

April 3, 2020

Dear GCTA member,

As president of the Greater Columbus Tennis Association, I want to wish you and your family all the best during this difficult and challenging time. I hope this email finds you healthy and well.

If you are like me, you are being inundated with calls and emails from everyone you do business with telling you what they are doing for you during this public health emergency. While tennis may not be a priority right now, we still want to let you know what you might expect as far as a summer tennis season. Hopefully this email serves to proactively answer any questions you might have about what is going on with Columbus tennis.

Question: Will it be safe to play tennis this summer?

Answer: Your health is our number one priority. We will not schedule any matches unless public health experts give us the green light.

Question: Will there be a summer tennis season?

Answer: The GCTA board is preparing for the possibility of a summer tennis season. While it is impossible to predict where we will be in a day, a week or a month, GCTA is taking all necessary actions to prepare for league play if the opportunity presents itself.

Question: Do other options exist if we are cleared to play tennis later this spring or early summer?

Answer: Yes! GCTA is considering all options including a shorter season or an "events only" season involving tournaments or single day events. We do not plan to cancel the season unless it becomes abundantly clear that public health conditions make it impossible to play. If at all possible, we want to get people playing tennis this summer!

Question: Should I sign up for a team given all the uncertainty?

Answer: Yes! Your club pros and team captains should be contacting you shortly (if they have not already), and if you want to play, please go ahead and sign up for a team.

Question: What if I sign up and the season is cancelled? Will I lose my registration fee?

Answer: Absolutely not! GCTA is delaying payment of fees until after we know for sure whether there will be a season or not. Under no circumstances will individuals be asked to pay if there is no season.

Question: We play on public courts or our club is closed and we aren't able to confirm our court times for the summer. Should we register our team?

Answer: We recognize that our public officials and private clubs have more critical items to address during this situation. We recommend that you register your teams and assume you will have the same times you had last year. Hopefully, we will be able to confirm those times prior to scheduling matches. We are pushing back dates as far as we can to allow for these type of issues to be resolved and still have a league season.

Question: How can I keep up to date on the status of the GCTA season?

Answer: In addition to keeping your pros and captains informed, GCTA will be updating our website and social media platforms as conditions change. Please visit www.gcta.net or www.tenniscores.com or follow us on Twitter @GCTAColumbus, Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gctaohio/> or Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/gcta.columbus/> for all the latest information.

While we know that tennis is not top of mind for anyone at this point, we also know that you are avid about your tennis. Like everyone else, we at GCTA are eager to get back to normal, and tennis will play an important role for many of us in making that happen. We are committed to the Columbus tennis community and will continue to keep you apprised as this pandemic evolves.

Sincerely,

Geoff Bibo, President

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Greater Columbus Tennis Association