



MT. LEBANON RACKET CENTER

Dear Mt. Lebanon Racket Center Community,

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We're excited to announce that the Mt. Lebanon Racket Center will be transitioning to a new reservation software - CourtReserve - **beginning May 1, 2026.**

This upgrade is designed to provide a smoother, more user-friendly experience for all our players. With CourtReserve, you'll be able to:

- Easily reserve tennis/pickleball/platform courts through the mobile app & online
- Register for programs, clinics & events
- Have improved communication with facility announcements, updates and reminders
- Manage the household account, billing in one place and view your previous stringing jobs
- Access your reservations and programs anytime through the mobile app or online and cancel through the app

What you need to do (see page 3 for more details) :

Before May 1, players will need to create a new CourtReserve account. Getting started is simple:

1. Download the CourtReserve app in the app store or visit the desktop website [LINK](#).
2. Search "**Mt. Lebanon**" under Organization (mobile app)
3. Create your account and enter your primary household information
4. Add family members to your account if needed

We encourage everyone to set up their account ahead of time to ensure a smooth transition. Our current system will continue to be used for any reservations or programs scheduled before May 1. All bookings on or after May 1 will be handled through CourtReserve. If you have any questions or need assistance setting up your account, our staff is happy to help. We're confident this upgrade will enhance your experience at the Racket Center, and we appreciate your cooperation as we make this transition!

The pickleball courts are now open to the public and able to be reserved! Reservations can be made online or by calling the Racket Center at 412-343-3411. Please review our pickleball policy on **page 8**. Pricing is \$12/court/per hour and reservations can be made in 30-minute increments, with payment in full at the time of reservation. We are offering new pickleball clinics weekly so make sure to stay up to date with our schedule on our [website!](#)

With the addition of pickleball, our tennis court numbers will change to reflect our now 13 tennis courts. Please review the map on page 4 to familiarize yourself with the updated court numbers. Outdoor courts will also be able to be reserved in half-hour increments this season.

Other important dates to be aware of:

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

Thank you for your commitment to the Racket Center. We can't wait to see you for the outdoor season!

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 Armbrecht, Maintenance
darmbrecht@mtlebanon.org

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.

Racket Center Hours of Operation (Outdoor)

Monday:	8 A.M. - 9 P.M.
Tuesday:	8 A.M. - 9 P.M.
Wednesday:	8 A.M. - 9 P.M.
Thursday:	8 A.M. - 9 P.M.
Friday:	8 A.M. - 7 P.M.
Saturday:	8 A.M. - 7 P.M.
Sunday:	8 A.M. - 9 P.M.



Websites: Online Reservations/Programs:

[CourtReserve](#) (Starting May 1)

Racket Center Facility Info:

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!



MT. LEBANON

— RACKET CENTER —

IMPORTANT UPDATE!

We're Moving to a New Reservation System



Starting **MAY 1, 2026**

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO:

- 1 SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW**
- 2 CREATE YOUR ACCOUNT**
 - ✓ Search "Mt. Lebanon" under Organization
 - ✓ Enter your primary household information
- 3 ADD FAMILY MEMBERS**

Once your account is created, you can add additional users




IMPORTANT REMINDER

All reservations & program registrations


ON OR AFTER MAY 1

must be made through **CourtReserve**.

SCAN HERE TO GET STARTED!

 iPhone (iOS)



 Android



Thank You for Your Patience During This Transition!

We can't wait to see you on the courts!

Updated Court Numbers Starting May 1



Important Dates!

OUTDOOR SEASON IS ALMOST HERE!

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



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



COURTRESERVE LAUNCH FRIDAY, MAY 1
New reservation system begins

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU
OUTSIDE!



