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Updated August 2026.

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Noise Mitigation

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Existing Courts: Recommendations

Checklist:

☐ Document community concerns and patterns of use.
☐ Measure current setback distance from homes.
☐ Evaluate feasability of operational changes (hours, equipment policies, sound barriers).
☐ Assess whether relocation or redesign should be considered.

Fact based guidance

1. A combination of setbacks and mitigation might help, but not always.
2. If courts are within 350 feet of homes, long term resolution of neighbor concerns is unlikely even with high-quality barriers and limited hours. Requiring and enforcing the use of foam balls and certain quiet paddles mayhelp, but without supervision, quiet equipment recommendations rarely work.
3. For courts 350-800 feet from homes, we recommend a high-quality sound study and open communication with neighbors. In some cases, using barriers, limited hours, and quiet equipment together may help, but there are very few documented successes.
4. Existing courts beyond 800 feet of homes may work, especially with acoustic barriers. But, some residents living more than 800 feet are deeply affected and research is ongoing to better understand why.
5. A sound study is recommended for all court locations within 1000 feet of homes, schools, or hospitals.
6. Larger setbacks may be needed where terrain carries sound, such as valleys or water, or near multi-story homes, schools, hospitals, or senior housing.