



Squash Ontario COVID-19 Competitions Policy

Adopted by the COVID-19 Task Force (“Task Force”) and Squash Ontario Board of Directors (“Board”) on August 25, 2021 and effective as of that date.

The Squash Ontario COVID-19 Competitions Policy (“Policy”) was adopted in an effort to protect participants and host clubs from risks associated with COVID-19 during Squash Ontario accredited tournaments.

Squash facilities should assess local risks on an ongoing basis and implement any additional policies deemed necessary for squash to be played as safely as possible. Individual players should also assess risks on an ongoing basis based on personal circumstances.

There is a heightened risk of transmission of COVID-19 associated with the game of squash as compared to certain other sports due to the fact that it is played indoors within a confined space with players frequently coming within a two-meter distance of one another. Squash tournaments with open participation present an increased risk of COVID-19 transmission for a number of reasons, including such things as travel, dining in public and exposure to multiple different players on court.

It is the view of the Task Force and Board that, given the high number of vaccinated individuals in Ontario, it is possible to implement protocols that will provide a sufficiently safe environment to run tournaments. As of the time of this Policy 82.98% of Ontarians aged 12+ have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine and 75.73% of Ontarians ages 12+ are fully vaccinated. With this high vaccination rate, the majority of participants in Squash Ontario events are likely to be vaccinated.

Accordingly, the Task Force and Board have implemented the following protocols for Squash Ontario accredited tournaments:

1. Players who elect to provide satisfactory evidence (listed below) that the player is fully vaccinated with two doses of a government-approved COVID-19 vaccine, with the second dose received no less than 14 days prior to competition, are not required to wear a mask on court.
2. All other players must wear a level 3 mask on court.
3. All players must wear a mask at all times while off court inside the facility regardless of vaccination status, unless the mask has to be removed temporarily to eat or drink.
4. Players must follow the individual tournament protocols with regards to spectators and facility capacities.

To provide proof of vaccination, players must provide a vaccination receipt to Squash Ontario at least 10 days before their first tournament to confirm vaccination status. Vaccination receipts can be found through [Ontario Public Health](#).

Such information is necessary to confirm vaccination status and maintain safety.

Participants from outside of the province will be required to obtain and share their equivalent provincial public health vaccination record(s).

Access and Storage

Squash Ontario utilises the Microsoft Office Suite email and cloud storage system. Access to email and file storage is protected by a two-step authentication access and further protected by a third-party security provider. Individual vaccination receipts will not be retained on Squash Ontario systems. A list of individuals who are fully vaccinated will be created and will only be accessible by Squash Ontario staff whose responsibility it is to carry out this Policy. This list will only be kept for as long as necessary to confirm one's vaccination status for the purposes of participation in competition.

Individual tournament lists will be generated and shared only with the designated Tournament Chair and Tournament Referee. The list will set out those players who are required to wear a mask on court, and those players who are exempt. Together with Squash Ontario staff, the Tournament Chair and Tournament Referee will ensure compliance with this Policy.

Policy Review

This Policy will be continually reviewed and updated as necessary during the course of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic.