



# Guidance for Officials & Competition Organisers in England

COVID-19: RETURN TO COMPETITION

Version 6 – Published 14 May 2021

STEP 3 GUIDANCE



TENNIS  
FOR BRITAIN

## COVID-19 SECURE GUIDELINES - RETURN TO COMPETITION

These COVID-19 guidelines apply to England only. They have been produced in line with the Government roadmap for the easing of lockdown restrictions, and specifically the guidance for [grassroots sports guidance for the public and sport providers](#), guidance for [providers of grassroots sport and sport facilities](#), and guidance for [organised sports events](#), as published on the Gov.uk website.

The guidance in this document is divided into the following sections:

- Section 1: Preparation & Facilities
- Section 2: Competition Organisation
- Section 3: Permitted Competition Activity (covering Step 3 from 17 May)
- Section 4: Provisional Tennis Activity Roadmap (Step 4)
- Section 5: Additional Guidelines for Disability Tennis

Alongside these guidelines, competition organisers should read any updated information published by [Sport England](#).

Guidelines for playing tennis in Scotland and Wales can be read at [lta.org.uk/coronavirus](http://lta.org.uk/coronavirus).

Please note, this guidance is for non-professional tennis – elite tennis is subject to separate and additional strict protocols, and can continue in line with those indoors and outdoors.

### SUMMARY GRID

To accompany this document, we have also produced a simple summary grid that clearly outlines permitted tennis activity for each step of the roadmap in England, which can be viewed and downloaded via the link below:

- [VIEW SUMMARY GRID: Permitted Tennis Activity](#)

## INTRODUCTION

We know Officials & Competition Organisers will be keen to provide competitive opportunities in a safe and appropriate manner and in line with Government restrictions. By its very nature, tennis is a safe and naturally socially distant activity to take part in during the pandemic, whereby close person to person contact can be avoided.

Based on our continued discussions with Government, the LTA has developed this updated set of practical guidelines to follow so that tennis can be played in England. These guidelines reflect the new restrictions set out in the Government's roadmap for easing lockdown, but the protocols and procedures included remain broadly the same as for previous restrictions.

As we move forward with the roadmap, will be indicating any key additions and updates to these guidelines for future versions of this document with **[NEW]** and **[UPDATED]** on the following pages.

These guidelines apply to both tennis and padel, and outline adaptations and considerations so that tennis activity can be enjoyed in COVID-19 secure environments and in a way that helps to prevent the spread of COVID-19. They include measures to maintain hygiene and minimise unnecessary interactions with others.

Tennis venues across the country are all different and operate in different local contexts. Making an assessment of whether a safe competition environment can be provided depends on a range of factors, which apply differently at each venue. It is the responsibility of each official & competition organiser and tennis facility to make that assessment based on their local environment.

These guidelines complement guidelines for venues, coaches and players, and all elements of the guidelines should be considered to ensure activity can be delivered safely.

Should you have any questions, [please refer to the FAQs on the LTA website](#). You can also read the [FAQs on the Sport England website](#) for sport and physical activity.

## SECTION 1: PREPARATION & FACILITIES

### GENERAL

- Ensure your club committee/venue management team oversees and maintains the implementation of measures in relation to staging of competitions, and any updates to them
- All activity should be consistent with the government guidance regarding health, travel, social distancing and hygiene at all times
- Venues must consider safety first, particularly minimising the risk of infection/transmission (see 'Risk Assessment' section below) and follow specific processes for running larger group activity such as club nights or coached sessions (see 'Activity Action Plans' section below)
- **IMPORTANT:** Competition organisers must consider safety first, particularly minimising the risk of infection/transmission (see 'Risk Assessment' section below) and follow specific processes for running larger group activity such as club nights or coached sessions (see 'Activity Action Plans' section below)
- **[UPDATED]** These guidelines cover activity under Step 3 of the Government roadmap – where guidelines and regulations apply only to Step 3 these come in to effect from 17 May 2021 (this is made clear where relevant) – although provisional dates for moving to future steps of the roadmap have been set, be aware these are subject to review and confirmation one week in advance
- Guidelines will continue to be updated as we progress through the steps of the Government's roadmap – the LTA remains in discussions with Government, so we recommend you check the official LTA position at [lta.org.uk/coronavirus](http://lta.org.uk/coronavirus) on a regular basis to stay abreast of latest information
- Any measures venues put in place to enable tennis activity to resume should be capable of being flexed or changed quickly should restrictions change

