



BOSTON SQUASH AND RACKETBALL CLUB

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BOSTON SQUASH & RACKETBALL COMMITTEE MEETING 13th JUL 2020

Present :- M. Hildred, P Andrews, D Bontoft, J Payne, P Tait, J Parsons, A Hildred

COVID UPDATE :-

The committee met on Monday evening to discuss the re-opening of the club and the steps and precautions needed to comply with the government advice regarding COVID 19.

The number one objective of the decisions made are to make sure that at all times the club is open, social distancing is achieved, and that members and staff are kept as safe as possible.

Firstly it was decided that the club and its facilities will re-open on the morning of Saturday 25th July. All members' key fobs will be reactivated therefore offering the normal 24/7 access we have always had.

As per the current government guidelines, competitive games of squash and racketball will not be permitted with anybody outside of the same household. For anybody coming to the club to play on court there will be certain restrictions and guidelines to follow:

- Firstly, all players must turn up to the club already changed to play as access to the changing rooms and showers will not be permitted – access to toilets will be as normal.
- Members will still be required to arrive in outdoor footwear and change into court shoes once inside the club.
- It is important that any member who will be playing on court not turn up any more than 10 minutes prior to their arranged playing time thus cutting down on any time spent waiting within the club.
- Members must also ensure that they bring their own bottles for water as cups cannot be provided at this time.
- There will be hand sanitizer stations throughout the club and all members should use these upon entry and before going onto court.
- All kit & bags must be taken onto court with the players and not left in communal areas.
- Players will be requested not to leave courts once their session has begun – rest periods should be taken on court.

We have conducted an initial assessment of the 'safe' capacity of the club, based on government guidance for sports facilities permitting one person per 100 square feet, which would indicate a capacity for around 50-60 individuals at once. Analysis of door entry fob information from the period prior to lockdown indicated that there is no risk of the club ever exceeding this capacity.

The committee therefore felt that there wasn't any need to introduce a booking system for the courts as there is more than enough space at the club to keep members at a safe distance from each other.

The committee decided that 1 to 1 coaching offered by Pete would be suspended for the time being as are the current squash and racketball leagues and club competitions. We are however very keen to introduce the junior coaching back as soon as we possibly can with numbers being monitored and possibly offering 2 separate group times based on different abilities.

During school summer holidays we will be offering junior coaching on Tuesday and Thursday mornings however it was decided that a message would go out on social media to gauge interest for a junior coaching session on the morning of the 25th July – if this were to go ahead then courts would not be available for play between 10am & 12am on that day.

With regard to Table Tennis at the club, singles games will be permitted as this is possible to do whilst maintaining adequate social distancing. 2 TT tables will be erected on the blue court and be kept there for the time being and must not be moved or taken down. It is also important that members not put up any other TT tables elsewhere in the club. Bats will be available from Pete as sanitizing of the equipment must take place before and after play.

With regard to the gym, this too will be open, but members must adhere to social distancing rules. There will be a limit to the amount of members that can use the gym at any one time. To help and improve social distancing, some gym equipment will be moved into the function room this will create more space between each piece of equipment. All equipment must be cleaned and sanitized before and after use with disinfectant and paper towels provided.

For the rest of the club – **the bar will also re-open on Saturday 25th July**. The committee feels there is plenty of room in the bar to maintain adequate social distancing. For the time being we will be swapping the normal seating for plastic chairs making it easier for us to maintain cleanliness. Given the closure of the changing rooms, the rules on 'wet kit' in the bar will be relaxed to permit members to have a drink after playing if they wish – however we will ask members to exercise a degree of common sense and courtesy to other members to take a few minutes to cool down after their game before coming upstairs.

It has been suggested that Pete change his working days to Mon – Fri therefore providing appropriate cleaning and guidance during the week with other committee members able to help keep the club clean and sanitized during the weekend. The committee also decided to seek cover for the cleaning during the week in August where Pete is on holiday as it was felt that a 7 day cleaning regime currently needs maintaining.

Also after contacting a couple of different companies, Adam has found and arranged a contract for the club to introduce a card machine, it was felt that this was a significant step forward for the club and was the right time to introduce this given current conditions.

The committee will be meeting again on Monday 20th July at 7pm where it is hoped we will have more information and guidance from England Squash.

