



MT. LEBANON RACKET CENTER

Dear Mt. Lebanon Racket Center Community,

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- About/Contact.....2
- Construction.....3
- Important Dates.....4
- Pickleball Procedures.....5
- Weekly Adult Clinics.....6
- Head Pro Article.....7
- Stringing/For Sale.....8
- Hitting Wall.....9
- Lost & Found.....9
- Platform Tennis.....10

As we head into the final stretch of the indoor season, excitement is building for the return of outdoor tennis and our newly added sport of pickleball at the Racket Center. Warmer weather is right around the corner, and our team is already preparing the courts and facilities for another great spring and summer season!

First, we want to sincerely thank everyone for their patience while our reservation software was temporarily unavailable. We apologize for the inconvenience this caused and appreciate your understanding as the software company we use worked on their end to resolve the issue. Everything is now back up and running, and we look forward to continuing to provide a smooth reservation experience for all of our players.

Over the next several weeks, you'll notice a number of important transitions as we move from the indoor bubble season to outdoor play. Please take note of the following key dates:

- Closed: Sunday, April 5
- Last Day for Indoor Tennis: Sunday, April 12
- Tennis Courts Closed: Monday, April 13 – Thursday, April 30
- Bubbles Scheduled to Come Down/Closed: Saturday, April 18
- Anticipated First Day of Outdoor Tennis: Friday, May 1

While the tennis courts will be closed for a short period during the bubble removal and seasonal transition, this time allows our staff to prepare the facility for outdoor play so that we can start the season with courts in great condition.

We are also excited to announce the upcoming Spring Session Adult & Junior Clinic Registration opening dates:

- Mt. Lebanon Residents: Register starting Friday, April 17
- Non-Residents: Register starting Friday, April 24

Spring is one of the best times of the year at the Racket Center. With longer days, warmer temperatures, and a full schedule of tennis and pickleball programming ahead, we can't wait to see everyone back outside on the courts.

Thank you again for being part of our Racket Center community. We're looking forward to a fantastic outdoor season and hope you are just as excited as we are to get back outside!

Darin Rauso
Racket Center Manager



About Our Facility



HOW TO FIND US:

Mt. Lebanon Racket Center
900 Cedar Blvd
Pittsburgh, PA 15228

Phone: (412) 343-3411

YOUR STAFF:

Darin Rauso, Facility Manager
drauso@mtlebanon.org

Megan Foster, Head Pro
mgustinefoster@mtlebanon.org

David Armbrrecht, Maintenance
darmbrecht@mtlebanon.org

STAY UP TO DATE!

Be sure to check out our Bulletin Board on your way in for information, flyers, events, and other notices!

Tennis began in Mt. Lebanon as a backyard sport. The original private court that belonged to first Mt. Lebanon solicitor, Samuel Schreiner, still exists behind the house he built on St. Clair Circle in 1929. Over the years, however, the sport grew in popularity - both to play and to watch. Mt. Lebanon Recreation Department, in partnership with the previous Indoor Tennis of Mt. Lebanon, has been able to expand from one scruffy public court to the 13 well-maintained courts we now enjoy, including six with winter "bubbles" that provide year-round play. In addition, we have viewing stands, and a tennis center building with a community room. Located next to our Racket Center building, is our popular state of the art hitting wall, available to be used by reservation during operating hours of the Racket Center.

In addition to our tennis courts, we also have four platform tennis courts and a newly built paddle hut. The Mt. Lebanon Platform Tennis Association (MLPTA) and the municipality operate as partners in the maintenance and upkeep of the platform tennis facilities. Platform tennis, also known as paddle tennis, is thriving in Mt. Lebanon. Mt. Lebanon fields a number of teams in both the men's and women's Western Pennsylvania Platform Tennis Association (WPPTA) leagues.

Tennis Hours of Operation (Indoor)

Monday-Sunday
8 a.m. to 10 p.m.



Websites:

Online Reservations/Program Registration
mtlrec.activityreg.com

Racket Center Facility Info: mtlebanon.org

CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Courts 1-8 Lighting Improvement:

- Courts 1-8 lighting fixtures are being upgraded to LED, to allow a better evening experience for all our players starting this Spring!

Court 13 Railing:

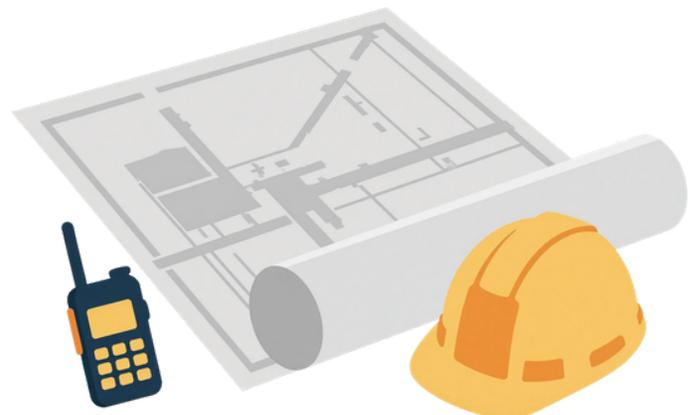
- Railing will be installed on the walkway around court 13 on the hill for safety. Completion is set for early 2026.

