RPRLTC

Raynes Park Residents' Lawn Tennis Club

Meadowview Road, London SW20 9AN

Guidance on Maintenance of the Artificial Clay Courts

Key points

- **Stop play 5 minutes before the end of your session**
- **Remove any surface debris**
- **Brush the court and surrounds in an inward spiral pattern**
- **Report any defects to a committee member**
- **Leave the court as you would wish to find it**

The clay courts are a big investment for the Club and it is important that we keep them in good condition. **While maintenance arrangements will be put in place to keep the courts in good order, it is important that all members and visitors play their part in looking after the courts too.**

The artificial clay courts consist of a carpet layer with loose sand infill which is intended to cover the carpet fibres. The surface will be damaged if play takes place when the carpet fibres are exposed and **it is therefore vitally important that players drag the surface with the equipment provided after every time they play, unless the surface is wet.**

We ask all members to be vigilant about checking if courts have been dragged. Please speak to any players who are leaving the courts without doing this. We would also ask members to ensure that any debris is removed from the court.

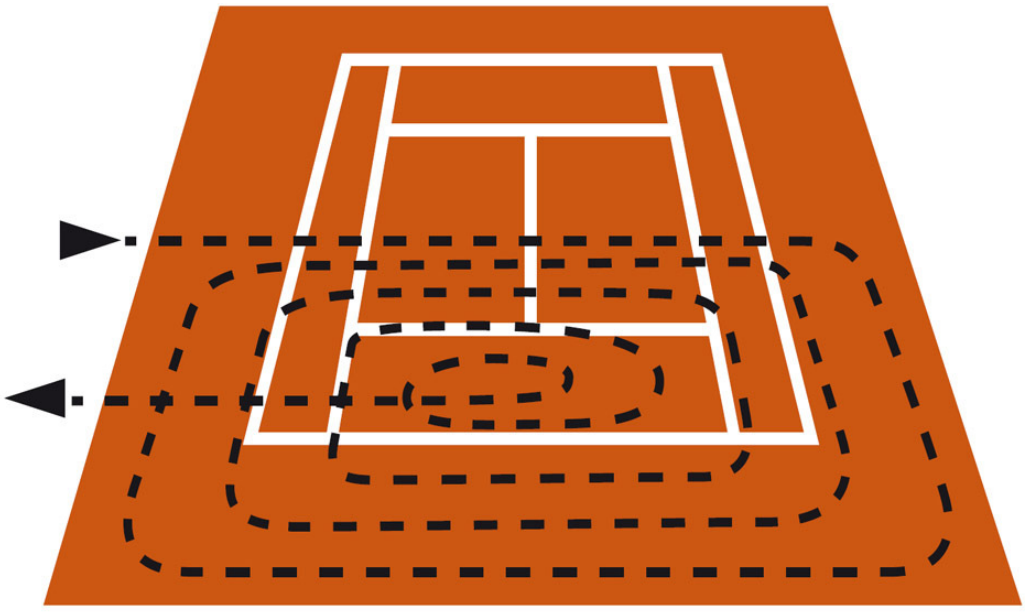
In order to preserve the quality of the Club's facilities, shoe brushes are provided at the gate to the courts and next to the clubhouse. Please use them.

Dragging the Artificial Clay Courts

<u>DO NOT</u> drag the courts if the surface is wet.

There are six brush/drag mats located around the courts, and three line brushes. The courts must be dragged with the mats after every time you play to spread the sand infill so that the carpet underlay is completely covered. Allow **5 minutes** for this task before you need to leave to ensure the courts are ready for the next players.

Start at one net post and drag the mat across the court along the line of the net, then head down the side of the court outside the tramlines towards the fence, cross the back of the court along the fence and continue walking in an inward spiral motion until you are in the middle of that side of the court (see diagram below).



Repeat the same action at the other end of the court. Do not simply drag the mats across the courts as this takes the sand away from the playing surface where it is needed. Please replace the drag mats on their hooks after use.

If the lines have been covered by sand, please use the line brushes provided.