



HTA Return to Play Covid-19 Preparedness Plan Updated 6/8/2020

INTRODUCTION

As per Governor Tim Walz' Emergency Executive Order 20-74 issued on June 5, 2020, this document constitutes Hastings Tennis Association's (HTA) Covid-19 Preparedness Plan (hereinafter "Return to Play Plan"). HTA's Return to Play Plan will follow federal, state, MSHSL, USTA, and school district guidelines in order to help keep all players, families and coaches safe. The strategies outlined in this Return to Play Plan may change if the level of community transmission increase to the point where programming must be modified or disrupted. For additional information go to the MN Department of Health website (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/schools/youthsports.pdf>).

General Guidance

- Only players who have registered using HTA's online registration and payment system are allowed to participate in any HTA program. HTA will not accept cash payment or allow players to "drop-in".
- All HTA activities shall be conducted outdoors.
- With programs, HTA will create pods that consist of the same staff and participants with a maximum number of participants in each pod consistent with the state's current guidelines.
- In order to reduce individual contact, parents, guardians, caregivers and friends should not attend any HTA programs.

Social Distancing Practices:

- Six-foot social distancing practices apply at all times. That means players are to maintain six feet from each other and the coaches and coaches will maintain six feet of distances from players and other coaches.
- Players are not to arrive earlier than five minutes before the start of their event and to be ready to hit the courts immediately upon arrival.
- Players must leave the courts immediately following the end of their event.
- Players are not to touch the gates, fences, ball carts, other on-court equipment or the nets.

FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT

Facility:

- HTA programming will be conducted at Hastings High School tennis courts.
- The goal is to reduce the number of touch points, thus:
 - All gates to the tennis courts are to be left opened. If they are closed, then the gate latches will be sprayed with disinfectant.
- The court benches will remain in the shed and players are discouraged from setting on the courts and on the bleachers.
- Only coaches are allowed in the shed and coaches are to wipe down areas in the shed that they touched prior to leaving the courts.

Equipment:

- Players are to bring only their rackets and water bottles with them and to not place these items or themselves on the bleachers. Just in case this occurs, the coaches will spray the bleachers before and after programing with disinfectant.
- Players are not to share their rackets with other program participants.
- HTA will provide all balls:
 - When the focus is on singles match play, players will be given their own can of balls and must follow the rules outlined in the Player Responsibility section of this document.
 - When the focus is on skill development, coaches are the only ones who can touch the balls and coaches will be required to wear gloves when feeding the ball.

DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP PROTOCOL

- There will be at least 15 minutes between scheduled programs in order to reduce traffic flow.
- Parents and players who drive themselves are asked to remain in their cars until the courts are cleared of players.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to remain outside the court gates, if parents do come inside the gates to the courts, they must refrain from touching anything.
- Upon arriving and pick-up, players and their parents/guardians should maintain social distancing by staying 6 feet apart.

PLAYER RESPONSIBILITIES

Players are not to come to the tennis courts if any of the following applie:

- The player is exhibiting any symptoms of the coronavirus which include mild to severe respiratory illness with fever, cough and difficulty breathing, or other symptoms identified by the Centers of Disease Control (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>).
- The player has been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.
- The player is a vulnerable individual. A vulnerable individual is an elderly individual and/or an individual with serious underlying health conditions, including high blood pressure, chronic lung disease, diabetes, obesity, asthma and those whose immune system is compromised such as by chemotherapy for cancer and other conditions requiring such therapy.

Preparing to Play and/or to Participant in a HTA Program:

In order to protect the player and all other program participants, players are expected to adhere to the following protocols:

- Wash hands with a disinfectant soap and water (for 20 seconds or longer), or use a hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available, before coming to the tennis courts. Players are to bring their own hand sanitizer to the courts in order to avoid communal use.
- Clean and wipe down equipment, including racquets and water bottles. Do not share racquets or any other equipment such as wristbands, grips, hats and towels.
- Bring a full water bottle to avoid touching a tap or water fountain handle. The player is not to share his/her water bottle with any other program participant.
- If a player needs sunscreen, the player must be able to apply it without assistance from another player or coach.
- Players may consider taking extra precautions such as wearing gloves.
- If a player needs to sneeze or cough, the player should do so inside his/her elbow or upper

arm.

- The player is to arrive as close as possible to when scheduled to be on the tennis court and should be ready to play immediately upon arrival.
- The player is to avoid touching court gates, fences, benches, bleachers, etc.

When Playing:

When players are playing, they are to:

- Stay at least six feet apart from other players. Do not make physical contact with other players (such as shaking hands or a high five).
- Avoid touching their face after handling a ball, racquet or other equipment. Disinfect their hand promptly if they have touched their eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid sharing food, drinks or towels.
- Use their own racquet/foot to pick up balls rather than their hand and to roll balls to other players. Avoid using hands to pick up the balls.
- If a ball from another court comes to the you, send it back with a kick or with your racquet.
- Stay on their side of the tennis court.
- Remain apart from other players when taking a break.

After Playing:

- Leave the court as soon as reasonably possible. No extra-curricular or social activity should take place. No congregation after playing.
- Wash your hands thoroughly or use a hand sanitizer after coming off the court.

COACH RESPONSIBILITIES

- All coaches must follow the same Player Responsibilities as outlined in Before You Come to the Courts and Preparing to Play and/or to Participate in a HTA Program.
- Masks and gloves will be worn or “like in kind” per regulation issued by the City of Hastings.
- Hands will be sanitized between sessions, before masks and gloves are applied, after blowing nose, coughing, and sneezing.
- Food, water bottles, and sunscreen will not be shared.
- Coaches will be responsible for disinfecting common areas after use.