



## Purpose of document

As the Parks and Recreation Department, and Mayor, and the Parks and Recreation Board evaluate the PASD proposal to temporarily repurpose public park space into pickleball courts, the issue of tennis court utilization data is paramount. We have sourced Peninsula Tennis Club's own court logs (publicly available) to compile 8+ months of daily court usage data, in order to ascertain the extent the tennis courts are actually in use. The PTC data showed a clear court utilization deficit.

Gathering court utilization data has been an open, transparent practice of PASD since 2022. After PASD revealed its usage findings, we noticed that PTC court logs began to look different. We shifted focus to periodically drop in to compare PTC's own court logs against the in-person activity. Below are some examples of inaccurate court log entries.

## Importance of accurate data

Before addressing specific inaccurate/misleading data, it is important to note that these discrepancies could be resolved by PTC revealing their court logs to the public and keeping accurate records so that the Parks Dept. can make an informed policy decision. PTC is a nonprofit acting on behalf of the city. They have an obligation to be transparent with the community for the public good.

Instead, when faced with data that showed empty tennis courts, PTC chose to pad their reservation logs with phantom players in a clear attempt to mislead the public and Parks and Recreation. The results of in-person audits show that PTC is inflating their court logs to display tennis activity that is not actually taking place. And even still, their own court logs show an overall court utilization rate of about 25%. The real-life activity is even less.

### Example 1: May 19th, 2023

Courts 1-6 in the mornings for clinics and “private lessons” as is the norm for PTC. (For-profit activities are permanently scheduled in Courts 1-6.)

Recently, the hours for clinics have been expanded to start at 8am, an hour earlier than before PASD revealed its data. Yet it appears the clinics still begin at 9am.

TODAY	Friday, May 19, 2023					
	Court #1 Hard	Court #2 Hard	Court #3 Hard	Court #4 Hard	Court #5 Hard	Court #6 Hard
8:00 AM	Private Lesson 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM				Private Lesson 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Private Lesson 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
8:30 AM						
9:00 AM			Womens Clinic Bob 3.0-5.0 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FULL JOIN WAITLIST Details	Womens Clinic Bob 3.0-5.0 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FULL JOIN WAITLIST Details	Womens Clinic Bob 3.0-5.0 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FULL JOIN WAITLIST Details	Womens Clinic Bob 3.0-5.0 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM FULL JOIN WAITLIST Details
9:30 AM						
10:00 AM						
10:30 AM						
11:00 AM						
11:30 AM				Private Lesson 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM		
12:00 PM						
12:30 PM						

Courts 1-6, midday. True bookings should (and do) list player names. We’ve audited numerous sessions labeled “other” and they were completely empty. PTC has said they may clean courts during these times, or people no-show. Even if valid excuses for inactivity, it should be reflected accurately in their own system.

TODAY	Friday, May 19, 2023					
	Court #1 Hard	Court #2 Hard	Court #3 Hard	Court #4 Hard	Court #5 Hard	Court #6 Hard
12:00 PM						
12:30 PM						
1:00 PM	Other 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Other 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Other 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	Private Lesson 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM		
1:30 PM						
2:00 PM						
2:30 PM						
3:00 PM						
3:30 PM						
4:00 PM						
4:30 PM						

Courts 1-6, afternoon. Completely empty by their own account. (On this same space, PASD could have two curated pickleball sessions back-to-back with 75-100 players each.) It is important to note that even if these six courts were full at any moment, there are 25 courts 600 feet away at Barnes, a public facility with a similarly low usage rate.

TODAY	◀	▶	Friday, May 19, 2023	🔄		
	<b>Court #1</b> Hard	<b>Court #2</b> Hard	<b>Court #3</b> Hard	<b>Court #4</b> Hard	<b>Court #5</b> Hard	<b>Court #6</b> Hard
3:00 PM						
3:30 PM						
4:00 PM						
4:30 PM						
5:00 PM						
5:30 PM						
6:00 PM						
6:30 PM						
7:00 PM						
7:30 PM						

Below is PTC's "player's half" of their club, Courts 7-12. The big green areas (Courts 7 and 8) reflect the afternoon activity. Problem: Do four players use two courts for 3.5 hours? This slot is booked this way quite often – a clear attempt to prove usage. Without this "block", the courts would be nearly empty. In the mornings it is just listed as blank. By the end of the day, it has the same few names routinely listed. We have audited this slot. Both courts are often not filled at all, or not filled for the full reservation.

