

Further lifting of the lockdown

We met again on Monday to review how things had gone in the fourth week after the Club reopened and to review what changes we could make to further ease the Lockdown.

The Bar has reopened successfully albeit with reduced hours that are very much demand and weather dependant. The requirements for table service not only increase our staffing costs but also inevitably the time it takes to get served. Thanks for everyone's patience and understanding as we manage this situation to ensure the Club doesn't lose money operating this facility whilst members get to socialise at distance.

It has also allowed us to open the toilets when the Bar is open. We did review if we could open the toilets for longer but it was agreed without an onsite staff presence for security and safety this is still not possible.

On court there remains a massive challenge for us all to remember to follow the 2m social distancing rules such as swapping ends at different sides of the net, using the designated entrance gates and making the most of the hand sanitiser provided. It is also important that players remember to finish 10 minutes before the hour and leave the court straight away. Also spectators are still not allowed under the Tennis Wales guidelines.

All that said the adherence by members to the Covid rules is still holding up and we are really grateful to everyone for playing their part in allowing us to continue to operate safely.

The focus of our discussions this week was getting more court time during peak hours. The feedback is that generally the current court restrictions are working and so we haven't changed these but we will be opening one of the grass courts this week (hopefully the second one will follow shortly after) and court no 4 will now be available when not being used for coaching.

It has been agreed that our tennis coach Steve will release any un-used slots on court 4 each evening just for the following day so keep an eye out. Please don't book court 4 if there are any other hard courts available as Steve still needs some flexibility for late bookings and the preference for safety reasons is for this to be on court 4 where possible.

The other news is that it is hoped to run a small grass courts tournament or so as well as to run the club championships. The details of this are being reviewed by the Tennis committee and more news to follow soon.(both will be subject to Tennis Wales guidelines such as no more than 30 competitors)

So to summarise the changes from today are;

- **The bar will open for outdoors custom only 17:00– 21:00 MON- FRI, 13:00- 21:00 SAT and 12:00 – 19:00 Sunday subject to weather and demand. With the need for two staff to operate the table service we can't afford to open the Bar during periods of low demand and so the hours will flex to suit.**
- **Grass court no 2 will be opened and can be booked via Club spark**
- **Court no 4 will be available to book each evening for the following day where it is not needed for coaching**
- **Group coaching will continue (including rusty rackets)**
- **Competitions will restart subject to Tennis Wales guidelines**

The Clubhouse and Toilets will remain closed for now except when the outdoor bar facilities are open. We believe that the indoor bar facilities will be able to reopen on the 3rd August and so we are preparing for this – more news shortly.

We will continue to relax things as Government and Tennis Wales guidance develops if the great levels of compliance continue. **The key to this is for everyone to continue to follow the guidelines in particular relative to social distancing.**

Please continue to make the most of the new outdoor bar facilities and encourage others to join and come along as the more people turn up the longer they will stay open.

Please spread the word and thanks again for all your help with getting us all back on court safely.