

Welcome Back to Ebbisham!

Dear Member

We are looking forward to welcoming all our members back to the club as from Monday 27th July and our thanks for your continued support of the club over these challenging months.

In gratitude of your support by continuing to pay your membership fees, we will be WAIVING court costs for those members with ACTIVE memberships until further notice and this will include guest fees. Furthermore you may book courts of other sports under the same terms.

However, for members who asked us to freeze their membership, or those who cancelled their direct debits, we will need you to make contact with the office to reinstate your membership prior to being permitted to book courts.

We apologise in advance that this email is lengthy but it contains important information that we need to convey to the whole membership who may be bookings courts and using our facilities. A copy can also be downloaded from our website. Please read the following important information so you understand the basis on which we will be opening our doors.

In accordance with Government guidelines, together with England Squash and Badminton England, we have been diligent in preparing our return to best enable us to facilitate the opening of indoor sports provision. We must continue to adhere to the rules to ensure we can stay open and effectively control the threat of spreading infection and we would ask that you follow the rules too.

Please be aware that we have had to introduce changes to the way in which we operate at the Club and we would encourage you to view these changes as following best practices – our primary concern is the safety of our members and our staff.

We have been creating a readiness plan to enable Ebbisham Sports Club to reopen its doors. Whilst we intend to be fully compliant with all legislation, please note that there is not a single approach as to how all clubs will operate and manage their facility. Whilst best practice should of course be shared within the leisure sector, we may operate differently to other facilities, due to our individual needs.

We emphasise the need for the guidelines to be strictly followed by all our members and their guests for the sake of our collective health and well being. The club's staff will have no hesitation in enforcing these guidelines if they feel they are not being followed. We ask that everyone, please, helps us to keep Ebbisham free from infection and our doors open for sport.

Risk Assessments

Risk Assessments have been carried out on the Clubhouse, and on Squash, Badminton & Tennis courts.

Opening Times & Booking Courts

- For the present time we will be keeping to the same Club hours. The Tennis, Badminton and Squash courts will be open, as will the Bar with drinking on the patio only.
- The booking of courts will be via the Club's online booking system only. All bookings of courts need to be booked before arriving at the club. Full details need to be provided of all guests for contact tracing. The Club's booking system will allow

members to be selected as normal and will also support adding guests' details when booking.

Cleaning

Recognising the virus lives on hard surfaces, doors and hard surfaces will be regularly disinfecting outside of the daily times of professional cleaning.

Feeling Unwell/Displaying Covid-19 Symptoms

If you are symptomatic or living in a household with someone else who has a possible or confirmed Covid-19 infection or showing symptoms you should self-isolate and not visit the club **under any circumstances**. The club remaining open is entirely dependant upon the full co-operation of members to the rules and failure to adhere to any part of the opening process could severely impact our ability to stay open. If you have visited the club and then display any COVID symptoms you must inform admin@ebbisham.com in order for the team to take necessary action.

Queries

Telephone queries can be made on 01372 720647 from Monday 27th July. Until then please email the office via admin@ebbisham.com

Arrival & Departing the Club

- Arrive at the club ready to play except for changing your shoes which should be done on the court.
- When you arrive at the Club's entrance please use the hand sanitiser. There are floor distancing indicators which will enable social distancing between staff and members. We would ask that you please ensure these measures are respected at all times.
- Please do not arrive early at the club but instead wait in your vehicle or outside the building and enter no more than 5 minutes before your appointed booking. If there are other members waiting to enter, please adhere to social distancing of 2metres.
- There will be a one-way system in place at the club with floor & wall indicators detailing the directional flow. Please be sure to follow the one-way system.
- There are contactless hand sanitisers available which members are encouraged to use regularly if you have not brought your own. Sanitisers will be indicated with signs and located at: the entrance doors to the club, reception area, at the water fountain, entrance to the badminton hall and outside squash court 1.
- Once play is finished, members are to leave via the fire exit at the rear of the squash corridor. **Follow the signs on the floor and the walls**. Turning right once through the fire escape door will lead through to the side gate and this will emerge into the car park. **Please always take time to ensure the side gate is firmly closed after you. Care must be taken when walking through the car park to reach your vehicle.**

