

Summary of Extant Acoustical Pickleball Study

The major points of this detailed analysis of pickleball noise in terms of relevance to Sagaponack are summarized in the graphic color map on Page 9 which show measured noise levels at various distances from the source, with no barriers. Using the scale in the lower left corner it shows a dbA level of 70 at the sources. At a distance of 60 feet the dbA level dropped to 60. At a distance of 100 feet the dbA level dropped to 55. At a distance of 150 feet the dbA level was 50. A “suitable” dbA level for a village like Sagaponack should be around 40 dbA, according to our HMMH consultant, and anything more than 50 dbA could be a significant annoyance.

The Extant study evaluated barriers designed to reduce dbA levels by a maximum of 10 dbA. The extant study concluded that the potential impact of two common acoustical barriers attached to tennis court fencing, all of which had to be at least 10 feet in height, would reduce the noise level by 10 dbA within the area less than 150 feet from the pickleball courts.