

# STAVERTON PARISH COUNCIL

## RE-OPENING OF THE TENNIS COURT

After requests from residents of Staverton that the tennis court be open Staverton Parish Council has looked at all the guidance available from Government and LTA sources and has reached the conclusion that this can be done safely if everyone follows these guidelines.

### ACTION PLAN TO OPEN THE COURT

1. Signage and posters to be clearly displayed around the court setting out strict guidelines on how to use the court and on self-distancing & hygiene.
2. Both gates to be secured open at all times, negating the need to touch them whilst entering and leaving.
3. One gate to be the ENTRANCE and one gate to be the EXIT.
4. A 2 meter area will be marked out at both sides of each of the gates to enable social distancing on entering and leaving the court.
5. Directional arrows to be marked at either side of the net so users can follow these in a CLOCKWISE DIRECTION when changing ends.
6. A volunteer Councillor to regularly sanitise the main touch points in the court such as the gates, top of the net and net posts.
7. Restricting people on the court to no more than 4 people at any one time from no more than 2 separate households.
8. All tennis players to be instructed to sanitize hands, their own balls and tennis racquets before and after playing on the court.
9. Players should not linger on the court before or after play and move away as far as possible.
10. No other sports equipment such as footballs allowed on the court.
11. ABSOLUTELY NO ENTRY TO THE COURT FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING ANY OF THE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 OR IF SELF ISOLATING.
12. If any of the above guidelines are seen to be abused by members of the public then the Parish Council reserves the right to close the court immediately.
13. Use of the court will be closely monitored by volunteer Councillors.
14. TOILET FACILITIES WILL REMAIN CLOSED.

## **ADVICE ON OPENING PUBLIC UTILITIES**

Any facilities associated with outdoor sports and physical activities were permitted to reopen. Outdoor sports courts are allowed to be open if those responsible for them can open them safely.

This included basketball and tennis courts, playing spaces like golf courses (public and private) and playing fields and water sports. However outdoor gyms, playgrounds and outdoor and indoor swimming pools will remain closed.

Each venue, including council-owned sports facilities, should make their own decisions about when their facilities are ready.

### **Working to ensure the activity can meet public health guidelines**

- All activity should be consistent with the government [guidance](#) regarding health, social distancing and hygiene.
- That means that participants and others can maintain a safe 2 metre distance, that good hygiene practices are in place, that equipment is disinfected regularly, and that it is clear that anyone who is symptomatic or suspects they have been exposed to the virus does not take part and remains at home.
- Consider the whole end-to-end ‘user journey’ when planning safe operating practices; this means all activities from the time of arrival on site to leaving, not just the sporting activity.

### **Communicating clearly and consistently**

- Organisations will need to communicate clearly and regularly with members and participants setting out what they are doing to manage risk, and what advice they are giving to individuals to do likewise.
- Ideally organisations should publish an action plan detailing their plans to re-open safely and the steps they are taking to avoid confusion.
- Organisations should also communicate clearly opening times and how people can safely access a facility, if relevant, for example through a booking or queuing system.
- It is more important than ever to consider inclusive guidance for people who need support to be active and organisations should consider this as part of their work to encourage people to return.

### **Flexibility and innovation**

- Organisations should be ready to strengthen or relax measures at short notice. Organisations are encouraged to think creatively about how best to make their sport or activity possible within these guidelines.
- The limit on gatherings - no more than 6, unless (for example) members of the same household - means that it is unlikely to be possible to organise amateur events or competitions at this time.

## Reopening your outdoors sports facility

### Timetable for reopening

You should only reopen or restart activities as soon as you feel able to do so safely. Until you feel it is safe and responsible to reopen you should remain closed.

### Managing large groups

The government is clear that sports participation should be restricted to participants exercising by themselves, with members from their same household, or in a group of no more than 5 other people from other households, while observing social distancing guidelines. Venues are advised to display signs to this effect.

The police have been given powers to enforce these measures.

### Keeping facilities and equipment clean

Cleaning protocols should be put in place to limit coronavirus transmission in public places. It is advised that touch points (e.g. handrails and gates) should be particular areas of focus for increased cleaning.

Frequent cleaning of work areas and equipment between use, using your usual cleaning products, is advised. As is clearing workspaces and removing waste and belongings from work areas at the end of shifts.

### Maintaining hygiene, through handwashing, sanitisation facilities and toilets

To help everyone maintain good hygiene, consideration should be given to:

- Using signs and posters to build awareness of good handwashing technique, the need to increase handwashing frequency, avoid touching your face and to cough or sneeze into your arm. Consider how to ensure safety messages reach those with hearing or vision impairments
- Providing regular reminders and signage to maintain hygiene standards
- Providing hand sanitiser in multiple locations in addition to washrooms
- Setting clear use and cleaning guidance for toilets to ensure they are kept clean and social distancing is achieved
- Enhancing cleaning for busy areas
- Providing more waste facilities and more frequent rubbish collection
- Using disposable paper towels in handwashing facilities where possible
- Minimising use of portable toilets
- Provision of automated hand sanitising dispensers in public places
- Ensuring that takeaway catering facilities can be used in a safe way that maintains social distancing and hygiene

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation/guidance-for-providers-of-outdoor-facilities-on-the-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation#contents>

