

801 E. Front Street
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Phone: 231-922-4911



E-mail and Website:
lwells@grandtraverse.org
www.grandtraverse.org/scn

Making longer lives, better lives.

June 25, 2020

Dear Senior Center Tennis and Pickleball Players:

I hope this letter finds you well and free from all things COVID. Since early March, the Senior Center has had to reorganize and rethink everything we do for seniors in Grand Traverse County. It's been a challenge, to say the least. Our first concern has been the well-being of our over 5,000 members. Social isolation is no joke and knowing that so many of our members have no family or have no way to communicate using virtual technology, has been heartbreaking. Working with the Commission on Aging, over 6,000 calls have been made to seniors in the community. We've been checking to make sure people have what they need and give assurances that there are resources to help when help is needed.

Now, as our county begins to open up, the senior center has been in daily conversations about how we can do this responsibly. Since March, we have been handing out meals weekly at four locations, managing exercise, music and yoga classes virtually with community television and making telephone assurance calls. Now, it's time to look at group activity. The first activities we are working on resuming are those that can be held outside or held inside with a one on one appointment.

This brings us to Tennis and Pickleball. Although there will be NO league play or lessons offered this summer, we do want to provide you with court use. I have had conversations with pickleball and tennis leaders and have come up with a plan that the only thing I know for sure about it, is that it will change. Please be patient, show grace and understanding to your fellow court users and staff as we navigate these uncharted waters.

Courts will be available to Senior Center members, by reservation, Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. - 1 p.m. Reservations must be made 48 hours in advance or time may be assigned to another activity. Reservations are made with me by email to lwells@grandtraverse.org. I hope to eventually have an online option to reserve courts.

All users must be senior center members during the reservation period. No exceptions please.

Users must sign a COVID waiver. [Click Here](#) for the link or you can find it on our website. One signature is good for all senior center activities.

Users must complete a COVID Health Screening questionnaire within 24 hours of EVERY day you play. [Click Here](#) for the link or you can find it on our website. It is preferred that this be completed online, prior to arriving at the senior center, to minimize contact exposure for your fellow players. Paper copies will be available if needed.

Face coverings are preferred unless directed by a healthcare provider otherwise.

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Users are asked to remain at least six feet apart from non-household members.

Users must provide their own equipment, this includes chairs.

Use of the building is by appointment only. Outdoor restrooms are available.

Spectators will be asked to sit outside of the fenced in courts.

The current reservation schedule beginning Monday, June 29, 2020 is as follows:

Mondays and Wednesdays will be Pickleball days on the courts. Up to 5 courts available.

Tuesdays and Fridays will be Tennis days on the courts. 3 courts available.

Thursdays will be Line Dancing 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Open play for any sport otherwise. This may be temporary, we'll see if we get enough interest to keep it on the schedule.

If courts are not reserved, they will be open to the public, but only for the sport of that day. We will not be having both pickleball and tennis reserved on the same day, at least for now. That could change.

Some have asked that I share the names and contact information of members so that you can contact each other to form groups. I will need to have your permission in order to do that. [Click Here](#) to let me know your permission preferences.

If at any time, I feel we are not able to manage this process or that users are not complying with our guidelines, we reserve the right to cancel any or all reservations at any time. The safety and well-being of our members is our greatest concern and I will take whatever steps necessary to assure that.