### RISK ASSESSMENTS

- Ahead of a competition taking place, a thorough risk assessment should be undertaken (or updated if one previously done) for that venue, and appropriate measures put in place to mitigate against risk and ensure participants, staff and volunteers are protected
- Risk assessments should be completed in line with [guidance from the Health and Safety Executive \(HSE\)](#)
- A risk assessment template is available from the COVID-19 section of the venue [Resource Library](#) on the LTA website

### ACTIVITY ACTION PLANS

- Where a competition organiser wishes to utilise exemptions that permit formally organised activity to take place in larger numbers than would otherwise be possible under the social contact limits in order to stage a competition, they should use their risk assessment to develop an action plan for safe participation, to be distributed to all relevant personnel
- The action plan should set out the transmission risk of the relevant activity, and demonstrate mitigations, plans to operate, and any adaptations required. It should also consider how compliance with infection control measures will be achieved, and where relevant set out how information to support NHS Test and Trace will be collected

- **[NEW]** For indoor tennis facilities, consideration should also be given to the Government's capacity restrictions for indoor facilities, which should be limited by providing a minimum of 100 sq ft per person.
- A template event delivery plan that can be used competition organisers can be downloaded from the [LTA's Venue Resource Library](#)

## COURTS

- **[UPDATED]** Outdoor and indoor courts can be used for competitions for adults and children. For use of indoor facilities, particular care should be taken in the production of a detailed risk assessment, to take into account the venue-specific considerations around indoor courts, access points and surrounding areas
- Ensure nets are maintained at the appropriate height to avoid players having to adjust them, and remove net winders
- If your courts require dragging (e.g. clay) or drying after rain, venues are advised to have a nominated person to do this or make spray available for players to use
- Remove any other unnecessary equipment and items from courts, and ensure appropriate cleaning measures are in place items that remain in place. Equipment such as benches may be kept in place to provide support to participants, but regular and appropriate cleaning must be undertaken

## VENUE FACILITIES

- **[NEW]** Clubhouses and pavilions, including indoor hospitality may be re-opened from 17 May, subject to a risk assessment taking into account venue-specific considerations, and including a safe maximum occupancy level. Further detailed information is also provided in the [Government's guidance](#) for restaurants, pubs, bars and takeaway services.
- Venues providing indoor access should ensure clear signage is in place so people can find their destination quickly, putting in place queue management or one-way flow measures where appropriate, and limiting the number of customers in the building (both overall and in any particular congestion areas) – **particular emphasis should be put on clear signage for the staging of competitions in instances where participants and other visitors to the venue may not know their way around as well as regular users**

## CHANGING ROOMS, TOILETS & SHOWERS

- Toilets can be accessed
- Attendees should continue to be asked to arrive changed and to shower at home where possible
- Changing rooms and showers can open for use by the public but their use should be minimised (in particular however, access should be made available for people with disabilities or special needs)
- Where toilet and changing facilities are opened, particular care should be taken by those using them and those cleaning them – you should inform customers that these are areas of increased risk and they should minimise time spent inside
- Ensure soap and water is provided where any toilets are open

## SOCIAL DISTANCING

- In line with the Government's guidance, the event timetable should be designed to permit only as many people as can be admitted whilst social

distancing is maintained at the event at any given time – this should be covered as part of your risk assessment and event delivery plan

- Event areas must be designed in order to maximise the available space for each participant and minimise the amount of time participants spend in proximity to each other
- Ensure measures are in place to minimise encounters between people, including in car parks and at entrances
- Consider marking two metre distances at appropriate points, such as the entry gates to courts, referee desk and areas for the parents

## HYGIENE

- Make hand sanitizers or wipes available for use at entrance/exit to venue/courts and buildings where possible (Hand sanitizer stations can be sourced from the LTA Buying Group - see <https://www.ltabuyinggroup.co.uk>)
- Clean all common touchpoint surfaces (gates, door handles, handrails etc) regularly, wearing disposable gloves - attendees should be advised to clean their hands with hand sanitiser after touching shared surfaces such as gates.
- Where safe and appropriate, doors and court gates could be left open
- Further guidance on maintaining hygiene at your venue is [available on the Government website](#)

