

# TOWN OF SOUTHBOROUGH



## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

SOUTHBOROUGH RECREATION · 21 HIGHLAND ST. · SOUTHBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS 01772  
(508) 229-4452 · FAX (508) 229-7969  
WWW.SOUTHBOROUGHREC.COM

## TOWN OF SOUTHBOROUGH OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL FACILITY REOPENING

The Recreation Department, in coordination with Town Administration, Board of Health, and Emergency Management, have recommended the following update to the Town of Southborough Facility Reopening Schedule.

### **PHASE 3 – EFFECTIVE JULY 7, 2020**

- **Parks and Open Space**

- a. Southborough Parks, Fields, and Open Space will remain open to the public with proper social distancing. Organized sports/groups allowed by Town granted permit only. Permit applications and fee schedules may be obtained by emailing [TDavis@southboroughma.com](mailto:TDavis@southboroughma.com). Any group found to be utilizing fields in an organized fashion without a permit will be asked to leave.
- b. Playgrounds will remain open to the public. DPH and CDC guideline on social distancing, personal hygiene, and face coverings remain in effect. Playgrounds will be cleaned regularly by the Department of Public works

#### *DPH Orders and Guidelines*

**Face Coverings and Masks:** All visitors to parks and open space, as well as those participating in outdoor education programs should comply with COVID-19 Order 31: Order Requiring Face Coverings in Public Places Where Social Distancing is Not Possible. The order requires any person over the age of 2, whether indoors or outdoors, to wear a face covering or mask when they cannot maintain 6 feet of distance between themselves and others, unless they have a medical condition preventing them from doing so (see further guidance here: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-state-of-emergency>).

#### **Parks and Open Space**

Walking, hiking, biking, running, and other activities (yoga, tai chi, etc.,) are allowable activities in parks and other designated areas such as rail trails, multi-use paths, and bike paths.

Parks and Open Space Guidelines:

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- Visitors should always practice social distancing by remaining 6 feet away from others and adhering to all site-specific rules, regulations, and posted signage regarding permitted uses.
- On trails, walker and hikers should move aside and leave room for others to pass, and cyclists and runners should alert other users when approaching and wait for others to step aside before passing.
- After visiting public spaces, users should wash their hands or use hand sanitizer
- **Athletic Facilities & Official Permitted Use**
  - a. The Recreation Department will begin granting permitted use of athletic field in phase II.
  - b. Phase II organized field use will be for **non-competitive use**. No games, tournaments, etc will be permitted. See further guidelines below.
  - c. Tennis courts will be open to full play with guidelines below.

## **RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES FOR YOUTH SPORTS PHASE 3, STEP 1**

**Please review and abide by all guidelines as released by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. A copy is attached to this document for reference.**

**Online Reference:** <https://www.mass.gov/doc/safety-standards-for-youth-and-adult-amateur-sports-activities-phase-iii-step-1/download>

### **Tennis courts – Patricia A Richardson Tennis Courts (Neary) and Finn**

Open for full public use (doubles/singles).

- Users should sanitize hands before and after play, not share equipment and clean and wipe down equipment (including racquets, balls, and water bottles).
- No more than 4 players per court (doubles play)
- Users waiting to utilize a court should wait outside the court's gates/fence until previous users have vacated the facility to ensure proper social distancing and prevent accidental contact of other users' equipment.

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- Face coverings to be worn while entering and exiting the facility if a distance of 6 feet is not possible between other members of the public.
- Private use is prohibited. Contact the Recreation Department for permitted options.

### Basketball Courts

- Outdoor basketball courts are now open to the public. Basketball has been classified as a **Higher Risk** activity. This characterization is determined by: Sports that involve close, sustained contact between participants, lack of significant protective barriers, and high probability that respiratory particles will be transmitted between participants.
- Courts must be use for Level 1 play: Individual or socially distanced group activities (no-contact workouts, aerobic conditioning, individual skill work, and drills)
- For full reference on guidelines and levels of play. Please refer to:  
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/safety-standards-for-youth-and-adult-amateur-sports-activities-phase-iii-step-1/download>

### Volleyball Court (Neary)

- Volleyball is now permitted outdoors. Volleyball has been classified as a **Moderate Risk** activity. This characterization is determined by: Sports or activities that involve intermittent contact, but with protective equipment or mitigating measures in place that may reduce the likelihood of respiratory particle transmission between participants (e.g., wearing masks, modifying play)
- The volleyball court is to be used for recreation purposes only. Any organized groups utilizing the court unpermitted will be asked to leave.
- For full reference on guidelines and levels of play. Please refer to:  
<https://www.mass.gov/doc/safety-standards-for-youth-and-adult-amateur-sports-activities-phase-iii-step-1/download>

### THE GUIDELINES STATED IN THIS DOCUMENT WILL RELATE TO THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES:

- Neary Field, Playground, and Volleyball Court
- Trottier Track and Field
- Lunblad Field
- Woodward/Choate Fields, Outdoor Basketball Court, & Playground
- Finn School Fields, Playground, Tennis Court
- Patricia A Richardson Tennis Courts/Neary School Tennis Courts
- Kallander Field

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- Fayville Playground, Pavilion, and Field (Note: Field to close this spring due to construction. Date TBD). **Organized Pavilion use for public gatherings by permit only (i.e. Birthday parties)**

### **No Public Access:**

- Depietri Field – Construction complete, **CLOSED THROUGH LABOR DAY**
- Town House Playground – *Under Construction, to open Late July 2020*
- 9/11 Memorial Field – **Use by PERMIT ONLY**
- Finn Skate park – Closed to public use due to safety concerns. Summer 2020 Removal
- All indoor recreation facilities (school & town) closed through Labor day 2020.

### **Public Restrooms/Portable Restrooms**

- Will remain locked until further notice.

### **Public Trash**

- The Recreation Department encourages that all users of outdoor facilities adopt a “Carry In, Carry Out” policy to protect town employees and fellow park users.

**The Town of Southborough reserves the right to close facilities, retract opening dates, and remain in designated phases if local data warrants such or facility misuse is observed. Please abide by all rules and guidelines listed in this document, and recommended by the CDC and DPH.**

For further questions, clarifications, or comments - Please email Recreation Director Tim Davis at TDavis@southboroughma.com or the Recreation Department at Recreation@southboroughma.com.

**Thank you for your cooperation.**