
Tennis Courts Rules

1. The courts are for Grove Park residents and their guests.
2. Please reserve your playing time under the “Reserve Tennis Courts” Page on Groveparklife.com
3. If you need both courts, please book each separately
4. No fence climbing or sitting/leaning on the nets.
5. No food, glass, or alcoholic beverages allowed on the courts.
6. Players must be respectful of other residents using the facilities and the surrounding neighbors.
7. No foul language, misconduct, disruptive behavior, or abuse of facilities.
8. No pets in the court area.
9. No roller blades, bicycles, etc., allowed on the courts.
10. Please place your garbage in the receptacles located around the court area.
11. No violence or illegal activities.

PLEASE ACT RESPONSIBLY

GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES

The following guidelines and procedures are organized into 3 sections as follows:

A. UNIVERSAL TENNIS RULES

Provides rules and procedures which apply to all tennis play, whether as organized teams, or as social play.

B. SOCIAL TENNIS PLAY

Provides rules and procedures for social tennis play primarily for reserving court playing times.

C. ORGANIZED GROVE PARK TEAM PLAY

Provides rules and procedures a team must follow for Grove Park to sponsor it and approve the use of court time pertaining to team play and practice sessions.

It is the intention of Grove Park to provide an equal opportunity for all of the membership to join an organized team. However, Grove Park cannot govern equal playing time per team member. This responsibility is strictly up to team members and team management.

A. UNIVERSAL TENNIS RULES

Courts are open to play by all paid Members of Grove Park, adult or child. At least one of the players on each court must be a Grove Park Member. House guests (not neighboring subdivision members) are

considered an extension of the Member's household. Courts are open daily from 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM.

PRIVATE USE OF THE COURTS: The courts are for the private use of Grove Park Members and their permitted guests. Private instruction for which a fee is paid is allowed provided that:

1. The court time is reserved by the Grove Park member(s) who is to receive the instruction.
2. Nonmembers are not permitted to receive individual private instruction unless part of a Grove Park sponsored organized team. Instruction is permitted in the case of approved formal team practices or as a guest in the presence of a Member. Each Member is responsible for ensuring the proper court usage by their family members. Children using the courts without adult supervision must be capable of proper tennis play. Tennis court lights are set by timers to operate from twilight to 11:00 PM. The last player should be sure to turn off the lights when leaving the courts, unless someone is scheduled within 30 minutes of the time the courts are being vacated. Once the lights have been turned off, they must cool down for 15 minutes before they will relight. Courts are to be locked when not in use. Members are responsible for locking the courts when they have finished playing unless another group is waiting for the courts. Place all litter in the trash cans inside the courts. All Members are asked to share responsibility in emptying the trash cans into the larger trash receptacles outside the courts.

Smooth soled, non-marking tennis shoes are to be worn on the courts. No bikes, skateboards, roller blades, strollers or any other type of vehicles are allowed within the fenced tennis courts.

Pets are not permitted within the fenced-in court area. No glass containers of any type are permitted within the fenced-in court area.

B. SOCIAL TENNIS PLAY

Sign-up sheets are provided for reserving the tennis courts. The maximum reserved playing time is two hours. **Court reservations may be made no more than 48 hours in advance of desired playing time.** Members found reserving a court more than 48 hours in advance of desired playing time will have their reservation deleted from the sign-up sheet. In the event that a Member has reserved a court following the scheduled time for a sanctioned league match and finds the courts still in use by the league team, the league team is permitted to finish their match. The member may reschedule play as is available on the sign-up sheet. This privilege extends to scheduled (reserved) league make-up matches as well. If the league match is drawing to a conclusion, please extend the courtesy of waiting for the match to finish before entering the available court. Players not arriving within 20 minutes of their reserved playing time forfeit their reservation and the court becomes available for use by any other player.