All reservations on or after May 1 will be made through **CourtReserve**



Junior Programming

MAY - JUNE SESSION CLINIC (5 weeks)

May 4 - June 7 (*NO CLASS 5/25*)

Registration: Mt. Lebanon Residents **Friday, 4/17** / Non-Residents **Friday, 4/24**

For questions on class placement, email [Megan Foster](#)

[*Register through CourtReserve*](#)

Day of Week	Clinic Level & Age	Time	Dates
Mondays	Big Kids 5-6 yrs	4 to 5 p.m.	May 4-June 1
Mondays	Red Ball Club 10 & Under	4 to 5 p.m.	May 4-June 1
Mondays	Red Ball Plus 10 & Under	4 to 5 p.m.	May 4-June 1
Mondays	Orange Ball Club 10 & Under	4 to 5 p.m.	May 4-June 1
Wednesdays	Big Kids 5-6 yrs	4 to 5 p.m.	May 6-June 3
Wednesdays	Red Ball Club 10 & Under	4 to 5 p.m.	May 6-June 3
Wednesdays	Red Ball Plus 10 & Under	4 to 5 p.m.	May 6-June 3
Wednesdays	Orange Ball Club 10 & Under	4 to 5 p.m.	May 6-June 3
Wednesdays	Youth 1 11-17 yrs	5 to 6:30 p.m.	May 6-June 3
Wednesdays	Youth 2 11-17 yrs	5 to 6:30 p.m.	May 6-June 3
Thursdays	Big Kids 5-6 yrs	4 to 5 p.m.	May 7-June 4
Thursdays	Red Ball Club 10 & Under	4 to 5 p.m.	May 7-June 4
Thursdays	Youth 1 11-17 yrs	5 to 6:30 p.m.	May 7-June 4
Thursdays	Youth 2 11-17 yrs	5 to 6:30 p.m.	May 7-June 4
Sundays	Big Kids 5-6 yrs	11 a.m. to Noon	May 10-June 7
Sundays	Red Ball Club 10 & Under	11 a.m. to Noon	May 10-June 7
Sundays	Orange Ball Club 10 & Under	Noon to 1 p.m.	May 10-June 7
Sundays	Youth 1 11-17 yrs	Noon to 1:30 p.m.	May 10-June 7
Sundays	Youth 2 11-17 yrs	2 to 3:30 p.m.	May 10-June 7
Sundays	JV 11-17 yrs	2 to 4 p.m.	May 10-June 7

Adult Programming

MAY - JUNE SESSION CLINIC (5 weeks)

May 9 - June 7

Registration: Mt. Lebanon Residents **Friday, 4/17** / Non-Residents **Friday, 4/24**

For questions on class placement, email [Megan Foster](#)

[*Register through CourtReserve*](#)

Day of Week	Clinic Level	Time	Dates
Saturdays	Beginner (2.0-2.5)	8 to 9:30 a.m.	May 9-June 6
Saturdays	Beginner Plus (2.5-3.0)	8 to 9:30 a.m.	May 9-June 6
Saturdays	Intermediate (3.5+)	9:30 to 11 a.m.	May 9-June 6
Saturdays	Advanced Intermediate (4.0+)	9:30 to 11 a.m.	May 9-June 6
Sundays	Beginner (2.0-2.5)	8 to 9:30 a.m.	May 10-June 7
Sundays	Beginner Plus (2.5-3.0)	8 to 9:30 a.m.	May 10-June 7
Sundays	Intermediate (3.5+)	9:30 to 11 a.m.	May 10-June 7
Sundays	Advanced Intermediate (4.0+)	9:30 to 11 a.m.	May 10-June 7

Outdoor weekly adult tennis programming schedule coming soon! [Stay up to date on our website!](#)

Register weekly through [CourtReserve](#)



Pickleball Operating Procedures/Rules

Open Now!

- Six pickleball courts
- Monday-Sunday 8 a.m.- 7 p.m.
- *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. 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 to two 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.

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:

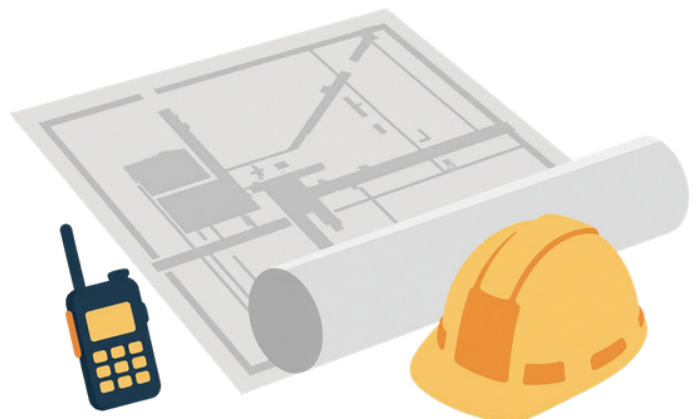
- Railing will be installed on the walkway around court 13 on the hill for safety. Completion is set for early 2026.

