

Dear Squash BC Member Club Representatives,

As noted in my email from September 1<sup>st</sup>, SQBC has been developing resources to support our clubs and facilities to safely implement programs and slowly bring back competition. Based on your feedback, near term competition will stay in-house. This first set of materials includes:

1. SQBC In-House COVID-19 Event Protocol Planning Spreadsheet – including sample and template tabs
2. Why and How to Sanction an In-House Event Document
3. Messaging to Share with Your Club Players

As with the dynamic nature of sport in COVID-19 times, your feedback will help us revise and improve these materials to better support your clubs and your players. We also encourage you to refer to the [COVID-19 webpage](#) on the SQBC site for additional support resources, which can all be displayed at your facilities and include:

- [Matrix of Sample Phased-in Squash Activities with Corresponding Risk Mitigations](#)
- [Return to Squash \(R2S\) Level 5 Roll-Out Timeline](#)
- [Tips and Recommendations for Players](#)

Please let me know if you are planning to run any in-house leagues or tournaments – we would love to know what's happening at our member clubs, and are here to assist with the sanctioning process.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me at [executive.director@squashbc.com](mailto:executive.director@squashbc.com)

Thanks,

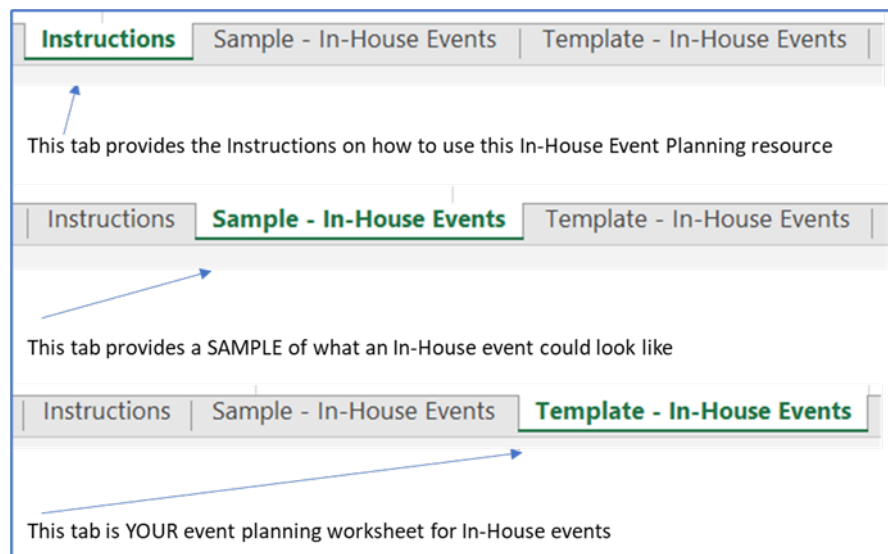
Nancy

## How to Use the In-House COVID-19 Event Protocol Planning Spreadsheet:

This Excel spreadsheet was developed to help clubs and league organizers plan in-house events during COVID-19, and addresses many details for ensuring a safe event. Ultimately, the safety of your event is determined by the behaviours and practices of each and every occupant of your facility, whether player, staff, volunteers or spectators. As event organizers, having complete information to provide to your local health authority for contact tracing is mandatory.

To use this spreadsheet, please note that it has three tabs as follows:

- i. Instructions - how to use this spreadsheet
- ii. Sample – In-House Events – for in-house events
- iii. Template – In-House Events – where you create your event plan



## Why Sanction?

A sanctioned event is recognized to have met SQBC's protocol during COVID-19 by meeting the existing requirements AND the addition of an Event Plan that includes complete contact tracing information, hygiene protocol, facility use protocol and physical distancing requirements.

Sanctioning will:

- Help bring back your existing members and potentially attract new players to competitive squash by providing high quality, safe events.
- Provide players with Squash BC ranking points.
- Provide Squash BC insurance, which covers member athletes and member clubs (and organizing committees) when they are participating in, practicing for and/or organizing a sanctioned event.

## What's Involved in Sanctioning an In-House Event:

- First step is to set the event up in SportyHQ. This is done by clicking on the appropriate Competition Format (Team League, Solo League, or Tournament), from the Club Admin page, and following through the steps.
- Once the event is set up, the organizer can request sanctioning for the event, also through SportyHQ. This is the same process you may previously have followed for any tournaments your club may have hosted, but also can be used for in-house leagues and tournaments.
- A sanctioned in-house league will have a SportyHQ multiplier of 1.0 (note: the organizer can choose to have a zero multiplier).
- Once the results have been entered by the event organizer into SportyHQ, they will automatically have the right multiplier. SQBC recommends using SportyHQ's Performance Module for ease of running events (e.g. reporting match results, scheduling).
- SQBC member players will have all of their matches contribute to their Squash BC ranking. If a SQBC member plays a non-member, the results of the SQBC member contribute to both Squash BC and SportyHQ ranking whereas the non-member will only receive SportyHQ ranking (and not Squash BC) points.
- Note: If you are not already using SportyHQ, it's free for SQBC member clubs, a \$240 annual value. Please contact [office@squashbc.com](mailto:office@squashbc.com) if you need help getting started.

### Messaging to Share with Your Club Players:

With the goal of getting both sidelined players back on court and attracting new players to squash, SQBC wanted to share what we are hearing for you to share as you feel appropriate:

- Squash is a small-pod sport, while your pod may consist of a fixed number of players, you are only playing them one at a time. Depending on how many times per week you play it may take several weeks to play everyone in your pod.
- If players want to move from 2m apart format to games, there are options for how to modify games to accommodate varying comfort levels. E.g. Squash Ontario has introduced a "No Let Directive", which means that players may not run into each other or touch each other in a squash game. They should automatically re-play a point if there was interference due to the possibility of contact occurring.
- After review of squash videos by one of BC's club pros, it was noted that there was minimal face-to-face close contact when playing.
- Some club players feedback, summarized here:
  - "I have been really hesitant to play a regular game, but after playing my first singles and doubles game with trusted pod members last week, was surprised at how little contact or close play there was."
  - "So great to be back on court, there's no sport quite like this."
  - "I've been hesitant to do any indoor sports/activities but with the weather turning am working my way back on court and it feels great".
  - "Our club pro has cautioned us on coming back too fast after such a long lay-off to avoid injuries and ibuprofen, words to live by!"