Fencing Improvements:

- Project will be ongoing, with replacement of old/damaged perimeter fencing at our tennis courts.

Pickleball Court Construction:

- Project is completed, with color coating to be applied in the spring!
 - Temporary lines have been painted, with nets installed.
 - Opening date is pending due to weather. Stay tuned!
1. Pickleball courts will not have a bubble.
 2. We have six pickleball courts in total.
 3. Players will pay a fee to use the courts.
 4. Reserving courts will be similar to reserving tennis courts.
 5. Many program and lesson offerings for pickleball to come soon!



IMPORTANT DATES!

GET READY FOR THE *Outdoor Season*

We appreciate your patience as we prepare for spring & summer!



SUNDAY, APRIL 5
Racket Center Closed



LAST DAY FOR INDOOR TENNIS
SUNDAY, APRIL 12



NO TENNIS AVAILABLE
APRIL 13 – APRIL 30



BUBBLES COMING DOWN / FACILITY CLOSED
SATURDAY, APRIL 18



**ANTICIPATED FIRST DAY FOR
OUTDOOR PLAY**
FRIDAY, MAY 1



Pickleball Operating Procedures/Rules

Opening Soon!

- Six lighted pickleball courts
- Monday-Sunday 8 a.m.-sunset
- *Pickleball courts will be color painted in Spring 2026*

Operating Procedures/Rules

1. Timeslots - Timeslots on all courts are in half-hour increments. A one-hour minimum reservation is required. There are no designations for singles or doubles courts. Operating hours are from 8 a.m. - sunset, until outdoor lighting is completed, Monday-Sunday. The Racket Center reserves the right to close early in the evening if there are no reservations.
2. Online reservations are encouraged for pickleball courts. You may make a reservation up to one week in advance by visiting mtlrec.activityreg.com. Payment is due at the time of reservation.
3. Fees - Court fees are \$12/court/hr. There are no additional convenience fees for online reservations.
4. Everyone must check in with the Racket Center cashier before going to their court.
5. Splitting payments for court reservations is not permitted. Each group must pay for their court with a single payment/single transaction. Credit card payments preferred.
6. Time played is time paid. Staying on and playing after your scheduled reservation is not permitted. Please be considerate of others and leave the court promptly at the end of your reservation. If available, time can be extended at the front desk with payment.
7. Walk-up reservations - Walk-up reservations are welcomed if space is available.
8. Cancellations - Anyone may cancel their reservation online up four hours prior to the start time, and a credit will be issued to the account. Within four hours of the start time, reservation fees are nonrefundable.
9. If your reservation is rained/snowed out and you cannot play at least half of your time, we will put a credit on your account. If you have played for at least half of your court time, no credit will be issued.
10. Only instructors employed and certified by the Mt. Lebanon Racket Center are permitted to teach lessons. Outside instruction/coaching is not allowed.
11. Water is the only drink permitted inside pickleball court area. All other drinks/food must stay outside court area.
12. Pets, bicycles, rollerblades, skateboards and scooters are prohibited.
13. Shirts are required and must be worn at all times.
14. No smoking, vaping, or tobacco products of any kind.
15. No abusive language, shouting, or aggressive behavior.
16. Do not walk behind active courts while points are in play.
17. Non-marking tennis shoes are required.
18. Playing music is not permitted except through earbuds or headphones and only audible to the individual listener.
19. Younger Children - Children must be at least 11 years old to play on the courts unless they are playing with a parent or guardian. Regardless of age, children must be capable of observing all the rules and regulations while at the Racket Center.
20. Junior Pickleball Clinics - Children 10 and younger must be dropped off and picked up at their designated court by a parent or guardian. Please be prompt. Children 10 and younger will not be released without a parent or guardian present. Regardless of age, children must be capable of observing all the rules and regulations while at the Racket Center.
21. Questions? If you have any questions, you may call the Racket Center at (412) 343-3411.
22. All rules and policies are subject to change.



WEEKLY ADULT CLINICS

New Signups Each Week

Clinic	Day of Play	Time	Max #	Cost
Live Ball (3.0-4.0)	Tuesday	6 to 7 p.m.	8	\$18
Adult Clinic (3.5+)	Tuesday	8:30 to 10 p.m.	12	\$24
Live Ball (3.0-4.0)	Wednesday	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.	8	\$18
Fitness & Foundations	Wednesday	6:30 to 7:30 p.m.	8	\$15
Adult Clinic (3.5+)	Wednesday	8:30 to 10 p.m.	12	\$24
Cardio (3.5+)	Thursday	9:30 to 10:30 a.m.	8	\$20
Cardio (3.0+)	Thursday	7 to 8 p.m.	16	\$20
Cardio (3.0+)	Friday	10 to 11 a.m.	8	\$20
Live Ball (3.0+)	Sunday	11 a.m. to 12 p.m.	8	\$18
Adult Clinic (3.0+)	Sunday	12 to 1:30 p.m.	8	\$24



HEAD PRO: MEGAN FOSTER

The New Generation of Tennis Ballers!

