

NWTC Update: Hot Water Tank is 'Down' but the Ball Machine is 'Up and Running'

Hi everyone – [Please be aware that our Club is without hot water until sometime next week. Unless you enjoy pre-match cold showers, or post-match ice baths, please keep this in mind!](#) A plumber will evaluate the situation on Saturday, and we will then know whether a repair of the tank is possible, or whether we need to replace the hot water tank entirely. Either way, the repair or replacement operation will not be possible until after the weekend at the earliest.

[Our Club ball machine is once again in good repair, and it will be available for member use in the coming days.](#) Please look for the key to the Court 4 storage shed to reappear on the hook inside the basement door facing the courts by Saturday.

Alongside the key, you will find a NEW clipboard with a sign-out sheet that is to be completed any time the machine is in use. We will be asking for the user's name, date, and time of key sign-out, as well as checkmarks to be added confirming that you have looked to see that Court 4 is completely DRY and free of puddles, and once you've used the machine and locked it away, that the key has been returned to the hook inside the door. *Please note that if Court 4 is dry, but the balls to be placed in the machine hopper are wet, the machine is not available for use. Wet balls destroy the interior electronics/motherboard – we know this firsthand!

As many of you know, we have had ongoing issues in keeping our Club ball machine operational. It is an expensive piece of equipment that is happiest when used on clean, dry indoor courts. Obviously, our Club is outdoor, and the courts are in use year-round, weather permitting. If our Club is to keep the ball machine in good repair, and as a viable option for our Club member's use, we ask that you adhere to the following guidelines:

- Always USE the sign-up sheet in the Clubhouse
- Always ensure that Court 4 is completely DRY before signing out the key
- If Court 4 is dry, but the balls are wet, DO NOT proceed in using the machine
- If you notice that there are wet balls inside the machine hopper, please remove them and place them in our basement storage room to dry out
- If it starts to RAIN while you are using the ball machine, please stop using it immediately and store it away in the shed. Again, remove the balls from the interior hopper if you think that they are wet
- Always consult the manual inside the shed if you are unsure of how to use the machine
- *Our machine is the 'Rival' model made by Silent Partner
- Do not lift the machine to other courts as it is to be used on Court 4 ONLY
- If you are using the REMOTE CONTROL, always ensure that it is replaced AND stored inside the molded pocket at the back of the machine when you are done
- Please place the ball machine back inside the shed and lock the padlock after use
- Remember to return the key to the hook inside the basement door and do not forget it outside when you leave the court
- Feel free to ask Don Campbell any questions that you may have about the ball machine's use. Also, if the machine stops working OR if there is any sort of issue with it, we ask that you advise Don ASAP at Treasurer@nwtennis.com

Thank-you for taking the time to read this message!! We hope that the ball machine will remain in good repair throughout the season ahead. This year, it will be moved inside the Club for storage when the net on Court 4 has been removed and winter play rules are upon us.

Wendy Sider
NWTC President