

## 2021 COVID-19 FAQs – LATEST LOCKDOWN RESTRICTIONS

- Can disability specific tennis sessions take place now that non-disabled tennis coaching has paused?
  - Yes. The Government has provided an exemption that means that outdoor sports facilities can open for organised activity for disabled people. This includes outdoor tennis courts.
  - This has been confirmed in [information published by Sport England](#).
  
- Does the exemption for organised disability sport mean I am able to open my tennis courts to deliver disability-specific activity, despite the instruction from Government to close all tennis courts?
  - Yes. Whilst indoor and outdoor tennis courts are required to close, the Government has provided an exemption for outdoor sports facilities to open for organised activity for disabled people.
  
- What is the definition of organised outdoor activity? Are there certain criteria that must be met?
  - The Government defines ‘organised sport’ as sport which is formally organised by a national governing body, club, public body, qualified instructor, company or charity, and which follows the sport’s national governing body’s guidance.
  - There is no limit on the number of disabled people who can participate, although coaches and venues should ensure they follow Government guidance on organized outdoor sport, and the LTA’s detailed guidance which will be published on our [COVID-19 page](#)
  - For the avoidance of doubt, organised activity does not include simply booking a court for a private individual or group social/informal play. However, a 1:1 coaching session delivered by an accredited/qualified coach in line with LTA Covid-19 secure guidelines would be permitted.
  
- Can I continue my sessions that are set up specifically to support people with mental health issues?
  - The Government defines disabled people as those who have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person’s ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.
  - Tennis sessions that are specifically intended for individuals who fall under this definition may continue.
  
- Does the exemption for ‘disability activity’ include the player plus their carer too?
  - Only activity intended for disabled people is permitted to continue. However, [Sport England have confirmed](#) that people who provide essential support (e.g. carers) to disabled people are exempt, and don’t count towards gathering limits. Therefore, disabled participants can be supported by a carer(s) while taking part in exercise.
  - Up to two carers for a disabled person, needing continuous care, aren’t counted towards the gatherings limit on two or more people exercising outside.

The LTA will be updating our full open-court disability tennis COVID-19 guidance which will be published as soon as possible on the [LTA’s COVID-19 page](#).