## HEALTH & SAFETY

- Ensure usual access to first aid and emergency equipment is maintained
- Injuries should still be treated, as participant safety is of the utmost importance. Physios and other medical personnel should take care to protect themselves and others through rigorous cleaning and personal hygiene, including increasing the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting equipment and surfaces. Wearing face coverings is recommended for both medics and patients, where this is possible and practical
- After contact with an injured participant, physios and other medical personnel should clean their hands thoroughly with soap and water or alcohol hand sanitiser at the earliest opportunity. This advice is applicable to all situations, regardless of whether there was close contact or the minimum social distancing was maintained. They should also avoid touching their mouth, eyes and nose
- Physios and medical personnel should keep a record of each participant they have come into contact with, for test and trace purposes. Records should be kept for 21 days and then destroyed. Those working at a sport event should familiarise themselves with the guidance for first responders, in case of emergency situations.
- Further information for those who may need to act as a 'first responder' role in a sports setting is available on the [Government website](#)
- Additional guidance on delivering first aid during the coronavirus pandemic is available on the [St John Ambulance website](#)

## ENTRIES

- Operate online entry for all competitions, including recreational competitions, to ensure you do not exceed the capacity at your venue and also make it easy to record attendee details
- Take any payments online, and avoid handling cash
- Online bookings can be facilitated through the LTA Competition Management System or ClubSpark Events Module (Recreational Competitions only)

## SECTION 2: COMPETITION ORGANISATION

### PRE-ATTENDANCE SYMPTOM CHECK

- Anyone attending a competition in any capacity should undergo a pre-attendance self-assessment for any COVID-19 symptoms [using the information on the NHS website](#) before leaving home, and this should be clearly communicated to all participants in advance
- No-one should leave home to participate in tennis if they, or someone they live with, has symptoms of COVID -19, currently recognised as any of the following:
  - A high temperature
  - A new, continuous cough
  - A loss of, or change to, their sense of smell or taste
- Should an individual have demonstrated any such symptoms, they must follow [NHS and PHE guidance on self-isolation](#) and follow the steps for [Test and Trace](#)
- Anyone required to self-isolate for any other reason should also not exercise outside your own home or garden and should not exercise with others. This includes if they have been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace because they are a close contact of a known COVID-19 case. In any such instance, they should not leave their home to take part in a tennis competition
- Anyone who lives with someone who is a contact of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 and as a result has been asked to self-isolate but that close contact themselves do not have symptoms, can continue to take part in tennis activity as they only need to self-isolate if someone in their household has symptoms or they themselves have been identified as a close contact. However, they should take extra care to follow the guidance on social distancing, handwashing and respiratory hygiene. Further information is available on the [Government website](#)

### NHS TEST & TRACE

- If someone who has played in your competition develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should be directed to follow the Government's 'test and trace' guidelines, which can be read on the [Gov.uk](#) website
- To support NHS Test and Trace, officials and competition organisers should keep a temporary record of all those on site for the competition for 21 days, in a way that is manageable, and assist NHS Test and Trace with requests for that data if needed

### TRAVELLING TO AND FROM COMPETITIONS

- Travel to take part in a tennis competition is permitted, with no restriction on distance.
- **[NEW]** Car sharing is permitted in line with the [Government's safer travel guidance](#).
- Participants can help control COVID-19 and travel safely by walking and cycling, if they can, or driving their own car - [safer travel guidance is provided on the Government website](#)
- **[UPDATED]** Travel to and from Wales and Scotland is permitted (be aware there are different restrictions for playing tennis in Wales and Scotland).

- **[UPDATED]** Overnight stays away from home are now permitted in accommodation including hotels, B&Bs, self-contained accommodation, and other people's homes, in groups of up to 6 people or two households.

### COMPETITION ACTIVITY **[UPDATED]**

- Permitted competition activity is detailed in Section 3, and will change as we progress through the steps of the roadmap as outlined in Section 4
- From 17 May, competition activity is permitted for all adults and children, indoors and outdoors.
- While indoor informal social play group size is limited to a maximum of six people (or two households) and outdoor informal social play group size is limited to 30 by law, the government has confirmed that **formally organised sport (including tennis competitions) is exempt from legal gathering limits**. This is provided the activity is in accordance with the COVID-19 Secure guidelines published by the LTA and Government, and has a risk assessment and event delivery /activity action plan in place with clear and appropriate risk mitigation measures
- Competition draw size may need to be limited depending on a range of factors including the COVID-19 secure capacity of the venue
- We recommend that competition organisers very carefully consider the maximum capacity that they can operate at safely and whilst ensuring social distancing can be maintained at all times. This will vary across venues, and so competition organisers should produce detailed risk assessments and event delivery plans taking into account these factors
- Any individual groups should not interact with anyone outside of the group they are attending the venue with (e.g. players on another court)
- An official or competition organiser can oversee separate competition groups at the same time