Things have really been moving and grooving on the courts, especially with our junior programming! We are excited to offer clinics for players as young as 5 years old, and it's been wonderful to see these young athletes showing up prepared and ready to play.

One of the best sights at the facility is seeing grandparents bringing their soon-to-be ballers to the hitting wall to practice, kids walking in with their tennis bags after a long hitting session with dad, or friends scheduling courts together to get in some extra play.

Our coaches have been doing a fantastic job keeping players engaged and learning while always focusing on the fun of the game. In our classes, players work on everything from fundamental movement skills to stroke production and match strategy.

We also place a strong emphasis on tennis etiquette. It's important that our players learn how to properly enter and exit the courts, show respect to others, and practice great sportsmanship. High-fives, handshakes, and acknowledging a great shot are all part of the culture we're building on the courts.

Like anything, some things are always a work in progress such as cleaning up equipment and knowing when to enter the bubble but our coaches have done a spectacular job helping players learn the routines and expectations.

If you're interested in learning more about our junior programming or our new performance clinic for higher-level players, please contact the office, (412) 343-3411.

We're looking forward to spring and getting everyone back outdoors!

STRINGING / FOR SALE

Racket Stringing Service

Need a fresh set of strings? We've got you covered! Our in-house stringing service offers a 4-day turnaround to keep you on the court and playing your best. Labor is just \$20 - simply bring your racket and string, and we'll handle the rest. Don't have string? No problem, we have options available for purchase at the front desk.

Have questions? Stop by or give us a call!



Logo Apparel for Sale

Show your Racket Center pride with our logo quarter-zips, perfect for on or off the court! Comfortable, stylish and great for layering, each quarter-zip is just \$45. Available in a range of men's/women's sizes while supplies last.

Grab yours at the front desk today!



Other Items for Sale



PRICE LIST

Can of tennis balls	\$5
Pickleball	\$5
Can of paddle balls	\$14
Replacement grip	\$12
Overgrip	\$4
Logo Dampener	\$8

HITTING WALL

Our state of the art hitting wall is available to be reserved during Racket Center operating hours online or by calling the front desk at (412) 343-3411. The wall has two sides, A & B, as each are able to be reserved. The wall is FREE and located up the stairs to the left of the Racket Center building.

Racket sports ONLY.



Lost something? We may have it! Stop by the Lost & Found area inside the Racket Center to pick up any misplaced items.



PLATFORM TENNIS

Fees: \$16 per court, per 1.5 hours, weekdays prior to 5:30 p.m., and \$20 evenings and weekends.

[Online Court Reservations](#)

Courts are available for a maximum of eight days in advance and you must have a reservation to play on the courts. You may cancel your reservation online up to one hour prior to the start time, and a credit will be issued to your account. Beyond one hour prior to the start time, your reservation fees are nonrefundable. For access to lights or heaters email platformtennis@mtlebanon.org or call (412) 343-3411.

No one under 21 is permitted to reserve facilities. The responsible party reserving the facility must be present at all times during the reservation. Pickleball is prohibited on the Platform Courts.

What is Platform Tennis?

It has been described as “the chess game of racket sports.” It is a unique outdoor tennis game, generally played in cold weather, that requires the patience of a tortoise combined with the speed of a hare. It is a game in which raw power is not the ultimate weapon, but finesse and accuracy are rewarded. Primarily a doubles game, teamwork between partners is also an important feature.

Platform Tennis, also known as paddle tennis, is played on a 20-foot-by-44-foot court, about one-third the size of a conventional tennis court, and is surrounded by 12-foot high “chicken wire” screens. These are located eight feet behind the base lines and five feet from the sidelines. Service lines are drawn in the same manner as tennis.

Rules of the Game

Most of the rules follow regular tennis including the scoring which is 15, 30, 40 and game. There are, however, a few major differences that make Platform Tennis a significantly different game. The first major rule difference is that there is only one serve. If the initial serve is not hit in the receiving area the server loses the point. There is no “second chance” as in tennis.

The most intriguing difference, however, is the use of the screens to keep the ball in play. Just as in tennis, a player may return a shot by either hitting it before it hits the deck or after letting it bounce one time, playing it as a ground stroke. In platform tennis, however, the player has an additional option. The ball is allowed to rebound off the screen after hitting the deck and then is hit before it hits the deck again.

