

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

Dear Squash BC members

A new Public Health Order has been issued as of November 7, 2020. Health officials have mandated restrictions for a two (2) week period affecting the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Valley Health Regions with the exception of Hope, the Central Coast, Bella Coola Valley, the Sunshine Coast, Powell River and Howe Sound. This order will be in place from November 7th at 10pm until 12pm on November 23, 2020.

These restrictions are focused on social interactions, workplace gathering, and indoor group exercising. We strongly urge all squash facilities to comply with this order, with necessary modifications for how to remain open and operating during this period. **It is imperative that your facility and your members/players remain vigilant.**

viaSport is currently updating what this means for sport, and in the meantime here is what we do know:

- Indoor competitions and games for sports that cannot maintain physical distance are suspended in the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health regions for two weeks.
- Indoor sports in the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health regions that cannot maintain physical distance in games are able to conduct individual exercise activities and/or practices if physical distance measures can be maintained.
- Travel for sports into or out of the Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Health regions is suspended for two weeks.

So what does this mean for squash across BC?

- For the three (3) health regions not affected by this order (Interior Health Authority, Northern Health Authority and Vancouver Island Health Authority), squash can continue in Level 5 as outlined in the Matrix of Sample Phased-in Squash Activities with Corresponding Risk Mitigations.
- **For Vancouver Coastal and Fraser Valley (minus exception areas), squash has moved down to Level 2.** Individual exercise or practice that allows everyone to maintain a safe physical distance are permitted. Specifically:
 - All group activity such as drill sessions and programing should be cancelled for the duration of the order.
 - Single private lessons may remain scheduled as is for the time being.
 - Matches may continue to be booked with “Same Household” players only.
 - Players not experienced in performing partner drills should limit themselves to solo hitting or book a court with an experienced, trusted partner of suitable level.
 - Regular gameplay is not permitted at this time and players should avoid drills in close proximity, such as rotating drives, length games, and any other drill that involves players crossing over or coming within two meters of physical space.

- Review the example [Play Partner Drill Matrix](#) provided by Richard Yendell, Squash Professional at Jericho Tennis Club, for a detailed description of drills.

Please see the attached revised Return to Squash (R2S) Matrix as a reminder. Note that the Squash BC R2S matrix does not tie in directly with the new restrictions. There are changes which are noted in orange.

It is known that recently a few facilities in the Lower Mainland with squash courts have been closed by a public health authority, so please comply with this new order to help maintain the safety of our players.

We are busy updating our resources and COVID-19 webpage to reflect this new order, and in the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at executive.director@squashbc.com.

Thanks,
Nancy

Nancy Thompson
Executive Director
Squash BC