

Player rules for organized BTA play during the COVID-19 Pandemic

All players who take part in any Boulder Tennis Association (BTA) organized tennis activity (i.e. BTA-hosted league play, Saturday drop-in, BTA tournaments) must abide by the following practices. Failure to do so can result in ejection from the event.

Do not play if you...

- Have tested positive for COVID-19 or are exhibiting any symptoms. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus, and include: fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell.
- Have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 in the last 14 days.

Before and after organized play

- Wash your hands with soap and water (for 20 seconds or longer), or use a hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available, before going to the court and when you are through playing.
- Always maintain six feet of physical distancing. If that is not possible, a face mask or other face covering is required.
- Clean and wipe down your equipment, including racquets and water bottles, before and after play. 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.
- Open a new can of balls at the start of play. Although there is no evidence that COVID-19 has ever been passed via a tennis ball, it is recommended that each player (in singles) and each pair (in doubles) use their own set of game balls to reduce possible contagion. (Be sure to use different numbered balls and/or marked balls.)
- When coming and going, avoid touching court gates, fences, benches, etc., if at all possible.
- Leave the court as soon as reasonably possible after play.
- If any social interaction takes place before or after play, players must continue to maintain six feet of physical distancing or promptly don a face mask or other face covering. No exceptions allowed.

While playing

- Maintain six feet of physical distancing from other players at all times. (On the rare occasion when double partners approach closer than six feet, re-establish physical distance as soon as possible.) Do not make physical contact with other players between points (no high-fiving, fist bumping, etc.)

- When playing doubles, coordinate with your partner to maintain physical distancing. (No whispered conferences at close range!)
- During play, avoid touching your face. Wash your hands or use hand sanitizer promptly if you have touched your eyes, nose or mouth during play. Additionally, it is recommended that you use hand sanitizer occasionally during breaks between games. Also, consider wearing gloves, primarily as a method of discouraging you from touching your hands to your mouth, nose, eyes, etc.
- Avoid sharing food, drinks, towels, etc.
- Use your racquet/foot to pick up and return your opponent's tennis balls. Avoid using your hands to pick up and return balls.
- Maintain physical distancing if/when changing ends of the court.
- Maintain six feet of physical distancing from other players when taking a break.
- If a ball from another court comes to you, send it back with a kick or with your racquet. Again, do not use your hands to pick up or return another player's, team's or court's tennis balls.