Hand Washing / Cleaning

- The club is being regularly cleaned but please sanitise your hands as you enter and exit Ebbisham.
- There are hand washing facilities in the WC areas.
- There is sanitiser on the exterior of the double doors at the Entrance. There is also sanitiser in reception, at the water fountain, at the entrance to the badminton hall, and

outside squash court 1 (glass back). **Members are however encouraged to bring their own for whilst on the courts themselves.**

Off-Limits Areas

The showers and changing rooms will be closed, and the changing room lockers and water fountain will be unavailable as will the seating area outside the squash courts. There will be no spectators allowed in any areas, with the exception of parents accompanying under 18's for coaching sessions only if it is deemed **strictly necessary** otherwise we would ask that parents remain in their cars or to take a seat on the patio. Please note: social distancing of 2metres will need to be respected at all times anywhere on the Club's property.

Use of Toilets & Changing Rooms

The changing areas and lockers are not in use – for safety we must insist that you do not use these areas. No bags, clothing or possessions must be stored in the areas whatsoever. We ask that Members please arrive changed for their sport and any footwear changes must be done on the appointed court.

Toilets

Toilets will be available with **2 people permitted in the toilets at any one time**, but users **must social distance** and be considerate of others. Only 1 person may use the hand basins at any one time in either of the cloakrooms.

Kit Bag

We ask that members bring minimal kit to the Club. Any kit that is brought **must** be kept on the court on which you are playing. Kit, towels or personal possessions are not to be stored in the corridors or anywhere else within the club including hooks on the squash corridor.

Equipment Hire

There will be no loan equipment available whatsoever. If members require to purchase grips, squash balls, shuttlecocks or tennis balls the office will assist from 9am-5pm or the bar staff from 5pm onwards.

First Aid Provision

- If members require first aid we will be able to provide it under conditions. For staff safety and yours, the first aider will wear gloves and a face mask.
- If you are playing alone on the squash court, please ensure the office staff are made aware in the event of an emergency. All accidents, incidents and near misses must be reported.

Bar/Refreshments/Payments

- The lounge will not be available initially and access will only be available in an emergency if invited by a staff member.
- The bar will be open for sales which will be undertaken from the 'hatch' on the patio. **Seating is only available on the patio, regardless of weather conditions.** We would recommend you add a small umbrella to your kit bag which you can access should the weather change. Payments must be via credit card/contactless or club account. **There will be no cash accepted.** If you do not wish to carry a credit card to the club, please ensure your club account is topped up and you can charge any purchase to that. Club Account Top-ups can be carried out by phone on 01372 720647 or in person at the office or the bar. Contactless limits have been increased to £45 per purchase.
- The water fountain will not be available, so members are strongly advised to bring sufficient supplies with them unless they want to purchase bottled water from the patio bar. **Please note: the bar & lounge seating areas remain off-limits for the present time.**

Coaching

One-to-one coaching is available across all 3 sports. Please speak to the office staff by calling 01372 720647 or email via admin@ebbisham.com who will put you in touch with the appropriate coach.

Online-Bookings

All bookings must be made via the club's on-line Booking system.

Frozen/Cancelled Accounts

Members who have frozen their accounts or cancelled their direct debits and wish to re-start their membership then please email us at admin@ebbisham.com so that we can provide you with access. **Please be aware, it will not be possible to book courts unless you are an ACTIVE member of the Club.**

Membership Restrictions

We do not intend to implement restrictions on members bookings; however, we will monitor the system and make changes if deemed appropriate. We need to make sure every member has a fair opportunity to book courts.

