



## **NORTHFIELD PARK DISTRICT PICKLEBALL/TENNIS COURT WINTER UPDATE**

As the holidays quickly approach and the temperatures begin to drop, we will be “winterizing” our outdoor pickleball/tennis courts. Our courts will remain open when conditions permit over the winter, and for your information, “winterizing” the courts includes:

1. Rolling up the wind screens. As some of you may have already noticed, we are in the process of rolling up the wind screens to their centered positions. We do this because winter winds and snow really damage those screens and could even cause damage to the fences if conditions became harsh enough. Once the wind screens are rolled up, please leave them as they are. We will unroll them when the weather breaks in the spring.
2. Lowering the nets. Once the freezing temperatures set in, we will slightly loosen the tension in the nets on each court to prevent that tension pulling on the court surface throughout the colder months. We will get them back in position and taut come spring.
3. Temporary closures due to weather. As the freezing temperatures and snows begin, our maintenance staff will close the courts at their discretion if there is snow or ice on them. We are doing this to prevent damage to the court surface, which shovels, snowblowers, and salt can all cause. If there are nice days and we can open the courts throughout the winter, we will do so during the work week. Spring-fall, our courts will be open dawn-dusk, as always.
4. Shutting down the reservation system. Our online reservation system will be unavailable from the end of December through mid-March/early-April depending on weather. The booking service we use allows us to temporarily pause our subscription, so we take advantage of that during our slowest time of year. All courts can be used on a first come first served basis, weather permitting, throughout the winter.

We appreciate all our pickleball/tennis players and want to keep our courts in the best shape possible for all as long as we can. We believe the above “winterizing” steps will help us achieve this so that everyone can enjoy our courts to the fullest come spring.

Thank you for understanding and happy holidays!