### SCHEDULING ADVICE FOR ONE DAY EVENTS/MATCHPLAYS

- To minimise waiting time for players on site, a competition should ideally be organised so that the schedule is 1 round on, 1 round off i.e. for 4 courts you should accept a maximum of 16 players
- Consider only running 1 or 2 events per day based on the number of courts available
- Draw formats could be matchplay draws, round robins, compass draws or knock out with consolations.
- You can run singles and doubles events
- Carefully plan the schedule so you know how many people will be at the your competition at any one time
- We suggest either Two Sets + MTB or Two FAST4 sets + MTB as the scoring format
- Be aware there will be a high demand for people to return to playing tennis. Consider the other needs of the club members and venue coaches – shorter days mean members and coaches can use the courts after matches have been completed or the venue may want to only provide so many courts leaving some for members or coaches

### RAIN DELAYS / BAD WEATHER

- **[UPDATED]** In the event of rain or bad weather, attendees should where possible use their own umbrella or if they drove, return to their car. Indoor facilities may be used to shelter from bad weather, but individuals must only use

these facilities in line with social contact restrictions of six individuals or two households indoors. Multiple groups of six may use clubhouse facilities at once if a venue's risk assessment permits, but must not mix.

- In the event of an extended delay, officials and competition organisers are encouraged to make an early decision with regards to cancelling the competition to avoid attendees waiting around for a prolonged period

## MAINTAINING SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Social distancing should be observed by all those attending the competition. Officials and competition organisers should be fully aware of the latest Government advice on protecting yourself and others (including social distancing and hygiene) which can be read [here](#)
- Participants should be advised to limit their interactions with anyone outside of those they are competing (e.g. players on other courts)
- Encourage players not to congregate on/around the court before & after play
- There should be no skin to skin contact for players. Racket taps are allowed but shaking hands or elbow alternatives are not permitted
- The exemption to permit large group numbers for sport only applies to the activity itself (and not any player briefings or presentations) – before and after the competition, and for any time players are off court during the event, remain subject to social contact limits (rule of six)
- Briefings for competitors should therefore take place in advance via email or online, and presentations should not take place

## SUPERVISION & SPECTATING

- **[UPDATED]** Spectators are permitted to view events on both public and private land in Step 3, but need to adhere to social distancing rules. Spectators need to adhere to social gathering limits (groups of 30 outdoors and six people/two households indoors).
- **[NEW]** Spectators are allowed indoors, but the total number of all participants, coaches, officials and spectators must be aligned with the maximum occupancy permitted by the particular venue.

## EQUIPMENT

- Players are advised to bring and use their own equipment – where any equipment is shared it should be subject to thorough cleaning measures between use
- Any equipment used (e.g. mini tennis nets, orange lines, scoreboards) should be cleaned and wiped down afterwards
- New or fresh tennis balls are not needed for each match, in line with the latest [research](#) that this presents a low risk. It is recommended that the focus instead be put on other preventative measures and so competitors should be reminded as part of the pre-event briefing to follow hygiene guidance. This includes avoiding touching their face and anyone involved in the match cleaning their hands before the match and immediately after finishing (use alcohol gel if required)
- Water bottles or other refreshment containers should not be shared under any circumstances

## COMMUNICATION

- Communicate with your players/parents clearly and regularly, making them aware in advance of the measures you are putting in place at your competition, and guidelines they are asked to follow
- Make participants aware that undertaking any activity, including tennis, has the potential for increased risk of transmission of COVID-19, and advise attendees to read the latest Government advice on protecting yourself and others, which can be read [here](#)
- Provide a fact sheet is and/or ensure your emails clearly highlight all guidance to players/parents that they will need to follow while at your event
- Encourage attendees to bring their own hand sanitiser. Participants should be discouraged from bringing any equipment, baggage or clothing that is not essential for their participation.
- Ensure signage on guidelines for maintaining social distancing and promoting hygiene measures is clearly displayed (and ensure these remain up to date as restrictions change)
- Posters that can be used to aid communication are available from the COVID-19 section of the [Resource Library](#)
- Player/parent briefings should be provided in advance of the event day, with consideration given to suitable methods of communication to inform participants of any last-minute changes. Where any briefing is provided on the day, this should take place outdoors where social distancing can be observed and is subject to social contact limits (rule of six). This should not be held indoors

## SECTION 3: COMPETITION ACTIVITY BY TIER

This section details permitted tennis activity from 17 May 2021 under Step 3 of the Government's roadmap for the easing of lockdown restrictions in England.

