



COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

SQUASH ACT

Associations / Clubs:	Squash ACT, in association with DSC, Vikings, Queanbeyan, SCSC and Masters (affiliated clubs)
Ground Location:	Woden Squash Centre and adapted as needed by, and suited to, other venues
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Version	1.0
NOTE: Squash ACT Board is responsible for the development of this document. It provides guidance only to clubs and indoor sporting facilities with squash courts. Any facility not owned or administered by Squash ACT should have in place a COVID-19 Safety Plan relevant to the facility and facility users.	

DISCLAIMER: This Squash ACT Safety Plan does not constitute legal or health and safety advice. A club / venue should take its own professional advice regarding any actions taken as a result of reading this COVID-19 Safety Plan.

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this COVID-19 Safety Plan is to provide Squash ACT's overarching plan for the implementation and management of procedures supporting its affiliated clubs and Squash ACT-owned premises (Woden Squash Centre), and club members and squash participants in the staged resumption of squash activities within the ACT. (Queanbeyan club and Queanbeyan squash facilities are governed by NSW regulations and guidelines.)

The arrangements set out in this Plan are intended to help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 among members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, visitors, families and the broader community. The Plan provides a framework to govern the general operation of squash facilities, the playing/training behaviour of all members and participants, and the monitoring and reporting of the health of attendees at facilities.

This Plan includes, but is not limited to, the conduct of:

- a. staged training and competition activities (sport operations); and
- b. facility management and supporting operations (facility operations).

At all times, the Plan is subject to all regulations, guidelines and directions of government and public health authorities, and the operations and directions of privately or community-owned facilities.

2. Key Principles

This Plan is based on, and accepts, the AIS [Framework for Rebooting Sport in a COVID-19 Environment](#) (AIS Framework) and the [National Principles for the Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities](#) (National Principles).

The Plan also accepts as key principles that:

- The health and safety of members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, visitors, families and the broader community is the number one priority;
- Members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, families and the broader community need to be engaged and briefed on the return to sport plans;
- Facilities are assessed and appropriate plans are developed to accommodate upgraded hygiene protocols, physical distancing and other measures to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19;
- Training cannot resume until the arrangements for sport operations and facility operations are finalised and approved, if necessary; and
- At every stage of the return to sport process Squash ACT must consider, recommend and apply where able to all applicable ACT Government restrictions and regulations. Squash ACT needs to be prepared for any localised outbreak at our facilities, within our competitions or in the local community.

3. Responsibilities under this Plan

Each club retains the overall responsibility for the effective management of club activities and implementation of return to sport activities and operations outlined in this Plan.

The Squash ACT Board is responsible for:

- Approving the Plan and overseeing the implementation of the arrangements in the Plan in relation to Squash ACT sanctioned events and competitions, Squash ACT training and development programs; and, the operations of the Woden Squash Centre.
- Revising the Plan as required, ensuring it reflects up-to-date information from government and public health officials.

The Squash ACT Board has appointed the following person as the Association's COVID-19 Safety Coordinator to execute the delivery of the Plan and to act as a point of contact for information relating to this Plan:

Name	Michael Nuttall
Contact Email	president@squashact.asn.au
Contact Number	0408 971 874

Squash ACT expects all club members, participants, coaches, officials, administrative staff and volunteers to:

- Comply with the health directions of government and public health authorities as issued from time to time;
- Understand and act in accordance with this Plan as amended from time to time;
- Comply with any testing and precautionary measures implemented by Squash ACT or one of its affiliated clubs;
- Act with honesty and integrity in regard to the state of their personal health and any potential symptoms; and,
- Monitor their health and take a cautious approach to self-isolation and reporting of potential symptoms.

4. Return to Sport Arrangements

The Plan outlines specific sport requirements that Squash ACT and affiliated clubs will implement for Level B and Level C of the AIS Framework.

Squash ACT will transition to the training activity and facility use as outlined in Level B of the AIS Framework and the training/competition activities and facility use outlined in Level C of the AIS Framework when permitted under local restrictions and regulations.

4.1 AIS Framework Arrangements

The protocols for conducting sport operations and facility operations under Level B and Level C of the AIS Framework are set out in the Appendix.

4.2 Roadmap to a COVID-Safe Australia

Squash ACT will also comply with the Australian Government's [Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Australia](#), which places limits on the type of activity that can be conducted and the number of people who can gather at facilities, notwithstanding the activities permitted by the AIS Framework (see below).

AIS Activities	Level A:	Level B:		Level C:	
	Training in no more than pairs. Physical distancing required.	Indoor/outdoor activity. Training in small groups up to 20. Physical distancing required.		Full sporting activity (training and competition) allowed. No restriction on numbers. Contact allowed.	
Roadmap Activities	N/A	Step 1:	Step 2:	Step 3:	Further steps TBC
		No indoor activity. Outdoor sport (up to 10 people) consistent with AIS Framework.	Indoor/outdoor sport up to 20 people. Physical distancing (density 4m ²).	Venues allowed to operate with up to 100 people with physical distancing. Community sport expansion to be considered consistent with AIS Framework.	

5. Recovery

When public health officials determine that the outbreak has ended in the ACT community, Squash ACT will consult with relevant authorities to identify criteria for scaling back squash COVID-19 prevention actions. Squash ACT will also consider, in consultation with clubs and squash facilities, which protocols can remain to optimise good public and participant health.

At this time, Squash ACT will also consult with key stakeholders to review the delivery of its return to sport arrangements and use feedback to improve organisational plans and systems.

