

Updates to “Return to Play” Facility Protocol - Stage 2

Since May 19th many of the 250 OTA member clubs across Ontario have been operating under Stage 1 of recommended “Return to Play” protocol; first published by Tennis Canada and adopted by the Provincial Sports Organizations. It has provided a sound foundation for getting tennis lovers back into the game and access to some much-needed exercise. During this time, the OTA has received useful feedback from many member clubs.

Below are the OTA’s **Stage 2 recommended updates** for safe protocol when the Province is ready to move to the next stage of reopening. These recommendations build on the great work the Province and municipalities have done to keep people safe while respecting public health guidelines and getting citizens back to some sense of normality in their daily lives.

Return to Play - Stage 2 Recommendations

1. Continue to emphasize physical distancing among players on the court and at the tennis facility (2 metres).
2. Continue to track member usage when attendants are present and at other times limit usage to known membership base in case there is a need to notify Public Health for contact tracing.
3. Allow doubles tennis, following safe distancing protocols.
4. Limit sharing of balls while on court and more importantly, players should make liberal use of hand sanitizer before, during and after play.
5. Cross at opposite ends of the net during change of sides.
6. Continue to keep clubhouse facilities closed except for washrooms and front desk access, if applicable, while adhering to physical distancing.
7. Coaching and lessons can be expanded to group lessons (4 players + 1 instructor per court) from different households as long as physical distancing is maintained.
8. Require staff and volunteers to continue to maintain a high standard of cleanliness at club facilities, including all touchpoints, surfaces and washrooms.

9. To limit congregation, remove access to lounges, patios, benches and decks.

10. There should be no social events, large camps or leagues.