



Return-To-Play Protocol

Version 5 – updated Sep 2, 2021

Developed in collaboration by members of the RABC Executive Committee and RA Management.

RA Badminton Club Return-To-Play Protocol

The following is based on the recently issued Badminton Canada return-to-play guidelines. This protocol will be applied comprehensively by all sections at the RA badminton Club (RABC) during the 2020-21 season.

It is recognized that this protocol will change how Badminton will be played at the RABC in 2021-22. Every player will go through a learning curve, especially at the beginning of the season. Patience and good-will will have to be exercised by everyone. The collective goal remains to ensure the health and safety of all members and staff, and the viability of Badminton at the RA.

Please note that this protocol will be revised as necessary during the year as new direction is provided by provincial and municipal public health authorities as well as by RA management, and as new or updated guidance is provided by our sport's governing bodies. RABC members will be informed of any changes and/or additions to the protocol.

Safety Measures:

- 1) Authorities: The RABC will follow all relevant measures issued by provincial and municipal public health authorities.
- 2) Hygiene: All players and staff will practice proper hygiene, including frequent handwashing, physical distancing (at least 2 meters) and wearing a mask or face covering.
- 3) Prevention: Ill people and people who are at risk for severe illness must not play and stay at home.
- 4) Compliance: All players must sign and submit to the RA a completed Acknowledgement, Assumption of Risks, Waiver and Release of Claims – COVID-19 form (see Appendix A) prior to beginning their Badminton season.
- 5) Signage: The RA has provided the RABC with safety signage regarding the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and measures to follow to prevent the spread of the disease. This signage will be posted at the entrance of the club and in the lounge.
- 6) Building Safety and Cleanliness: The RA will undertake a full building clean prior to the start-up of the season. High-touch areas, including toilets and sinks, door handles, railings and lounge chairs, will be cleaned on a frequent basis based on the use of the Badminton club.

- 7) Handwashing: To facilitate handwashing, the RA will provide ongoing access to soap and paper towels in washrooms. In addition, hand sanitizing dispensers will be installed and maintained by the RA in prominent locations throughout the club, including at entrances and in the lounge.
- 8) Water: All water dispensers will be removed. Players may bring their own containers of water.

Getting Ready for the Game:

- 1) Ready to Play: All players will arrive at the club 15 to 20 minutes prior to their play period and will be prepared to play (i.e. dressed on court clothing with court shoes in a bag) with their own Badminton equipment (i.e. racquets and shuttles).
- 2) Wearing of Masks: Masks* will be worn by players on their arrival at the RA and throughout the RA complex, including washrooms, hallways and stairs and in the Badminton lounge. During play, if proper physical distancing is maintained, the wearing of masks is optional. It is strongly recommended, however, that players wear their mask at all times during a game.
- 3) Arrival and Exit: All players will enter and exit the Badminton courts through the lounge doors. Please follow directional arrows to reduce congestion.
- 4) Lounge: The lounge has been redesigned with designated chairs for changing shoes/waiting for your game and to facilitate entrance to and egress from the courts. Directional markers have been added to show recommended traffic flow.

* Ottawa Public Health states that a face shield or visor is not a substitute for wearing a face mask as it does not filter respiratory droplets.

- 5) New Membership Configuration: In order to ensure that we operate within the maximum allowance of 50 people in the area at any given time, all memberships will be capped at 48 players. Memberships will be for specific days/times to allow for maximum registration.

Playing the Game:

- 1) Entering and Exiting the courts: Players will enter and exit the courts through the doors in the lounge. Please use directional arrows to reduce congestion.
- 2) Creating Games: This fall, the Playboard will be used to create games. Should we need to make changes due to a higher number of COVID-19 cases and changes to provincial requirements, we will revert to the rotation system we used in 2020, 2021.

At the end of the Program:

- 1) At the end of the Program: During COVID, the lounge is not for socializing after your program has finished. To allow for other players to have proper time and space to prepare for their program, players whose program has just been completed will change their footwear, grab their coat and equipment, and leave the Badminton club as soon as possible.
- 2) Contact Tracing: Because a COVID-19 incident may occur at a certain point in time and contact tracing may be required, it is important that all players check in at our East membership desk each time they come in, that we have correct information in our data base and that players adhere to the program times for which they are registered.

Club Amenities Now Available for 2021-22:

- 1) Locker Rooms: our change rooms will re-open effective Tuesday, September 7, 2021. Members and guests will be able to store items in our day-use lockers while they are playing. Please note that, due to required work on our drainage system, showers are only available in our West change rooms at this time.

Other:

- 1) Court Rentals: Are now available at certain times. This allows us to control the number of people in the facility (4 players/court, no spares). It allows members to play at times outside the program to which they have registered. It allows non-members to access our facility and removes the need for “guest fees”. All non-members involved in a court rental must provide contact information upon arrival at the RA Centre.
- 2) Use of the Lounge: To ensure that the occupancy of the lounge does not exceed allocated capacity set by provincial public health authorities (currently set at a maximum of 50 people), to maintain the safety of players and to minimize sanitization requirements, the lounge is strictly for players in the “active” program – waiting their turn/changing into court shoes). Signage will be posted to clearly indicate this.