Further detail on provisional permitted activity under Step 4 of the roadmap is provided in Section 4 of this document. An overview of this information is also provided in our summary grid:

- [VIEW SUMMARY GRID: Permitted Tennis Activity](#)

### STEP 3: FROM 17 MAY

#### OUTDOOR TENNIS

##### PERMITTED ACTIVITY

- Organised outdoor tennis activity for larger groups, including competitions, is exempt from legal gathering limits and so is permitted by the Government as an exception to [the legal gathering limit of 30 people](#), provided that venues and event organisers follow LTA COVID-19 secure guidelines
- In all cases the organiser must conduct a risk assessment and complete an activity action plan (see Section 1), and take all reasonable steps to limit transmission of the coronavirus by reference to that risk assessment and all relevant LTA COVID-19 Secure guidance.
- **Organised group activity is defined as being activity formally organised by a national governing body, club, qualified instructor/coach, club, business or charity and follows the LTA's sport-specific guidance for tennis.** Further details are provided on the [Government website](#)
- If the activity is not organised by one of these groups (for example, some friends getting together to play their own competition) or the LTA's guidance is not being followed (for example, no risk assessment has been done or recommended measures being ignored), this is considered by the Government to be informal or self-organised sport and so it not exempt from the legal outdoor gathering limit of 30.
- Participants should adhere to social distancing with those from another household when not actively participating
- The exemption to permit large group numbers for sport only applies to the activity itself. Social interaction among group participants before and after any group tennis activity outdoors should only take place in separate and distinct groups consisting of up to 30 people in line with the social contact limits, while maintaining social distancing at all times
- If an organiser is not able to ensure this (including when arriving at or leaving activity or when players are off court during the event) then such events should not take place. **Failure to adhere to this could result in the exemption for larger numbers for group sport being removed.**

##### COMPETITIONS

- Singles & doubles competitions are permitted for both juniors and adults

- LTA approved competitions, team competitions (such as Club/County Fixtures) and recreational competition can be played as long as they adhere to the LTA's Return to Competition guidance
- There is no set limit for draw size for either adults or children – what is a safe and appropriate draw size should be determined by the organiser as a result of the risk assessment and event delivery plan / activity action plan, and depending on the COVID-19 secure capacity of the venue
- Off-court, individuals should limit their social interaction with others and not socialise in groups of more than 30

## INDOOR TENNIS

### PERMITTED ACTIVITY (UPDATED)

- Organised indoor tennis activity for larger groups, including competitions, is exempt from legal gathering limits and so is permitted by the Government as an exception [to the rule of six](#), provided that venues and event organisers follow LTA COVID-19 secure guidelines
- In all cases the organiser must conduct a risk assessment and complete an activity action plan (see Section 1), and take all reasonable steps to limit transmission of the coronavirus by reference to that risk assessment and all relevant LTA COVID-19 Secure guidance.
- **Organised group activity is defined as being activity formally organised by a national governing body, club, qualified instructor/coach, club, business or charity and follows the LTA's sport-specific guidance for tennis.** Further details are provided on the [Government website](#)
- If the sport is not organised by one of these groups (for example, some friends getting together to play) or the LTA's guidance is not being followed (for example, no risk assessment has been done or recommended measures being ignored), this is considered by the Government to be informal or self-organised sport and so it not exempt from the legal indoor gathering limit of 6.
- The exemption to permit larger group numbers for sport only applies to the activity itself. Social interaction among group participants before and after any group tennis activity indoors should only take place in separate and distinct groups consisting of up to 6 people or two households, in line with the social contact limits, while maintaining social distancing at all times

### COMPETITIONS (UPDATED)

- Singles & doubles competitions are permitted for both juniors and adults
- LTA approved competitions, team competitions (such as Club/County Fixtures) and recreational competition can be played as long as they adhere to the LTA's Return to Competition guidance
- There is no set limit for draw size for either adults or children – what is a safe and appropriate draw size should be determined by the organiser as a result of the risk assessment and event delivery plan / activity action plan, and depending on the COVID-19 secure capacity of the venue. The maximum occupancy of each indoor facility should be limited by providing a minimum of 100 sqft per person, in line with Government guidance.
- Off-court, individuals should limit their social interaction with others and not socialise in groups of more than 6