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.
- Courts are open!
 1. Pickleball courts will not have a bubble.
 2. We have six pickleball courts in total.
 3. Players pay a fee to use the courts.
 4. Reserving courts is the same process as reserving tennis courts.
 5. Many program and lesson offerings for pickleball to come soon!



HEAD PRO: MEGAN FOSTER

The Rise of Alternative Racket Sports: Pickleball, Tiptique Tennis, and Touch Tennis

The world of racket sports is evolving and it's not just about traditional tennis anymore. Across clubs and communities, new and modified versions of the game are gaining popularity, offering fresh, accessible, and fun ways for players of all ages and skill levels to get on the court. Among the fastest-growing are **Pickleball**, **Tiptique Tennis**, and **Touch Tennis** each bringing its own unique twist to the game.

Pickleball: The Social Sensation

Pickleball has taken the sports world by storm, and for good reason. Played on a smaller court with a paddle and a perforated plastic ball, it blends elements of tennis, badminton, and ping pong. The rules are simple, rallies are longer, and the learning curve is friendly for beginners.

What makes pickleball especially appealing is its social nature. Doubles play is common, games are quick, and players can rotate in and out easily, making it a perfect activity for clubs, families, and community programming. It's also low-impact compared to traditional tennis, which has helped it attract a wide range of players from young athletes to active older adults.

Tiptique Tennis: A Creative Entry Point

Tiptique Tennis is a lesser-known but highly engaging variation that focuses on skill development, creativity, and fun. Often played with modified equipment and adaptable court setups, it emphasizes touch, control, and hand-eye coordination over power.

This format is especially effective for introducing players to racket sports or for creating dynamic group programming. Coaches can easily tailor activities within Tiptique Tennis to match different ages and ability levels, making it a versatile tool for building confidence and foundational skills.

Touch Tennis: Big Game, Small Court

Touch Tennis brings the feel of traditional tennis into a more compact and accessible format. Played on a smaller court with shorter rackets and low-compression balls, it mirrors the structure of tennis while reducing the physical demands.

Because of its size and simplicity, Touch Tennis is ideal for tight spaces, quick matches, and high-energy play. It's a great bridge between beginner-level programs and full-court tennis, allowing players to develop tactics, consistency, and shot selection in a controlled environment.

Why These Sports Matter

The growth of Pickleball, Tiptique Tennis, and Touch Tennis reflects a larger trend in sports: accessibility and inclusivity. These formats lower barriers to entry, require less space, and prioritize enjoyment alongside competition. For facilities and programs, they also offer flexibility whether it's filling court time, expanding youth programming, or creating new social events. For players, they provide opportunities to stay active, learn new skills, and connect with others in a welcoming environment.

The Future of Racket Sports

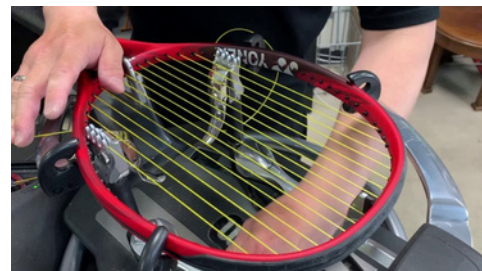
As interest continues to grow, these alternative formats are not replacing traditional tennis they're enhancing it. They serve as entry points, complements, and even lifelong alternatives for those seeking a different pace or style of play. One thing is clear: the court is getting more creative, more inclusive, and more fun and that's a win for everyone.

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 starting May 1: \$18 per court, per 1.5 hours, weekdays prior to 5:30 p.m., and \$22 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.

