

# **Northampton Tennis Rules and Regulations**

The Tennis Facility is available for use by Northampton Association homeowners and family members in good standing. The Tennis Facility includes the tennis courts, gazebo, and common greens area. Adherence to these rules is mandatory for all attendees including homeowners and guest. Changes or exceptions to these rules can ONLY be granted by the Board of Directors after recommendation by the Tennis Committee.

## **I. GENERAL COURT RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **A. Court Care**

1. Courts are for tennis only. For reasons of safety and courtesy, children who are not playing tennis are not permitted on the tennis courts.
2. Flat sole shoes only.
3. Bikes, skates, skateboards, scooters and other activities are prohibited on the tennis courts.
4. No pets, chairs, stools, furniture, baby strollers, playpens or baby beds are allowed inside the fenced area.
5. No glass containers may be taken inside the fenced area. All beverages must be in non-breakable containers.
6. The trash receptacles inside the fence are for non-perishable items only and must be emptied after play into one of the courtside trashcans.
7. No smoking of any kind inside the Tennis Facility.
8. Jumping or swinging on the nets and/or fence is prohibited.
9. If you are the last player to leave the courts, make sure the lights are turned off. (Switches are located on the light posts near the entrance to each court.)

### **B. Guests**

1. At least one Northampton resident or family member in good standing must be playing on the courts at all times with guests.
2. Guests are limited to 3 people per resident at one time.
3. Guest must adhere to all Northampton Tennis Rules and Regulations

### **C. Events**

1. The tennis Committee must approve any organized tennis event such as round robins, holiday tournaments, etc. Please contact the Tennis Committee chairperson.

## **II. COURT RESERVATIONS**

- A. All courts will be reserved on the current published reservation system found on the website and in the newsletter. Reservations made via any other method will not be honored. Without a reservation any player will be subject to being bumped from a court, regardless of the match being played.

- B. Any Northampton resident or family member in good standing, 12 years of age or older, is eligible to obtain access to court reservations.
- C. Sign Up Rules
  - 1. Players must reserve court time using current reservation method.
  - 2. Courts may be reserved no more than 48 hours in advance.
  - 3. Playing time is limited to 2 hours per reservation.
  - 4. There is a 10 minute “no show” rule. A reserved court is declared open if not occupied within 10 minutes from the reserved start time.
  - 5. Non-sanctioned League (ie. KSwiss, T2) players must abide by all of the above signup rules. Common courtesy is expected if a non-sanctioned match goes over the 2 hour limit.
- D. Every effort should be made to schedule lessons on Courts 1 & 2.
  - 1. No lessons can be scheduled during sanctioned ALTA and USTA match play when two or more teams are home.

### **III. COURT USE**

- A. Hours of Operation
  - 1. Tennis courts are open from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM, seven days a week.
- B. Prime Time Hours
  - 1. Prime time hours are Monday – Friday from 7:00 PM to 11:00 PM.
  - 2. Prime time hours are for adults 18 years and older. A child under 18 years of age may play during prime time hours when accompanied by a Northampton adult resident.
  - 3. If necessary, junior sanctioned ALTA or USTA matches may be scheduled during prime time hours and are not subject to being bumped.

### **IV. APPROVED SANCTIONED LEAGUE TEAM**

- A. League Play
  - 1. The Northampton tennis facilities are sanctioned for both ALTA and USTA Adult and Junior teams.
  - 2. The Captain or Co-Captain of each team must be a Northampton resident in good standing. The NH resident is ultimately responsible for the activities of the team including providing the tennis committee with pertinent information and attending captain’s meetings as scheduled by the tennis committee.
  - 3. The Northampton tennis rules and regulations apply to all teams.
- B. Rosters
  - 1. Northampton team members must be residents or family members in good standing.
  - 2. Teams can be limited to 16 players for same gender teams and 20 players

for mixed gender teams. Teams with non-resident players may not limit their rosters.

3. Non-resident players will be permitted on Northampton sanctioned teams as long as a good faith effort is made to fill a roster with residents.
  - a) A fee of \$30.00 per non-resident player, per team, per season (with a cap of \$120.00 per year) to be paid to the Northampton Homeowners Association.
  - b) The captain of each team must write one check for their teams' outsider fees payable to NH Community Association. Your check and roster, with your non-residents highlighted, are to be delivered at least two weeks prior to the first match. See website and/or newsletter for specific address. Also, we will no longer accept cash or individual checks from non-resident players as a form of payment for outsider fees.
  - c) Unless previously approved by the Tennis Committee, all teams must be made up of at least 50% Northampton residents.
  - d) Non-residents are not eligible for access to the current court reservation method.
4. If the neighborhood has enough players to fill more than six teams in a season additional courts will be obtained by the Tennis Committee outside of the neighborhood.
  - a) A team with all Northampton residents will be exempt from playing outside of the neighborhood.
  - b) The team with the highest percentage of outsiders will be chosen first to play outside of the neighborhood.
  - c) No team will play more than one consecutive season outside of the neighborhood.
  - d) The tennis committee will establish a lottery system if more than one team meets the above criteria.
5. In accordance with Alta rules, an existing team consists of six or more returning players. Because of this rule, no more than five players from a disbanded team may join an existing team in the same season if it will raise their level.

#### C. Match Day

1. The Tennis Committee will reserve 2 courts when 3 teams are scheduled to be home. When less than 3 teams are home, 3 courts will be reserved.
2. Unless previously approved by the tennis committee, any team who takes more than 3 courts during a recognized ALTA or USTA match is subject to being bumped.
3. In the event that a sanctioned match must be rescheduled as a make-up match, team captains must try to reschedule their matches as follows:
  - a) During a regularly scheduled practice/lesson time.
  - b) During the league specified automatic default time.

c) If less than 3 teams were originally scheduled for a home match, teams may not reserve more than 3 courts at one time for make-up matches. If 3 teams were scheduled home, only 2 courts can be reserved at a time for the make-up matches.

D. Practice

1. A maximum of 3 hours and 2 practice courts will be reserved by the tennis committee for each team per season.
2. If a team opts to take lessons with a coach, 1 lesson court will be reserved for the lesson times needed. No practice courts will be reserved by the tennis committee.
6. At least 2 courts must be left available during non-league match days for residents not participating in scheduled lessons and practice times. In the event of a match day rain out, the match day rules take precedence.

**V. FACILITY MAINTENANCE**

- A. After each match play, all teams are responsible for cleaning up the tennis area. All trashcans on the tennis courts and in the gazebo area must be emptied, bagged and taken to the trash receptacle area in front of the clubhouse. After trash is bagged and emptied please put new bags in and tie extra bags to the side of the trashcans in the gazebo so it's ready for the next home match. Replacement bags are located in the storage closet next to the men's bathroom in the pool area. All captains will have the access code.
- B. All tennis related maintenance is to be reported to the current Tennis Committee Chair.