## SECTION 4: PROVISIONAL TENNIS ACTIVITY ROADMAP

### STEP 4

- The Government's roadmap is based on four steps. To assist tennis venues, coaches and officials in preparations, we have summarised below the key relevant aspects of the easing of restrictions for each future step, outlining what is known to date
- Before taking each step, the Government will review the latest data on the impact of the previous step against four tests around vaccination deployment and impact, infection rates and NHS hospitalisations, and status of any new variants of the disease. They will then announce one week in advance whether restrictions will be eased as planned.
- Our summary grid provides a provisional overview of what each of the steps mean for tennis activity. The grid and this section of this document will be updated with further detail ahead of moving to the next step of the roadmap
- Where children's sport is referred to, this relates to activity for people aged under 18 on 31 August 2020. Adult sport refers to activity for anyone aged 18 or over on 31 August 2020

#### **STEP 4: No earlier than 21 June**

- Removal of limits on social contact
- Enable large events above Step 3 capacity restrictions, subject to the outcome of the scientific Events Research programme, and potentially using testing to reduce the risk of infection, subject to further evaluation

## SECTION 5: ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES FOR DISABILITY TENNIS

To support the resumption of the LTA's Open Court disability tennis programme and competitions, we have produced additional tennis specific guidance for inclusive and disability-specific activity.

Further, detailed information on providing disability tennis activity during the coronavirus pandemic is available in our dedicated guidance document for Open Court venues.

### DISABILITY TENNIS COMPETITIONS

- Although activity levels were at a record high prior to COVID-19, participation of disabled people in sport has been greatly impacted by coronavirus – venues hosting inclusive and disability-specific tennis activity is therefore particularly encouraged
- Be aware that disabled people as a group have been disproportionately impacted by the coronavirus pandemic, and so there may be increased concern and anxiety about returning to play. Venues should consider speaking to disabled players yet to return and finding out how people are, as well as discuss what their intention is for returning to tennis
- Prior to the most recent lockdown, LTA survey data showed that while an increasing number of disabled people were returning to the court and were excited and happy to return to tennis, a large proportion said they were playing less than they have been in the past. Nearly half felt uncertain or negative around their own safety and anxious about returning
- **Communication is crucial help reassure disabled players about their return to competition, and so when running a disability specific or inclusive event please provide competitors with clear guidance on social distancing protocols, venue layout and rules surrounding guides/assistants. For more information please contact [disabilitycompetitions@lta.org.uk](mailto:disabilitycompetitions@lta.org.uk)**
- If a player finds it difficult to follow certain protocols at an event, or needs additional assistance in order to take part in organised activity, they should contact the event organiser or LTA in advance, and reasonable adjustments can be made to ensure the safety of the player and others
- The LTA continues to work with our national partners in this area. Competition organisers and officials are encouraged to read are also encouraged to read [guidelines published by Activity Alliance](#) to assist the reopening of activity in a welcoming and accessible way. Those running visually impaired tennis activity can also refer to [guidance on the British Blind Sport website](#)

### WHEELCHAIR TENNIS

- A player/coach using a tennis wheelchair for activity should ideally:
  - Be able to transfer yourself from your day chair into a tennis wheelchair
  - Have support from a person from your household or bubble that can transfer you from a day chair into a tennis wheelchair. This person should remain available throughout the session in case of an emergency or toilet break, if required support is needed
- While social distancing should be maintained where possible, in some circumstances people will need physical assistance from someone

outside their household/bubble to be active. It's important players discuss this with the provider so they can consider your needs and preferences

- Tennis wheelchairs owned by the venue should be sanitised pre and post activity. This should be conducted by a nominated member of staff, using appropriate PPE
- A person accessing a sports wheelchair owned by the venue should only use the tennis wheelchair that has been assigned to them, no swapping of wheelchairs mid-session should be allowed

### **VISUALLY IMPAIRED TENNIS**

- If verbal guiding is not appropriate, and the player doesn't have appropriate support from someone from their household/bubble, then guiding people with sight loss at tennis venues can take place as long as both the guide and visually impaired player follow the mitigations outlined below:
  - Both people to wash hands or sanitise immediately before and after guiding
  - Both people wear a face covering
  - Use a tennis racket as a guiding aid, between the player and the guider. Player to hold grip end of the racket; guider to use head end of the racket
  - Volunteers that are supporting players with sight loss should stay with the assigned player for the duration of the activity. Volunteers should not mix with other players to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus
- If players cannot travel on their own, it is advised they should be accompanied by someone from their household or bubble. Outside of the activity itself the law in relation to the rule of six indoors and 30 outdoors still applies.