TODAY	◀	▶	Friday, May 19, 2023	Book a Court	🔄	
	<b>Court #7</b> Hard	<b>Court #8</b> Hard	<b>Court #9</b> Hard	<b>Court #10</b> Hard	<b>Court #11</b> Hard	<b>Court #12</b> Hard
12:30 PM	Judy Fisher, Glen Fisher, Alex Hill (G)					
1:00 PM						
1:30 PM						
2:00 PM						
2:30 PM						Walk'n 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
3:00 PM						
3:30 PM						
4:00 PM						
4:30 PM	Other 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM Glen Fisher, Ted Cramer, Ronald Bell	Other 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM Glen Fisher, Ted Cramer, Ronald Bell		Singles 4:30 PM - 5:00 PM Nina Francis, Yuvraj Pathak		
5:00 PM						

A screenshot from 2:30pm, minutes before the booking. No names listed, unlike true reservations which list all participants. It appears that the courts are set aside for one or more unnamed players. Whomever happens to show up can play there? This does not make for accurate for court data. The green represents almost their entire afternoon activity on many days. But in most instances, we have checked in person, the on-paper green over-represents who is physically present, and for how long.

TODAY	◀	▶	Friday, May 19, 2023	Book a Court
	<b>Court #7</b> Hard	<b>Court #8</b> Hard	<b>Court #9</b> Hard	
3:00 PM	Other 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Other 3:00 PM - 6:30 PM		
3:30 PM				
4:00 PM				
4:30 PM				
5:00 PM				
5:30 PM				
6:00 PM				
6:30 PM				

**More suspicious entries:**

Also on May 19, two six-hour blocks of time (8am to 2pm) were listed as “other” (photo below.) Tournaments or other special events are otherwise denoted, so this isn’t one. Three courts didn’t play for six hours. We have seen (with video proof) players routinely either quit early or no-show to large nondescript bookings. Simply more record obfuscation by PTC.

TODAY	◀	▶	Friday, May 19, 2023	Book a Court
	<b>Court #7</b> Hard	<b>Court #8</b> Hard	<b>Court #9</b> Hard	<b>Court #10</b> Hard
8:00 AM	Other 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Other 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Other 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM	
8:30 AM				
9:00 AM				
9:30 AM				
10:00 AM				
10:30 AM				
11:00 AM				Doubles 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM Judy Fisher, Glen Fisher, Drop In (G), Drop In (G)
11:30 AM				
12:00 PM				
12:30 PM				

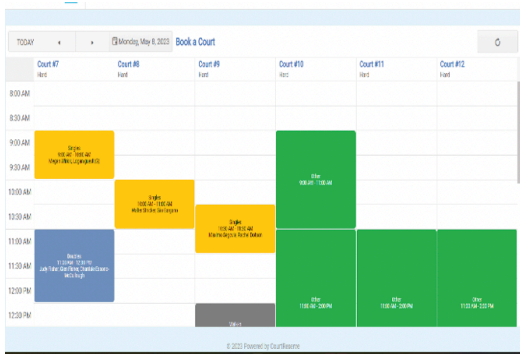
### Example 2: June 5, 2023 – Non-tennis use

Monday June 5th, at noon, there was a fitness workout on the courts. We asked how to sign up, and were told “it’s not a class, we are just some friends working out.” (We witnessed the same on May 8th). PTC uses empty courts for non-tennis activities and displays it as “other” on the logs. This is by design. Because PTC uses “other” for non-tennis activity, the record of use of courts for actual tennis is obscured.

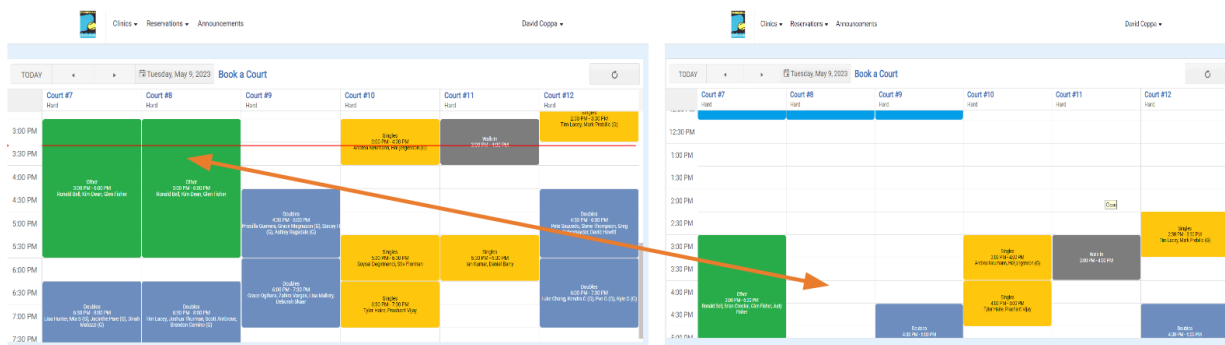


### Example 3: May 8th/9th, 2023 – Courts 10, 11 and 12 (Misreporting and backtracking)

May 8th showed three courts booked 11am-2pm. We went at 12:10pm, right in the middle, to find all three courts empty (below). There was a fitness class on a court, noted in Example 2.



