



STEVE PIERCE
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UPDATED AS OF MAY 15, 2020

We are pleased to announce the Town of Wilton has re-opened the Wilton High School/Route 7 tennis courts on a limited basis subject to social distancing requirements and USTA guidelines for safe play. Select courts will now be available for singles (family or non-family) or doubles (family only) play and by reservation only, 7 days a week from 9:30 am – 4:45 pm. Please see the guidelines for singles (family or non-family) and doubles play (family only) below.

The Phase 1 protocol below introduces tennis on a restricted basis and may be adjusted for changing circumstances and experience after opening. Access to courts will be rolled out in phases, each with a specific and distinct protocol. The cooperation of those using the facilities is important to keep the community safe and to lay the groundwork for continued facility openings. By phasing in use of recreation facilities, we hope to enhance family recreational opportunities on a limited basis until we are permitted to resume normal use of these amenities.

We appreciate your understanding during this challenging time. If you have any questions, please contact Steve Pierce at steve.pierce@wiltonct.org

Summary of Phase 1 Protocol

- Prior to playing, please read all of the information here, which will also be available for review at the tennis courts.
- Tennis court use during Phase 1 is restricted to Wilton residents only. No guests allowed.
- Do not play if you have:
 - Any symptoms of the Coronavirus (mild to severe respiratory illness with fever, cough, and difficulty breathing or other symptoms identified by the CDC).
 - Been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
 - Not been compliant with social distancing requirements in the past 14 days.
 - Are a vulnerable individual. A vulnerable individual is an elderly individual and/or an individual with serious underlying health conditions.

- Court use is by reservation ONLY, no walk ups. Reservations must be made online through the [Wilton Parks & Recreation website](http://www.wiltonparksandrec.org). Contact Gregg Zulkeski at kregg.zulkeski@wiltonct.org if you are unable to access the Parks & Recreation website.
 - Court reservations are for 1 hour. There will be a 15 minute interval between each available court time. Please arrive and leave courts promptly.
 - Reservations must be made 24 hours in advance.
- Play is limited only to Wilton residents and only to the following formats:
 - Singles, family or non-family.
 - Doubles, family only.
 - Children under 12 may play with a parent on court; no non-playing children are allowed on court.
- Address any questions or concerns to the on-site court monitor.
- Noncompliance with the rules will result in removal from the court and the loss of the ability to sign up for additional court time.

Additional Safety Measures

Preparing to Play

- Players should bring a new can of balls.
- Players should clean and wipe down all equipment, including racquets and water bottles. Players should not share equipment such as racquets, tennis balls, grips, hats and towels.
- Players must bring their own water. The water fountain will not be available for use.
- No food of any kind should be consumed on/around courts.
- If you need to sneeze or cough do so into a tissue or upper sleeve.
- Arrive as close to court reservation time as possible and park away from other vehicles.
- Do not touch court gates, fences, etc.

When Playing

- Keep social distance from others on the court – at least six feet apart.
- Nets, fences, and net posts should not be touched.
- Use a racquet/foot to pick up balls. Avoid using hands to pick up balls.
- No changing sides of the court – players must remain on same side as started throughout the entire court time.
- If a ball from another court comes to you, use your racquet head or feet to advance the ball to the other side of the court.



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When Playing Family Doubles Play

- Doubles Play is for Families Only.
- 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).
- You should consider not playing doubles, which could lead to incidental contact and unwanted proximity. If you do play doubles, avoid all incidental contact.
- NO Bryan Brothers chest bumps and NO whispering to each other from a close distance to strategize.
- 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.
- Remain apart from other players when taking a break.

When Playing Non-Family Singles Play

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 are extra precautions that 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.

After Playing

- After play is over, take all personal items, balls, and trash away with you.
- Please leave courts promptly.
- No socializing outside the courts.
- Wash hands or use hand sanitizer after play.
- The tennis courts will be closed and locked every day at 4:45 pm, at which time the courts are considered closed and all municipal rules governing closed facilities during this pandemic take effect.