Guests

To thank our members for their support and patience we are permitting our members to bring guests to the club **free of charge**, but there will be a Track & Trace system in line with government legislation set up on our booking system and it is will be necessary to provide the details of any person our member(s) are bringing into the Club.

BADMINTON

We request that before playing all members to read and adhere to the **BE guidelines via this link** <https://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/return-to-play/>

Court Booking / Club Nights

- There will be no club night sessions but instead members can book 60-mins court time for FREE via the booking functionality on the Ebbisham website (*please only call the office in exceptional circumstances as they are very busy in this current time.*)
- The 60mins is followed by a 15min 'buffer' between bookings so please finish your play, disinfect any areas you have physically come into contact with using the courtside cleaning basket, and ensure you leave in this 15mins (don't keep playing after the 60mins)
- Please do not turn up more than 5mins before your booked time to avoid large groups gathering and waiting around.

- Both singles play and doubles play can now take place in groups of people from different households, as long as you remain 2 metres apart as far as possible – meaning that four people from different households can play doubles.
- You can play singles and doubles using all areas of the court, within the respective court markings – if social distancing between adjacent courts cannot be maintained, you should only use the singles court markings.
- Other than where players are from the same household or part of a support bubble, follow Government advice on staying alert and safe.
- Stay at least two metres away from other players (including during play) as far as possible, when taking breaks and before and after play.
- Do not make physical contact with other players (such as shaking hands or high

fiving).

- Avoid chasing the shuttle down towards another court if other players are using it.
- For doubles, consider agreeing in advance which player will take the shot if a shuttle travels to the centre of the court.
- Maximum number on court is 4 and please do not mix between courts/games if you know other players on other courts e.g. if you are playing doubles just play in this 4 for the whole booking period.
- Do not change ends when playing.
- We expect there to be a lot of demand for courts so please respect other members wanting to play by not booking excessive amounts of court time.
- Please read BE guidelines for detailed playing rules.
<https://www.badmintonengland.co.uk/media/8869/rtp-player-v3.pdf>

Facilities and Badminton Hall One-Way System

- There will be a one-way system throughout the club entering from the main Club entrance only.
- For badminton this means entering the badminton hall via the main double doors and walking straight to behind your booked court. If you must go to the toilet then these are accessed via the single side door. Please note you will be going against the one-way system at this stage so please apply social distancing if anyone is ahead of you. If there are 2 people already in the toilets, you must return to court and try again later.
- The bag racks in the bar and in the badminton hall are **off limits and have had a screen applied so as not to be used.**
- Due to the inability to social distance safely, the Wiltshire room will remain locked and not available for use.
- Avoid touching equipment such as: nets, posts, court mops, where possible. If you come into contact with any hard surfaces, please clean the areas using the courtside 'Cleaning Basket' when you finish your booking. You will see there is disinfectant, cloth and gloves. Please discard any used cloth in the adjacent bin.
- Between games or in breaks, please stand at the back or side of the court and remain socially distanced from anyone not in your household. We remind you there is **2metre social distancing** in force throughout the club.
- Once play is finished, members are to leave via the fire exit at the rear of the squash corridor. **Follow the signs on the floor and the walls.** Turning right once through the fire escape door will lead through to the side gate and this will emerge into the car park. **Please always take time to ensure the side gate is firmly closed after you. Care must be taken when walking through the car park to your vehicle.**

Shuttles and Equipment

- Please come fully ready to play.
- At the moment Ebbisham will not be providing shuttles so we ask members to bring their own.
- Please bring your own rackets, Ebbisham will not be supplying any hire equipment.
- Please play in **non-marking indoor shoes only** and if bringing a non-member guest the person must wear the correct footwear. **No players with incorrect footwear will be permitted to play.**

Social Distancing

- To meet social distancing guidelines, anyone not playing on court must remain at least 2 metres from those playing and each other

- Players can rotate within the group but social distancing must be maintained within this group. You cannot move groups within a session.

