



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

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

Return to Tennis Protocol

This Protocol has been adopted 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 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 Tuesday 12 May, 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

For club-sanctioned social play, the supervisor convenor appointed by the Committee has the authority of the committee to give directions which must be followed by all in attendance at the club.

For informal casual play by members, a responsible member must take responsibility for ensuring that all in his/ her group (whether members or guests) understand and abide by these rules 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 Committee-appointed convenor or supervisor, 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.



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

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

Note that this is not a comprehensive re-opening of the tennis club. This is still a 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

There will be no external competition play or internal tournament play until further notice.

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, whether arranged casually by members on their own initiative or social play arranged under the auspices of the committee. The differences which apply to all use of club facilities at this time include:

- Absolutely no more than 20 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 opponents;
- Use of the pavilion must be limited 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

For organised social tennis, one convenor or other person nominated by the Committee should attend earlier to ensure all equipment and fittings which may need to be handled have been disinfected. These will include:

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



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

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

- Place covers over drinking fountains.

Management of the session will then be the responsibility of the convenor with the support of any other convenors present to play.

The person conducting the pre-play disinfection should complete the Facility audit checklist (Tennis Victoria). It is a single page so best to print it at home and bring it to 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).

- Please bring your own water bottle, already filled. No use of court taps for filling bottles. Water bottles may be refilled in the clubrooms if a key is available and subject to sanitising of tap handles after use.
- If possible, please bring your 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 Convenor/ Supervisor of any tennis at the club, whether official or unofficial, must email 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 it may be useful for contact tracing.

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



ST CHRISTOPHER'S TENNIS CLUB

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

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.

ORGANISED SOCIAL TENNIS

For weekend social tennis, a roster or ballot system will be used if necessary to ensure **no more than twenty players attend at any one time**. The system of players nominating their interest in playing each weekend via the WhatsApp group will continue, both to ensure that the maximum number of 20 players will not be exceeded and to enable the lead convenor to prepare the playing program for each morning in advance. The process will be:

- Reminder message via WhatsApp to weekend social group advising players must nominate their interest in playing on the coming weekend by 6pm on Thursday evening.
- Please advise if you expect to arrive later than 8:30 or expect to leave before 11:30.
- Players should attend for 8:30 start – please do not arrive before 8:20.
- If you have not nominated, PLEASE DO NOT ATTEND.
- Players will not be rostered for both days of the weekend until everyone who nominates for either day has been accommodated.
- If possible, at least one convenor accredited as such by the Committee will be rostered on each day. If none of the accredited convenors is available on any day, the Committee will appoint a suitably responsible member as convenor for that day's play.

Should more than 20 players nominate, any necessary ballot should take place by 6pm on Friday evening so everyone can be given adequate notice of when they have been rostered.