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## **Reopening Plan Outdoor Pickleball Courts**

Town staff have recommended measures for reopening the pickleball courts for the 2024 season, and they are as follows:

1. Outdoor Courts – Schedule:  
Opening date: Monday, June 18, 2024  
Closing date: Sunday, November 3, 2024 (weather permitting)
2. Hours of Operation:
  - a. Monday to Friday – 8:00 am – 10:00 pm
    - i. 8:00 am – 1:00 pm  
(5 courts for club-organized play and 1 court for public use)
    - ii. 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
(6 courts for the public use)
    - iii. 4:00 pm – 10:00 pm  
(3 courts for club-organized play and 3 courts for public use)
  - b. Saturday & Sunday – 8:30 am – 8:30 pm
    - i. 8:30 am – 12:30 pm  
(5 courts for club-organized play and 1 court for public use)
    - ii. 12:30 pm - 8:30 pm  
(3 courts for club-organized play and 3 courts for the public)
3. Access control:  
Before 2022, the courts were accessed through a gate with a lock code. This code was hosted on the NOTL Pickleball website. For this season, the Town will pilot a program with volunteers to open and close the courts. This will ensure that all users adhere to the new schedule. NOTL Pickleball has offered to provide volunteers for the 2024 season.
4. Noise reduction paddles – pilot program  
NOTL Pickleball has purchased some noise-reduction paddles to try out for the season. This technology is in its infancy, but the club is being proactive and looking at ways to reduce the noise, and paddles are one of the factors.

5. Installation of acoustic panels

The Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake along with NOTL Pickleball have investigated options for acoustic panels. These panels have shown to reduce the noise level from pickleball play by 10 to 15 db. Preliminary discussion with the Club indicates they have the interest in cost sharing for the installation of approximately 180 feet of acoustic panels (see Appendix II). The acoustic panels will work to deflect the sound into the park space and reduce the noise that travels to the adjacent residential homes.