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Howard County
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2019

COVID-19 Newsletter Pool and Tennis Update

Hello Forest Hill Members,

We are reaching out again to keep you informed about all decisions being made by the Board in these uncertain and unpredictable times. At this point, outdoor aquatics facilities have still not been approved to open; as such, we are unfortunately unable to open this Memorial Day Weekend, as we have every other year. We share in your disappointment, as this is one of the most anticipated weekends of the year for all of us, "the unofficial start of summer".

The Board met last night to discuss what we can open, when we can open, and how we can open. Unfortunately, most of these decisions are not up to us, as we must operate within the state and county orders. We will continue planning so we will be ready if we get the green light.

We have discussed options to sign up for time slots to comply with any attendance limitations imposed; relocating or removing tables and chairs to limit surface contact; and have ordered additional cleaning supplies.

Mary Kate Lavin has been in constant contact with American Pools, our pool operator, and the County Health Department to prepare our pools and grounds to be operational as soon as possible. Covers are being removed, pools are being filled, and inspections are being scheduled. We are developing plans to open the grounds and still maintain social distancing, limit contact in highly trafficked areas, and clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces. All decisions to open are fully dependent on the County permitting outdoor aquatics facilities to operate.

As we mentioned in our last email, CMDL chose to cancel the season this year. Shortly thereafter, CMSL also made the tough decision to cancel the summer swim season. However, we are hoping to still offer other lessons, once we are permitted to open, as long as proper social distancing can be maintained.

The basketball court and playground remain closed until further notice.

All updates can be found on the COVID-19 page on our website (<https://fhstc.com/covid-19-updates/>). following link: <https://fhstc.com/tennis/tennis-guidelines-during-covid-19/>.

Now for some good news!

All 10 of our tennis courts are open for play. Guidelines for using the courts and limiting contact with common surfaces are available on our website, at the following link: <https://fhstc.com/tennis/tennis-guidelines-during-covid-19/>.

Our number one priority is keeping our members and staff safe. As of now, we are only allowing members to use courts for open play. However, we are also now able to offer lessons and clinics led by Jon Jacobson, Chip Boling and Jim Jeffers to both members and nonmembers (guest fee will apply). All clinics will be limited to 4 people to allow for proper social distancing. Our teaching pros have protocols they have established to keep themselves and you safe.

We are also pleased to announce that we will begin our doubles and singles play days for members organized by Jon Jacobson starting on Wednesday May 27th. Play days will be open to all levels, and Jon will determine pairings based on levels. We will begin:

Visit the calendar (<https://fhstc.com/calendar/>) to register for these events and for more details.

- * Ladies Doubles Wednesday and Friday morning at 9:30
- * Ladies Doubles Monday evening at 7:00
- * Ladies Singles Thursday morning at 9:30
- * Doubles for all Thursday evening at 7:00

We do ask that members review the safety guidelines for tennis and err on the side of caution to make all players feel comfortable. Guests will not be allowed at this time.

Junior workouts and drop-in clinics will begin in mid June.

Please note, going forward, all nonmembers using the pool facilities and the tennis courts must sign a Guest Waiver before entering the premises. This is required for all nonmembers; if the waiver has not been filled out, admission to the grounds will not be allowed. The Waiver will be available online (<https://fhstc.com/online-waiver-form/>) to be completed in advance; paper copies will be available if necessary.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Samantha Norris
President, FHSTC