

Wilson Surrey League Winter 2020/21  
**COVID-19 GUIDANCE**

NOTE: All necessary forms and information will be available for download in the 'Captain's Area' [HERE](#)

**UPDATE:**

- The latest government announcement (22/09) confirms that *"Indoor organised sport for over 18s will no longer be exempt from the rule of six."* Therefore teams will **NOT** be permitted to host league fixtures indoors.

**Clubs:**

- Prior to their first match of the season, all clubs/venues competing in the Wilson Surrey Leagues must complete an online consent form stating that they fully understand our COVID-19 restrictions, have read and understood the current '[LTA Guidance for Tennis Venues](#)' and accept responsibility for ensuring their captains and players follow our requirements. The consent form can be found [HERE](#).
- Any breach of the current COVID-19 restrictions by a clubs players or captains may result in total removal of a team from the event. Repeated breaches of the current COVID-19 restrictions by a club may result in total removal of the club from the event and a potential ban from future seasons.

**Captains:**

- When captains are liaising with one another to arrange match time, the **home** captains must relay any current club COVID procedures that the away team must adhere to.
- Prior to the first match of the season, all captains must confirm with their club that they fully understand the current COVID-19 restrictions in place.
- All captains **MUST** obtain written confirmation before each and every match throughout the season from all players due to play that they will adhere to our current COVID-19 guidance. Failure to do so will result in the automatic forfeit of the match. This confirmation should be stored safely on record for the entire season and should be able to be presented to opposition captains should they wish to see it before play begins.
- Before play begins, the home captain must populate their scorecard with the first names and surnames of both teams as well as complete necessary track and trace details of all players. This information must be stored safely by the home captain for a minimum of 21 days.
- If an opposition is unwilling or unable to confirm they have the confirmation from their players that they have adhered to the COVID-19 guidance, then they have 10 minutes to confirm or the opposition captain can claim the walkover. If there is a dispute then they can contact our on call referee (Tim Pearce) whose details will be located on the scorecard.

- Captains must be aware that if a member of their squad is self-isolating and not able to compete, this must be treated as if that player were to have an injury. Therefore a replacement player must be found to ensure they can fulfil the fixture.

#### **Pre-attendance Symptom Check:**

- It is the responsibility for anyone attending a Wilson Surrey League fixture in any capacity that they should undergo a pre-attendance self-assessment for any COVID-19 symptoms using the information on the NHS website before leaving home. No-one should leave home to participate in tennis if they, or someone they live with, has symptoms of COVID-19, currently recognised as any of the following:
  - A high temperature
  - A new, continuous cough
  - A loss of, or change to, their sense of smell or taste
- Current Government guidelines in relation to local lockdowns and returning to the UK from overseas must be followed.

#### **Quarantine/Self Isolating/Health:**

- It is each player/team captain's responsibility to adhere to current government guidelines regarding both international and domestic travel.
  - Information on UK travel corridors can be seen [here](#)
- If any players are travelling back from any of the countries on the current quarantine list, they are not permitted to participate in a fixture if this falls within the two week isolation period
- For the avoidance of any doubt, if a player is self-isolating they cannot break that period and play in a league fixture.

#### **Travel Arrangements:**

- Walking and cycling to fixtures is encouraged. Where this is not possible, use public transport or drive
- Players should arrive at the venue at the time the team captain has specified – not before. Team captains must allow sufficient time for the necessary checks to be made.
- Car sharing - You should try not to share a vehicle with those outside your household or support bubble. If you need to do this, try to:
  - keep to small groups of people at any one time
  - share the transport with the same people each time
  - open windows for ventilation
  - travel side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them, where seating arrangements allow
  - face away from each other
  - consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle
  - clean your car between journeys using standard cleaning products - make sure you clean door handles and other areas that people may touch
  - ask the driver and passengers to wear a face covering

### **Equipment**

- Please follow current public health guidelines for hygiene
- Please bring your own hand sanitiser to clean your hands at regular intervals especially before and after a match
- Please try not to bring any equipment, baggage or clothing that is not essential.
- Players must bring their own tennis balls for practice
- New or fresh tennis balls are not need for each match, but extra care must be taken to ensure the players do not touch their faces during play, and anyone involved in the match should all clean their hands before the match and immediately after finishing (use alcohol gel if required)

### **Maintaining Social Distancing**

- Social distancing should be observed by all those attending the competition
- Players should not to congregate on/around the court before & after play
- There should be no skin to skin contact for players. Racket taps are allowed but shaking hands or elbow alternatives are not permitted.

### **Doubles Protocol**

- Other than during the playing of a point distance between partner's & opponents to be maintained
- Player's to avoid talking into a tennis ball, and when communicating with partner maintain distance
- Avoid fist pumps and other physical contact with partner
- Maintain distance from partner & opponents when changing ends
- No shaking of hands at the end of a match. Racket taps allowed.

### **Rain Delays**

- In the event of rain, attendees should use an umbrella or if they drove, return to their own vehicle, to maintain social distancing if there is insufficient outdoor cover from the rain to maintain social distancing
- Players and spectators should not gather indoors to shelter if it does rain
- In the event of an extended delay, team captains are encouraged to make an early decision with regards to cancelling the league match to avoid attendees waiting around for a prolonged period.
- If a match is postponed due to inclement weather the match is decided as follows: If two or more rubbers have been completed at the point of cessation, the match stands. The remaining rubbers are then halved. If two rubbers have not been completed, the match is replayed from scratch. You will not require the same players to play if the match is replayed from scratch. Scores for any rubbers unfinished should be recorded as "not played, match postponed" and 6-4, 4-6 regardless of the score at the point of cessation. You must let the organiser know once you have entered the result.

**During a Fixture:**

- **If a player develops coronavirus symptoms at any time during the fixture (even if not whilst at the venue) they must stop competing and withdraw immediately. They should then contact both captains and the NHS immediately.**
- Public Health England will contact the venue if anybody that attended the competition later tests positive for COVID-19 under the Track and Trace system.
- Changing rooms are not to be used during fixtures; therefore, players should arrive on site ready for play. Toilets will be accessible, however, all those involved in the competition must observe the relevant signage at the particular venue

**Food and Beverage:**

- Players should bring their own drinks / snacks to matches
- Clubs must not provide any food or drinks to teams competing in the fixture

Please be aware that Government guidelines are changing on a regular basis. Please ensure that you are complying with current Government guidelines and if you have any questions then please contact [competitions@surrey.tennis](mailto:competitions@surrey.tennis)