelines below, one thing is very apparent: the situation is very fluid. Consequently, these guidelines are subject to change. We will send messages alerting our membership to changes as they occur, so please be sure to watch your email or our website.

We are opening the tennis courts under the following conditions:

1. To meet our obligation to assist public health authorities with contact tracing in the event a BST member contracts COVID-19, all BST members will have to use our online reservation system to reserve a court.
2. Reservations and play are permitted for BST members only.
3. All reservations will be for one hour, on the hour. In addition, please follow these guidelines:
  - a. Members may schedule courts no more than two days in advance.
  - b. Reserved courts will be held for no more than 15 minutes after the hour. After that time, the court will be available for open play until the next reserved hour.
  - c. Members may reserve courts for no more than once a day and no more than three times a week for times between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m., as under current rules.
  - d. Members must list all players when making a reservation.
4. Play is limited to daylight hours. Members should not use the lights on the hard courts. The reservation system will allow you to schedule non-daylight hours, but please limit your scheduled hours from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (play ending at 8:00 p.m.).
5. For this initial opening period, we will follow current rules for Courts 1 and 2: Children 16 and under must have permission from the club pro Yon Armstrong to use these courts. For Courts 3 and 4, children are encouraged to play, but - in a change from our current rules - *they must be accompanied by an adult on the court or on an adjacent*

*court.* Please be aware that, if all other courts are in use, this may mean an adult playing with more than one child will take us out of compliance with the 10-person rule. In that event, only one child may play.

6. Members can make reservations as follows:
  - a. Go to: <https://clients.mindbodyonline.com/classic/ws?studioid=537138>
  - b. Enter the email address you use for BST and click "Need a New Password."
  - c. A link for creating a new password will be emailed to you.
  - d. Click on the link for a new password and set your new password.
  - e. When you are logged in, you will see your personal information screen. (You may not see all of the family members linked to your account on this screen. This will be fixed and will not impact your ability to reserve a tennis court.)
  - f. Click on the tab labeled "Tennis Court Reservations" in the upper right of your screen.
  - g. On the Tennis Court Reservation screen, you may select the court and time you prefer.
  - h. Click the button labeled "Sign Up."
  - i. Click "Make Reservation for Someone Else."
  - j. Enter your name and the names of all BST members with whom you will be playing during this time.
  - k. When you complete the reservation, you will see this reflected in the "My Information" tab of your online BST account under "My Schedule," and an email confirmation will be sent to you.
7. We have designated Court 1 for doubles play and Courts 2, 3, and 4 for singles play. This provides maximum access for BST members while we are governed by the 10-person limit. This approach spreads 10 people over the four courts at any one time.
8. BST staff will brush and line the Har-Tru courts two to three times a day. Players coming onto these courts may, at their option, use some of their time to brush and line the courts prior to play, but please sanitize after using the tools.
9. The sole entrance to the tennis courts will be through the Park Avenue gate. The code for the lock on the gate is 1909. BST will provide sanitizer wipes by the gate.
10. During this initial opening period, no access to the other facilities of the club will be provided. Thus, tennis players will not have access to bathrooms. BST will not provide water jugs on the tennis courts. Please bring your own water bottles.
11. Please arrive at least five minutes before you are scheduled to play. To follow social distancing guidelines, those waiting to play should not congregate at the gate, but enter separately and wait in the grassy area by Court 4 – still maintaining the six foot spacing and wearing your mask — until your reserved court is available. Please use sanitizer or wipes on your hands before play and after using the lock. We would appreciate

members bringing their own wipes. BST will provide sanitizing wipes on the upper and lower courts, between the two courts.

12. Upon completion of play, if no one arrives after 15 minutes, or, if upon checking the reservation system when your play is complete, it is clear no one is scheduled for the next hour, members may extend their play.
13. Once your play is over, quickly gather your equipment, maintain proper social distancing, put on your mask, and leave the court for the next players. It is best to apply sanitizer or wipes after you leave the court and exit through gate.
14. In this initial phase, Yon Armstrong will not offer lessons at BST. However, he is providing lessons at Suburban County Club, so contact him at 410-241-6742 if you want to schedule lessons.
15. Refresh your knowledge of BST rules by going to our website, <http://www.boltonswimandtennis.org/rules>. Please note the limitations on reserving courts—once a day and no more than three times a week, as mentioned above.

Thanks in advance for respecting these “new normal” rules and guidelines. We all will have a lot to learn as we go forward. Our full opening will be incremental but deliberative. Be alert for messages outlining changes to these tennis guidelines and for similar guidelines about access to the pool and playground.

In closing, we request that all members to honor these guidelines. We promise to review them often and invite you to forward any questions or concerns to BST Secretary Kevin DeBell ([secretary@boltonswimandtennis.org](mailto:secretary@boltonswimandtennis.org)). He will distribute as appropriate so you get a response. We will have to depend on our existing strong sense of community to get us through this period. As a Board, we will maintain our responsibility to our members and our staff and will reach out to remind recalcitrant members of these guidelines in the event they continually disregard them. Our current club rules allow the Board discretion, but also gives it power to act in the event members refuse or are unable to follow these and other guidelines. We would only take such action with the greatest reluctance, but, depending on the transgression, with firmness.