On May 9th, two courts were booked from 3-6pm. At 3:35pm we observed one court in use. Our auditor was seen by the head pro at PTC. That night, for the first time since our audits began, we noticed PTC retroactively removed a booking (below), the one they noticed we had witnessed as not taking place. This is the most blatant example of PTC’s awareness that they are being scrutinized and their response: changing their data. This leads to an unfortunate conclusion that even if PTC revealed “their usage data,” it wouldn’t be reliable.



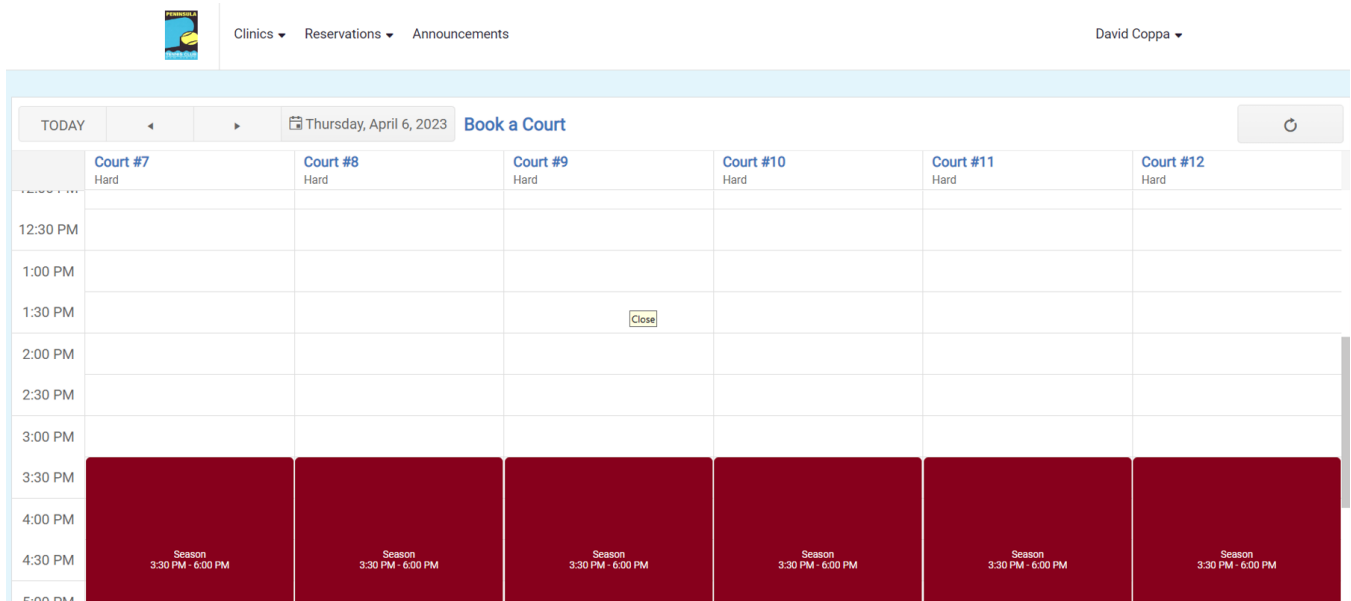
## Accommodating high school tennis

According to PTC’s own court logs and social media, school tennis only uses six courts for its matches, 5 or 6 times per season. This requires little accommodation by PTC. The issue is practice time.

It is worth noting that most high schools, including championship teams such as La Jolla High and Torrey Pines High, have 6 or 7 courts. Pt Loma High School uses 12 PTC courts for practice before PTC opens at 8am. Even if PTC was temporarily limited to 6 courts, Pt Loma High could be easily accommodated in the afternoon if PTC were willing to reorganize its for-profit activities. Pt Loma High could, for example, practice Junior Varsity in the morning and Varsity in the afternoons. Or, as previously suggested, Barnes – closer to the high school and a youth-focused facility on City land – could support the youth of Pt Loma, by hosting them.

Bottom line: If PTC had six courts, they could still easily rearrange private lessons and suspect blocked time slots, and still meet their needs. The data show that PTC would not have to “kick the kids out” unless they wanted to. If they were to do so, it would be to benefit their for-profit instructors and those seeking private lessons.

Below is a court log screenshot of a school tennis match day, showing that there is sufficient room to accommodate all types of tennis sessions, if the club was willing.



