# OPEN COURT





A City of Atlanta Department of Parks and Recreation Publication

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## City Council Approves Legislation for New Management of City of Atlanta Tennis Centers

In early December, Atlanta City Council approved legislation to allow the Department of Parks & Recreation to enter a contract with Agape Tennis Academy to assume management and operation of City of Atlanta Tennis Centers in January 2024. They look forward to working with DPR, the tennis and pickleball communities, council members, and neighborhoods, to build a top-tier experience that will enrich and expand recreational opportunities for everyone!

#### Why Should You Be Excited?

The breadth and depth of programming planned for each tennis center by Agape is something to look forward to! Tennis lessons will return with Agape instructors who hold coaching certifications from the US Professional Tennis Association and/or Professional Tennis Registry. Coaches also hold certifications in other relevant areas, such as pickleball, cardio tennis, and more.

#### What will the Transition Look Like?

It is DPR and Agape's goal to make the transition period as smooth and seamless as possible. We plan to begin the process in January 2024, and it will take approximately 8 – 12 weeks to fully complete. As part of this process, there will be changes to the reservations and payments software used to book courts. We will provide details about how and when that is happening as the time gets closer. For now, continue to book your courts at tennis centers through PlayByPoint. Agape will honor existing court reservations.

### What Should You Expect Under Agape Management?

In addition to the lessons and programming, you can expect a welcoming and diverse staff eager to share tennis with all Atlantans interested in playing and learning the game. Further, you can expect enhanced coordination and communication as it relates to reservations, program registrations, payments, court closures, special programs,

and more, because each center will have a dedicated office manager. But that's not all! Each center will also have a proshop, where you'll be able to buy tennis gear and clothing, or have your racket restrung! You'll also have the option to enjoy pre-packaged meals, light bites and sports beverages provided at a concessions area.

#### What Will be the Tennis Center's Hours?

For now, the hours at each tennis center will remain the same. However, there may be some changes coming as we move through the transition period. What's important to know is that hours will not decrease at any of the tennis centers through or beyond the transition!

#### **Bitsy Grant**

Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

#### Chastain Memorial

Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

#### Sharon Lester at Piedmont Park

Monday – Friday, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

#### **Washington Park**

Monday – Friday, 5 – 9 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

#### Joseph McGhee

Monday – Friday, 5 – 9 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.



### Thank You for an Incredible 2023, Atlanta!



## SPRING 2024 RANDOM SELECTION **PROCESS**

The Random Selection Process for league play in Spring 2024 is now open. Please note the important dates below:

**Registration Opened** Monday, December 18

**Registration Closes** Friday, December 29 at 12 p.m.

**Lottery Announcement Via Zoom** Wednesday, January 3 at 12 p.m.



**Award Letters Emailed to Team Captains** Friday, January 5

Additional details about the registration process were emailed December 18. Please check your inbox and provide all required information to confirm your registration!

Please email questions to COAtennis@atlantaga.gov.

## CONTACT **US WITH QUESTIONS!**

We know that change can be difficult, so if you have questions during the transition process, don't hesitate to reach out. We're here to help!

Luke Burden, Tennis Manager Idburden@atlantaga.gov

Rachel Maher, Deputy Commissioner \* Tennis centers will be closed December 24 & 25 of Partnerships + Enterprise ramaher@atlantaga.gov

for Christmas, January 1 for New Years Day and January 15 for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day.