WALK ON USAGE: Members may use the courts at any time when not in use on a "walk-on" basis. Use of the courts in this manner still requires a sign-up sheet. Failure to use the sign-up sheet will require the

Member to vacate the court after another “walk-on” member arrives and signs up the courts. **Proper usage of the sign-up sheet is important to insure fairness to all members!**

C. ORGANIZED GROVE PARK TEAM PLAY

An organized team is any group of people listed on the same roster of an ALTA or USTA league team. Grove Park may sponsor and support a number of organized teams. The Board must regulate the number

of teams based on court availability. New team sponsorship must be approved by the Grove Park Board prior to the start of the playing season. It is the responsibility of the new team to request in writing, approval to use the facility for their matches. Violation of this procedure can result in denial of Grove Park sponsorship.

REQUIREMENT FOR SPONSORSHIP - A team must develop a roster having the minimum number of players (12 ALTA, 10 USTA) to qualify for Grove Park sponsorship. There is no specific maximum prescribed by Grove Park. All Members on a team roster must be current with their annual association dues. For team formation, a notification must be distributed to the entire membership. This must be done for each team for each season. The notice must include a deadline for interested members to comply with. It is the responsibility of the individual teams to send the notices to the Membership however, the board may assist in this by using the newsletter to minimize the number of notices sent. Once a team's roster is submitted to ALTA or USTA offices, the captain must provide a copy of the confirmation for review by the Board.

NON-MEMBERS - A team must be made up of at least **40%** resident Members. Teams submitting Rosters with less than **40%** Members may not qualify for Grove Park sponsorship.

Each non-member on a Grove Park approved ALTA/USTA teams shall pay a fee of \$25 per person, for each season of play. All non-member player fees are due upon submission of the roster to ALTA/USTA offices and, **Must be fully paid no later than one week prior to the start of the season.** It is the Team Captain's responsibility to collect all outside fees by the due date and distribute a copy of the tennis facility guide lines and procedures to non-members. The money collected shall be a line item on our financial statement sheet, and used towards the Tennis Budget for the following year. Non-members participating on ALTA/USTA teams, who have paid the non-member fee of \$25 per person, are to use the Grove Park tennis courts for only one designated practice or coaching night, and official ALTA/USTA matches unless accompanied by a Grove Park member. The team Captain and Co-captain must be Grove Park members.

JUNIOR TEAMS - Due to age restrictions placed on Junior ALTA and USTA which result in a limited

number of young people falling in the appropriate bracket from within Grove Park, specific non-member requirements may be adjusted by the Board. Each Junior team will be evaluated on its own merit.

SCHEDULING COURT TIME - Each sponsored team may schedule one approved two hour team practice each week during the playing season. Court reservations for approved team practices may be made before the 48 hour restriction. This also applies to advance sign-up for home matches. Once Captains receive an official season schedule it should be turned into the Tennis Committee so approved practices and home matches can be “blocked out.” Teams that play their regular matches during the daytime hours may request a practice or coaching time during the daytime hours, Monday through Friday. Teams that play their regular matches on the weekend may request a practice or coaching time during the hours of 7:00 to 9:00 PM or 9:00 to 11:00 PM only, Monday through Friday. Approved practice sessions may be conducted no earlier than three weeks prior to the beginning of the season and may run no longer than regularly scheduled play except in the case of playoffs. It is the Team Captain’s responsibility to schedule home make-up matches as soon as they are arranged. Make-up matches must be noted as such on the sign-up sheet and are also exempt from the 48 hour rule. Every effort should be made to schedule make-ups around pre-approved practices. If a make-up match can only be scheduled during another team’s approved practice time please notify the Tennis Committee so some type of fair arrangement can be made.

TEAM MANAGEMENT - Organized teams are expected to be self-governing units, operating on their own with little or no interaction with the Grove Park Board once the foregoing start-up requirements have been completed. Good sportsmanship, proper behavior and courtesy should be exhibited at all times when on the courts. No loud or abusive language or behavior will be tolerated at any time. Failure to comply will result in loss of privileges or fines. Members should also be familiar with ALTA/USTA rules to avoid any “disagreements” during match play.