GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- In accordance with RIIL and RIDOH guidance, responsible parties must ensure a distance of at least six feet is maintained among individuals at all times, whether indoor or outdoor, unless safety or the core activity (e.g. practicing, playing) requires a shorter distance. If a shorter distance is required, Athletes are required to wear cloth face coverings/masks per RIDOH guidelines. During play when spacing between players is greater than 10 ft athletes may momentarily take brief face covering relief. The default expectation is that the mask will be on. In addition, coaches, trainers, spectators and all other individuals who are not engaged in physical activity are required to wear a face covering per RIDOH guidelines.
- Consider spraying tennis balls briefly with a disinfectant spray (e.g., Lysol or Clorox) at the conclusion of play. Using new balls on a regular basis is encouraged.
- When possible consider using one separate can of balls per player per match. Players should serve their own tennis balls throughout the match.
- Tennis practice equipment should be touched only by the coach and should be cleaned frequently. Use alcohol-based disinfectant to clean all tennis gear, including racquets, towels, target cones, ball machines, etc.
- Consider using a ball machine for giving lessons. Using ball tubes and basket pickups to pick up loose balls after a ball machine rotation also limits contact.
- Avoid using unnecessary equipment such as throw-down lines.

PRE-MATCH CONFERENCE:

- Limit attendees to any pre-match conference between athletes and coaches. Make sure to maintain social distancing of 6 ft.

TEAM AREAS:

- Make sure team personnel observe social distancing of 6 ft.

DURING MATCHES:

- Between points, use your racquet or foot to advance the tennis balls back to your opponent. Also, avoid using your hands when returning balls to another court.
- Maintain physical distancing if changing ends of the court.
- If using mounted scorecards, only the home team should be operating the cards.
o Avoid touching your face after handling a ball, racquet or other equipment.
o Wash your hands promptly if you have touched your eyes, nose or mouth.
o When playing doubles, coordinate with your partner to maintain physical distancing, where possible.
o Wash your hands thoroughly or use a hand sanitizer before, during (between sets), and after play.
o Clean and wipe down your equipment, including racquets and water bottles. Use new balls and a new grip, if possible.
o Use only your own towels and water bottles. Avoid sharing food and touching common surfaces such as court gates, fences, benches, etc.

**TENNIS BALLS:**
o Here is an extra precaution you can take to keep safe when playing tennis, if feasible:
o Each team provides tennis balls for use exclusively by their team for every match
o Use four or six tennis balls per match per team.
o Open two cans of tennis balls that do not share the same number on the ball.
o Take one set of numbered balls and have your playing partner take a set of balls from the other can. (Have one player mark their balls for easier identification.)
o Proceed with play, making sure to pick up your set of numbered balls only. Should a ball with the other number wind up on your side of the court, do not touch the ball with your hands. Use your racquet head or feet to advance the ball to the other side of the court.

**CONSIDERATIONS FOR COACHES:**
o Communicate your guidelines in a clear manner to students and parents.
o Consider conducting workouts in “cohorts” of same students always training and rotating together in practice to ensure more limited exposure if someone develops an infection.
o Keep accurate records of those athletes and staff who attend each practice in case contact tracing is needed.

**CONSIDERATIONS FOR STUDENTS:**
**Students are responsible for their own supplies**
o Students should wear their own appropriate workout clothing (do not share clothing), and individual clothing/towels should be washed and cleaned after every workout immediately upon returning home.
o Bring own water bottle.