

LHP Ball Machine Rules

USE OF THE BALL MACHINE:

- The ball machine is intended to be used as a practice tool for tennis players. Instructions and guidelines for its use are posted on the machine.
- The ball machine may only be used by Lighthouse Point (LHP) residents and their guests. Guests must be accompanied by an LHP resident, who must be present and remain on the court at all times.
- A maximum of 4 players may use the ball machine or be on the ball machine court at one time. Non-playing people (spectators) must be seated on the bench for safety reasons.
- The minimum age to use the ball machine without an adult present is 16 years of age.
- Tennis players 7 – 15 years of age may use it under direct supervision/with an adult present at all times.
- Children 6 years and under may NOT use the ball machine.
- The ball machine must not be left unattended.

TIMES OF USE:

- The ball machine may only be used on Court #3 of the Water Courts where a divider net is available to minimize disruption to other players.
- It can be booked for 55 minutes (leaving 5 minutes to collect balls and return the unit to the Rupert Bronsdon Community Centre (RBCC) at the end of the court booking).
- It may be used between 9 a.m.–7:30 p.m. daily while it is daylight. The last time slot to book the court is at 7:30 p.m. (ending at 8:30).
- The ball machine may be reserved for a maximum of 55 minutes/day per unit.
- In order to use the ball machine, the court must be tagged as usual. The ball machine and court reservation will be forfeited if not in use by 10 minutes after the tagged start time.
- The ball machine may also be used on a walk-on basis, subject to court availability.
- Since a waiver must be signed prior to first use of the ball machine, and the detailed instructions reviewed, users should arrive early the first time they are using the machine, to allow time to complete this process.

FEES:

- A fee of \$5 for 55 minutes (cash only) is to be remitted to the front desk greeter before leaving the RBCC each time the machine is used.
- In case of suddenly inclement weather, the fee will be refunded if less than half the reserved time has expired

BOOKING PROCEDURE:

- The ball machine and ball collector may be signed out at the front desk of the RBCC for a maximum of 55 minutes at any one time. On the day you wish to book, you need to *first* tag Water Court #3 (it is advisable to check the tagging board/online court schedule to ensure the court is available during that time), and then you may call and book with the front desk during regular business hours to book that time for the ball machine.
- As the battery life of the machine is 6 hours, that is the maximum time the machine can be used in one day, in order to allow for charging
- Bookings are first-come, first-serve and no further bookings will be allowed once the 6 hours has been allocated. This may be adjusted at any time without notice if it is found that the machine is not charging sufficiently for use.
- Before using the ball machine for the first time, each player above the age of majority/18 years of age (or parent/legal guardian if under age 18) must sign off at the front desk of the RBRC that the instructions on proper handling of the ball machine has been reviewed and that a waiver has been signed to absolve LHP, and/or any member of the Tennis Committee, Shared Facilities Committee or Management Team of any responsibility due to personal injury.
- Users should read all instructions located on the ball machine prior to using the ball machine. They are very specific and will enhance the ball machine experience as well as the safety of all users.

RETURN OF UNIT:

- Before leaving the court, users must collect all balls and place them back in the machine; this must be done within the allotted reservation time in order to vacate the court in time for someone who has booked it next. The ball

machine, ball collector and balls must be returned to the RBCC and remote returned to the front desk greeter promptly after use.

- Loss of the ball machine remote will result in a \$50 replacement fee.
- Any malfunctions or accidents associated with the ball machine must be reported to the front desk greeter immediately.

CONDITIONS OF USE:

- The ball machine is NEVER to be used in wet conditions – ie. during rain, drizzle or any time the court is wet.
- Wet balls should never be put in the machine as they will damage it.
- To ensure good working order of the unit, ONLY clean balls that are provided with the machine are to be used. If the balls appear to need replacement, the front desk greeter should be informed.

SAFETY:

- No one should ever stand directly in front of the machine when it is on.
- Players should stand at least 35 feet away from the machine when receiving ball throws to hit.
- The machine has potential to cause injury if used improperly or at higher speeds, therefore start with slower speeds initially.

ETIQUETTE:

- Proper tennis shoes and attire must be worn, and the rules and etiquette of LHP tennis courts use should be followed. .

IMPROPER USE OF THE MACHINE:

- Any improper use of the machine or behavior on the court while using the machine can result in a resident not being allowed to use the machine in the future.
- Damage to the ball machine caused by mishandling and/or ignoring the ball machine rules or Instructions will be assessed for repair and/or replacement and the player(s) responsible will be charged for the costs incurred.
- Management reserves the right to cancel Authorized User privileges if the Rules of Use are abused to the detriment of the "spirit of the program."