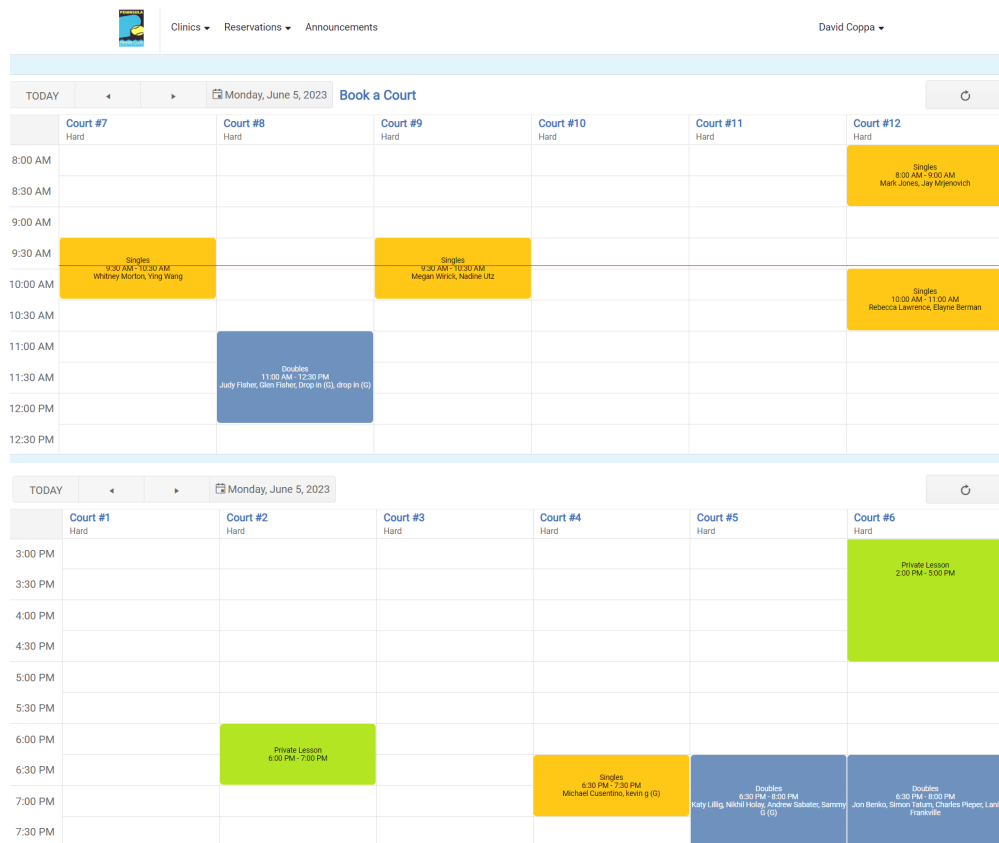
Clubs Clinics Reservations Announcements David Coppa

TODAY	Court #7 Hard	Court #8 Hard	Court #9 Hard	Court #10 Hard	Court #11 Hard	Court #12 Hard
12:30 PM						
1:00 PM						
1:30 PM			Close			
2:00 PM						
2:30 PM						
3:00 PM						
3:30 PM	Season 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Season 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Season 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Season 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Season 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM	Season 3:30 PM - 6:00 PM
4:00 PM						
4:30 PM						
5:00 PM						

## PTC Can Rearrange its Schedule if it Chooses: Tournaments

PTC held a tournament June 3-5, blocking off all courts to locals. There were still sparse bookings and almost full availability the following Monday, which is telling. (Court log below.)

PTC is also willing to inconvenience its members when Barnes hosts a tennis tournament. PTC is paid to leave courts open for tournament entrants to practice on their courts, whether or not they use them. There has been nothing provided by the tennis side to show that 23 hard courts at Barnes plus 6 more at PTC could not accommodate the need for practice courts. There has also been silence about whether other clubs within a 2 mile radius (PB and OB Tennis, among others) could not assist with practice courts.



## Conclusion

This report sheds light on past and present actual court usage data of PTC. Tennis demand for 12 courts is not backed by court logs and utilization data. Our data set of ~250 court logs suggests that even if PTC had 6 courts instead of 12, they would still have a robust ~50% buffer to work with.

If PASD/pickleball could temporarily repurpose 6 tennis courts into 18-20 pickleball courts at Robb Field, we could serve 500+ local residents per day across all park hours, 6am-10pm. It would enliven the Robb Field park space, and put valuable public space to better use at no cost to the city. Our 501(c)(3) nonprofit pledges to publish court utilization data online regularly for full transparency to the public.