In the future we are looking at introducing a singles league to add some across club competition, but we need someone to help organise this, so if you would be interested in helping out please email us.

-oOo-

SQUASH & RACKETBALL (SQUASH 57)

Please see “Ways to Play” below that are designed to ensure a reduced risk of infection.

To ensure that social distancing can be maintained throughout the activity, there should be no more than two players on court at one time.

There are several ways members can play but remember that the Government guidelines permit squash to open only if social distancing is practiced when playing outside a support bubble.

To ensure the safety of all members a COVID Officer from the club will be on duty to ensure the guidance is followed and the environment remains safe.

Although this is limited play remember this is only phase one of our return to play.

Ways to Play

Match play / Full squash game

- Players from the same household or support bubble can play ‘normal’ squash as they would have previous to COVID-19.

Solo practice Individual players can practice squash on their own.

- Options include a range of solo practices and drills to help maintain and improve squash skills.

Coaching

- Coach-led sessions observing social distancing and where the coach has been instructed on Squash England Guidance.

‘Sides’

- Two members from different households who are not in a support bubble.

Modified version of squash – ‘Sides’.

An adapted version of the game for two players from different households. This cross-court version of squash is designed to comply with social distancing measures, with each player remaining in their half of the court at all times. During the game, only one player should touch the ball and the court door, and players must not touch court walls. All equipment and touchpoints should be cleaned, and players must sanitise their hands, before and after play – NOTE: please follow standard practice for court care – i.e. walls should not be cleaned with disinfectant to avoid damage to the plaster. The rules:

- Only two players permitted
- The aim is to hit a winner or force an error from your opponent as in regular squash
- Only one player serves during the match, the opponent cannot handle the ball
- Both players must keep to their side of the court throughout each rally, using the full

length of the court whilst maintaining safe social distancing throughout

- If a player crosses into the opponent's side of the court, they immediately forfeit the rally
- If there is a danger of players breaching a safe social distance, they must call a let and replay the rally
- Once a rally is complete, players switch sides of the court (maintaining a safe social distance) and the server restarts play For full details of how to play 'Sides', see the video [here](#).

One-Way System & Final Exit Point

- There will be a one-way system throughout the club entering from the main Club entrance only.
- For squash this means entering the squash court corridor the usual way and walking straight to your booked court.
- If you must go to the toilet then you may but you must please apply social distancing if anyone is in your sight line. You will also be walking against the one-way system so please be extra vigilant.
- **The bar lounge area is off-limits with signage notifying you of non-access. Should you require a drink after your game you will need to follow the one-way system out of the club and continue around onto the terrace where you will find the 'hatch' open for drinks.**
- The bag racks in the bar are **off limits and have had screens applied so as not to be used.**
- If your hands come into contact with the wall or the floor whilst playing please spot clean the area using the wipes in the court-side 'Cleaning Basket'. Please discard any used wipe or cloth in the bin which will be regularly emptied. There will be England Squash recommended instructions on display on each court.
- Once play is finished, members are to leave via the fire exit at the rear of the squash corridor where you will see a contactless hand sanitiser. **Follow the signs on the floor and the walls.** Turning right once through the fire escape door will lead through to the side gate and this will emerge into the car park. **Please always take time to ensure the side gate is firmly closed after you. Care must be taken when walking through the car park to your vehicle.**

-oOo-

Finally, we fully appreciate that there is a lot of information for you to take in and we want to reassure members that these measures are **vital** to facilitate the opening of Ebbisham and the safety of our members and staff going forward. With your continued support and together with Government and NGB's we will continue to update you if there is a need to make changes to our operations.

A short explainer video about the safety precautions for the club due to Coronavirus has been uploaded onto the club's website (www.ebbisham.com). Please do take a couple of minutes to view it.

We shall look forward to seeing you all back playing!

The Management Committee
Ebbisham Sports Club