

Sharon Tennis Club

Rules and Policies

(modified June 2026)

1. **Conduct.** All members and their guests are expected to adhere to the spirit of the club and conduct themselves in an appropriate manner at all times. Strictly forbidden are:
 - a. Engaging in any confrontational behavior that may be deemed verbally or physically aggressive.
 - b. Profanity or other hurtful speech, whether or not directed at another member
 - c. Loud or obnoxious behavior on or off the courtsSerious or repeated violations of conduct rules may result in suspension or expulsion from the club.
2. **Etiquette and Courtesy.** In general, please follow proper tennis etiquette. Please refrain from:
 - a. Rolling balls back onto a neighboring court in the middle of a point or between first and second serve.
 - b. Walking behind other courts during play (unless you are behind the fence)
 - c. Entering or exiting a court through one of the between-court doors during play on an adjacent court
3. **Attire.** Please wear:
 - a. Appropriate tennis attire.
 - b. Tennis sneakers - ideally clay court sneakers, but please, no sneakers with deep grooves, as they can damage the courts.
4. **Sweeping.** Please sweep the courts and clean the lines after you finish your game. If someone is waiting for the court, ask them if they would like you to sweep first. Please return brooms and sweepers to their designated places.
5. **Court Conditions and Closures.** Red clay courts are particularly susceptible to damage if played on when wet. This damage can be lasting.
 - a. Do not play on a court if there is standing water or if the court is soft enough that your sneakers are leaving imprints.
 - b. Do not sweep water off of courts. You may use a foam roller to **gently** move water out of a puddle.
 - c. **The Court Manager may close any or all courts due to court conditions and will post a sign accordingly. Do not play on a closed court.** Court closures will be posted on the website and on TeamReach.
6. **Court Reservations.**
 - a. Except as noted below, Courts 3, 4, and 5 may be reserved by any member for up to 90 minutes. (See the Court Reservation Guide for more information).
 - b. Courts that have not been reserved are available on a first-come-first-serve basis.
 - c. **Members who do not show up for their reservations are subject to having their reservation privileges suspended**

7. Court Relinquishing Rules.

- a. **Reserved courts.** If a member with a reservation arrives, please surrender the court at the time of the reservation.
- b. **Unreserved courts.** First-come, first-serve. If a member is waiting for a court and you have been on court for:
 - i. **Less than 90 minutes:** Please surrender your court after completion of **the current set.**
 - ii. **More than 90 minutes:** Please surrender your court after completion of **the current game.**

Note: Your place in the queue for an unreserved court is based on the arrival of the last member of your group. If you are waiting for a court, please wait in the seating area adjacent to Court 1.

After surrendering a court, you may rejoin the queue for another court.

8. Carved Out Times.

The following time periods have specific reservation and relinquishing rules that override the rules specified above:

- a. **Wednesday and Saturday 9-11AM. "Drop In Doubles."** Court reservations on courts 4 and 5 only. Drop in Doubles (DID) has priority for courts 1, 2, and 3.
 - i. DID is a long-standing tradition where members can come without a reservation and join a game of doubles, arranged on-the-fly.
 - ii. **If courts 1, 2, or 3 are not being used by DID, they are available** on a first-come-first serve basis, using the Court Relinquishing Rules stated above.
 - iii. Game arrangement and relinquishing/rotation rules within the DID group are self-organized by the participants, following long-established guidelines.
- b. **Sunday and Holidays 9-11AM. "Club Doubles."** Court reservations on courts 4 and 5 only. Doubles play has priority for courts 1, 2, and 3.
 - i. **Singles play is only allowed on courts 4 and 5 or if courts 1, 2, or 3 are open.** If you are playing **singles** on one of the first three courts during this time and a doubles group needs a court, you must relinquish the court **after the current game.** Alternatively, you may integrate waiting players into a game of doubles.
 - ii. If you are playing **doubles on one of the first three courts** during this time and a group is waiting for a court, please relinquish your court **after the current set.**
- c. **Weekdays 3pm-4pm. Court watering and maintenance.** No reservations allowed. During dry/hot weather the courts will be watered one-by-one during this time. You may play on a court that is not being watered. Please wait for a court that has just been watered to dry before resuming play on that court. This time is also used for general court maintenance. The Court Manager may ask you to temporarily vacate a court for required maintenance.
- d. **Tournaments, Socials, and Other Events.** Some or all of the courts may be reserved at various times of the day for club-sponsored events.

9. Guest Policy

- a. Members must accompany their guests
- b. There is a \$5 guest fee for each guest. Guest fees are the responsibility of the sponsoring member and can be paid online via the club website.

- c. An individual may only play at the club as a guest a maximum of 5 times during a season.