Appendix: Outline of Return to Sport Arrangements

Part 1 – Sport and Facility Operations

AREA	EXPECTED ACTIONS TAKEN BY SQUASH ACT, AFFILIATED CLUBS, MEMBERS, PARTICIPANTS, SPECTATORS AND VOLUNTEERS WITHIN LEVEL B.	NOTES
Approvals	<p>The following approvals have allowed a return to social participation, training and activities within small groups at Level B:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State/Territory Government approval of the resumption of community sport. • Relaxation of public gathering restrictions to enable training to occur. • ACT Government / venue owner approval to train at venue, if required. • Squash Australia support for return to community sport activities. • Squash ACT has approved return to activities for club level activities. • Insurance arrangements confirmed to cover training. • Appoint a Covid-19 contact. • Squash ACT reserves the right to exclude or refuse entry to individuals unwilling to follow guidelines. • Squash ACT reserves the right to shut the facility should staff be unable to implement this plan for the safety and wellbeing of all patrons. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted that, aside from Squash ACT-owned Woden Squash centre, venues are owned and operated by either private or community operators and act in accordance with their directives. • Prepare resources to assist with the education of clubs and members. • Keep informed by participating in online meetings, noting announcement and media releases. • Keep in contact with, ACT Department of Sport and Recreation (Rebecca Kelley, Dougal Reed, Wayne Lacey). • The Covid-19 contact leads the planning of a safe reopening of squash courts, oversees an action plan and provides that plan to clubs and, where appropriate, squash facilities. It is important this contact continually reviews processes and the literature released by the key organisations.
Participation Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasise principle of “Get in, train, get out” – arrive ready to train, leave quickly. • Participants check-in at reception counter. A sign-in agreement system is in place so there is a record of whom was at the courts at any one time – name, DOB, mobile, email. • All payments made at the Woden Squash Centre are made using credit card via pay wave. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure plan is in place before the reopening of squash courts. There will be pressure from members to restart as soon as possible so clear policies and procedures are essential to ensure a safe restart of squash. • Sign-in, sign out system will assist with contact tracing should a member contract Covid-19. • Staff will monitor movement of players.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Court hire bookings are on the hour with the following arrangement in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Two persons per court only with changeover managed by next two players waiting in their court's spectator seating area with 2m distance between each person. No other spectators permitted. – Court time must be booked in advance. Only arrive a maximum of 15 mins before the time. – Entry to centre prior to booking, register and wait on seating above allocated court. – Players finish at H:50 (i.e. 10 minutes before the hour) and wipe down (see below). – Only when players leave court and have left the building do the 'new' players walk downstairs and enter court. – Staff monitor court changeover. – All players must leave after their game or allotted time at the courts. • Sanitise with provided disinfectant wipes or disinfectant spray and paper towels outside each court for all players to wipe down touch surfaces, such as the door handle, ball before, after and during rest periods. • Hiring of racquets and goggles will be managed by staff allowing for post-use sanitising. • No ball, towel hire available. • Clubroom not available. • No use of showers. • Not more than one parent/carer per child. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum number of persons in indoor facility is 20 +coach. Flexibility for another 20 when there are two levels or separated rooms (as in the case of the Woden Squash Centre). • Coaches may have multiple consecutive sessions but must wipe down with disinfectant any doors, equipment and surfaces touched during the session.
Personal health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasise a graded, social return to sport to avoid injury. • No one permitted to enter facility if unwell (including any signs/symptoms of cold, flu, COVID-19 or other illness). (Advice is to stay home and self-isolate for 14 days). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players must be aware that their own health and safety is a shared responsibility. • Players concerned about COVID infection are strongly encouraged to bring their own sanitizer and wipes for personal use. Courts cannot

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No shaking hands, etc; no wiping hands on walls, no sharing of equipment. • Washing of hands prior to, during and after activity using personal or provided hand sanitiser. • Avoid physical greetings (i.e. hand shaking, high fives etc.). • Avoid coughing, clearing nose, spitting etc. • Advise participants to launder own training uniform and wash personal equipment. 	<p>guarantee, for example, provided sanitizer bottles do not retain virus on surface.</p>
Hygiene in Facility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changing rooms are not operational for showering or changing but as toilets only. • Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes or disinfectant spray and paper towels so players can take their own safety precautions. • Disposal bins are lined with a plastic bag for easy disposal of rubbish. • Empty bins daily. • Hand sanitizers to be available outside every court as well as disinfectant wipes/ spray with paper towel for players to wipe ball, racket. Players to sanitise their hands before and after playing. • Players waiting to enter courts must sit upstairs on spectator seating and ensure 2m distance between persons. • No alcohol sales. • Courts to be cleaned on a regular basis. • Toilets cleaned regularly / daily. • Staff provided with gloves and masks for use as required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand sanitizer available outside each court and at entrance to and exit from the centre. • Frequent wiping of high touch surfaces. • Display posters outlining relevant personal hygiene guidance.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information on return to squash and reinforcement of hand washing and general hygiene / etiquette protocols provided to staff in person, and to players, coaches and volunteers using email, website, Facebook, etc. • Endorse government COVID-Safe app and encourage players, coaches, members, volunteers and families to download and use app. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide regular updates and monitor any need to change or reinforce messaging.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications go out in advance to members encouraging them back, re-assuring participants that safety is paramount and advising of the regulations that will be in place. • Appropriate posters highlighting procedures and practices are positioned at entry, exit points, and around the centre. 	
Management of unwell participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any person within the centre displaying any symptoms must leave the centre immediately. • Staff will clean down any high touch surfaces or particular surfaces or equipment which the person may have been in contact with. • Should a public health authority contact the centre, the centre will respond and assist accordingly. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advice to be sought from relevant health authorities.