



# ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

5 Doon Avenue, Syndal, 3150  
Email: stctennisclub@gmail.com

## Return to Tennis Protocol

This Protocol has been adopted and amended by the Committee in the interest of the club reopening on a staged basis and staying open, protecting members' and players' health and the community's health. This Protocol must be followed pre-game, during game and post-game.

This Protocol is subject to further change, based on government rules/information and Tennis Victoria direction.

**In operating the club in line with the revised restrictions that came into effect at 11:59pm on Wednesday 8 July 2020, we are still not yet returning to business as usual.**

### THOSE WHO SHOULD NOT YET PLAY TENNIS

You should NOT attend the club if:

- You have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19 – persistent cough or sneezing, temperature, any other flu-like symptoms, even if mild;
- Anyone in your household or in close contact with you has such symptoms, unless they have been tested for COVID-19 and the test result has been negative;
- You have any cardio-vascular issues;
- You are 65 years and over
  - This is based on clear advice from the government that people of 65 years and older are in a high-risk category.
  - If you DO attend the tennis club, you waive your legal rights against the club should you become ill.

### GOVERNANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY

There will be no club-sanctioned social play under the present reinstated Stage 3 restrictions for metropolitan Melbourne.

Informal casual play may ONLY take place involving:

- members of a household who live at the same address; or
- a maximum of two people playing together who live at different addresses.

The latter may include a single player being coached by the club coach.

Players must maintain physical distancing (minimum 1.5 metres) whether on or off the courts.

For informal casual play by members (and guests), a responsible member of St Christopher's Tennis Club must take responsibility for ensuring that anyone in his/ her group (whether member(s) or guest(s)) understands and abides by these rules, the current Stage 3



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restriction for metropolitan Melbourne as published on the [Department of Health and Human Services website](#) and the directions of that member with respect to safety.

Members who choose to attend the club agree to abide by this Protocol and the directions of the responsible member, in the interests of everyone's safety and enjoyment. Any breach of this Protocol or refusal to obey direction under these rules will be subject to disciplinary action by the Committee, including suspension of membership.

Note that this is not a comprehensive re-opening of the tennis club. This is still a very limited resumption of tennis in line with restrictions and relevant guidelines, for the benefit of members. Members need to be aware and accept that any failure to comply with restrictions and guidelines or any behaviour that puts other members or the community at risk may lead the Committee to reclose the facility. The facility will also close immediately if necessary under any changes to government restrictions.

### CONDITIONS FOR ATTENDING THE CLUB

Members should not attend the club except to play or practise tennis, or to supervise children from their own household who are playing or practising tennis in accordance with Government restrictions and these guidelines.

Courts may be used for practice or social play, arranged casually by members on their own initiative. The differences which apply to all use of club facilities at this time include:

- Absolutely no more than 10 people within the club grounds at any time;
- Strict social distancing (minimum separation 1.5 metres at all times);
- No handshakes/ high fives/ other touching or close approaching of partner or opponent(s);
- Use of the pavilion must be limited to use of toilets ONLY, if a clubroom key is available, and subject to users thoroughly washing or sanitising as appropriate any equipment, utensils, other items or surfaces that they touch;
- No use of playground equipment;
- No use of club bins for waste (take all waste home for disposal);
- No use of drinking fountains on the courts.

### PRIOR TO PLAY

The responsible member must ensure all equipment and fittings which may need to be handled have been disinfected. These will include:

- Gate handles
- Court bagger handles
- Brooms
- Net winder handles (but that person should adjust net heights so that there is no need for other players to use the winders).
- Place covers over drinking fountains.



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If pavilion facilities are to be available:

- Pavilion door handles leading to toilets
- Light switches for toilets
- Flush buttons
- Toilet seats
- Washbasin taps handles

The person conducting the pre-play disinfection should complete the sanitisation checklist. Copies are available in a plastic envelope next to the pavilion door: please complete on the day, then take home and store securely for reference. A copy or photograph of the completed form should be emailed as soon as practicable to stctennis@gmail.com.

### DURING PLAY

Handle balls as little as possible. Use racquet (with foot, if necessary) to return balls to server whenever possible.

Any equipment handled during or after a set should be sanitized before & after use (balls, racquets, tap/hose & baggers).

- Each player should bring their own water bottle, already filled. No use of court taps for filling bottles. Water bottles may not be refilled in the clubrooms.
- Each player should bring their own hand sanitiser and use before handling any club fittings or fixtures (eg courts baggers).
- Use club-supplied sanitiser if no alternative is available.
- Do not bolt gates except when last person is leaving – leave gates ajar so others can open with elbow/ forearm with no need to handle.

Tapping racquets in acknowledgement at the end of sets is acceptable.

### IN CASE CONTACT TRACING SHOULD BE REQUIRED:

The responsible member must email [stctennisclub@gmail.com](mailto:stctennisclub@gmail.com) OR SMS Secretary Jack Krohn on 0433 124 473 **immediately** after any use of the club facilities and provide the following information:

- Date and start and end times of attendance at the club.
- Names of all who attended, whether club members or guests, with contact details (email address and/ or mobile phone number) for non-members.

This information will be retained solely for contact tracing if the need arises subsequently. The club will not keep data beyond the duration for which is may be useful for contact tracing.



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We encourage members to use the COVIDSafe app and to receive a flu vaccination.

First aid equipment is available in the clubrooms, but should be used only if urgently needed.

In the event of emergency, please ring 000 and ask for the appropriate emergency service.