

# There's No Better Time Than Now to Make an Estate Plan

By Stephen E. Diamond, Estate Planning Attorney at SRDD Law



What does the new normal look like, and what will it look like moving forward? Uncertainty can create panic, which in turn prompts many of us to evaluate the future, including upcoming travel plans, summer camp, education and estate planning. The current crisis has made people contemplate their own mortality, and the mortality of others.

The truth is, even if you are healthy, it doesn't hurt to have a plan should you become hospitalized. You'll certainly feel better knowing that family members are prepared to make health and financial decisions on your behalf if it comes to that. So, if you don't have one, there's no better time than now to put an estate plan together.

Our advice doesn't change—we have always said to “prepare for anything” so you aren't left scrambling later on. With people being homebound, there is plenty of time to think about the plans they have in place, and those who don't have a plan are now looking to make one. Most estate-planning attorneys are working seamlessly to help put people's minds at ease and are equipped to execute their wishes remotely, via virtual meetings, phone calls and email.

## YOUR ESTATE-PLANNING CHECKLIST

Make sure you have:

- Beneficiary designations on retirement, brokerage and life insurance accounts that are up to date.
- Someone who will take care of you and knows your wishes if you become incapacitated.
- Selected a guardian if you have young children.
- A plan for any pets that will need care if anything happens to you.
- A list of important information, accounts and passwords.
- Elected who will be your next of kin and/or executor/trustee.
- Let them know where to find the list as well as the passcode to any digital password manager you use.
- A review of your plans every five years.



With all that is going on, reassessing things now, while you have the time, is not a bad idea.

If you have any questions, please contact our offices at 845-298-2000 or email us at

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# Get Ready to Play Pickleball!

By Bill Green, East Fishkill Recreation Director



While there are fanatics who love and follow all sports, there are also many people who are unfamiliar with these athletic activities. Most probably know a little something about baseball, football, basketball and soccer. I'm sure even the most non-participating residents can tell you something about tennis and golf. But now we have increased participation and popularity in lacrosse, and if you watched the Winter Olympics, suddenly curling has become a sport of interest. There is also another sport growing steadily in popularity across the country—it is called PICKLEBALL!

If you've never heard of pickleball, you will soon. This game combines tennis, handball and ping pong into a fun sport for all ages. In Florida, it's right up there in popularity with golf. Here in East Fishkill, at our Lime Kiln recreation area, we have built six new ready-to-use pickleball courts, and lessons and leagues have already been scheduled.

Soon everyone will have heard about PICKLEBALL. So get ready to play – “DII IV DII IV!” ♦