Enforcement:

The RABC is composed of more than 450 passionate and dedicated Badminton players. We were all saddened in March 2020 when our season came abruptly to an end due to measures taken to combat the COVID-19 virus. Many of us are willing and able to come back to our passion this fall, provided that safety measures are put in place. This protocol describes the measures that the RA and RABC will implement to ensure the health and safety of its members and staff.

BUT, it will only work if we all do our share. We are a community - a Badminton community - and as a community we must all work together in learning and implementing this new way of playing. More importantly, we must support each other, be patient with each other, and give each other the benefit of the doubt. If we all practice safe Badminton play, we will remain healthy, enjoy our sport and have fun.

In signing the Acknowledgement, Assumption of Risks, Waiver and Release of Claims – COVID-19 form in Appendix A of this document, RABC badminton players agree to abide by this protocol. During the year, Badminton players who have concerns with specific activities or incidents that have occurred in the lounge or on the courts should bring them to the attention of Mike Bitten the club Pro,. Inappropriate actions that threatened the health of players or RA staff, or threatened the entire Badminton club will not be tolerated. If required, disciplinary measures, including expulsion from the club, will be taken.

Prepared in collaboration by RA Management and RABC Executive

Amanda Romozzi, RA, Senior Manager, Membership & Club Services

Kelly Shaw-Swettenham, RA, Director, Recreation Sport & Fitness

Jill Laidlaw, RA Coordinator Club Services
Mike Bitten, RA Badminton Club Professional

Appendix – A

RA Badminton Club

Acknowledgement, Assumption of Risks, Waiver and Release of Claims – Coronavirus (COVID-19)

ADULT (18 years & older)

All RABC members and visitors must submit to the RA a completed Acknowledgement, Assumption of Risks, Waiver and Release of Claims – Coronavirus (COVID-19) form prior to undertaking the activity. PLEASE READ CAREFULLY. By agreeing to these terms you will waive certain legal rights, including the right to sue or claim compensation.

If you have any questions, please direct your inquiry to Member Services, RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, ON, K1H 7X7 or contact us at info@racentre.com.

CLIENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The safety and wellbeing of our RA Community has and continues to be our top priority. In order to provide our members, guests, partners, volunteers and staff with a safe, effective and enjoyable environment, while at the same time doing our best to prevent the spread of COVID-19, we request your understanding and cooperation by reading and signing the following ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT and RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT.

GENERAL PROTOCOLS – RE: COVID-19

- Anyone signing these agreements has either not been diagnosed with COVID-19, or if they had been diagnosed then they have been cleared as non-contagious by public health authorities more than 14 days prior to their signing.
- Anyone signing these agreements has not been exposed to a person with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19; or if they were exposed to a person with a confirmed case, the date of exposure was more than 14 days prior to signing the agreements.
- Anyone showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (or COVID-19 like symptoms) MUST stay home.
- Anyone who begins exhibiting or feeling signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (or COVID-19 like symptoms) must cease their participation immediately and remove them self from the group. In addition, if a league convenor or session organizer considers that a participant may be exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 (or COVID-19 like symptoms), the convenor/organizer may be required to identify that person to RA staff so that RA staff can remove them from the group.

- Anyone who receives a COVID-19 diagnosis, and has participated in activities, clubs and programs at the RA within the previous 14 days must notify the RA. The RA can then notify the other participants in an anonymous capacity.
- Anyone, or any member of their household, who has travelled to or had a layover in any country outside Canada in the last 14 days will NOT return to the Badminton club and attend any of its activities or programs until at least 14 days have passed since their date of return.
- While on site at the RA or participating in activities, clubs or programs, you are responsible to adhere to Ottawa Public Health's (OPH) guidelines of six (6) feet physical distancing between yourself and others – OPH recommends that you wear a non-medical mask (i.e. cloth mask) when keeping your distance is difficult.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth unless you have just washed your hands.
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue or into your arm, not your hand.

ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT

I hereby acknowledge that:

1. I am participating voluntarily in the RA Badminton Club activities.
2. Badminton activities have foreseeable and unforeseeable inherent risks, hazards and dangers that no amount of care, caution or expertise can eliminate.
3. I agree that the sole responsibility for my safety remains with me.
4. I am aware and agree to comply with the RA Members' Code of Ethics, the General Protocols – RE: COVID-19 (as outlined above) and the specific RABC Return-To-Play Protocol that pertain to my involvement with the RA (including all COVID-19 related protocols and public health authorities' recommendations contained therein)
5. It is understood that privileges may be revoked in the event that my conduct is not in keeping with the RA's standards.
6. I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that I may spread COVID-19, be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by participation; and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, infection, illness, permanent disability, and death. I further understand that the risk of spreading COVID-19, becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 during participation in activities, clubs and programs at the RA, whether held at RA facilities or at any other location, may result from the actions, omissions, or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, the active or passive negligence (such as the failure to adequately clean and disinfect

surfaces, adequately inform and educate participants re: COVID-19 protocols, adequately ventilate areas, adequately screen participants) of the RA, or their directors, officers, employees, servants or agents and program participants and their families.

7. I agree and accept responsibility to adhere to Ottawa Public Health's (OPH) recommendations including, but not limited to staying home when showing signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (or COVID-19 like symptoms), self-isolating when required, limiting the number of people I come in contact with and practising physical distancing by maintaining six (6) feet physical distancing between myself and others and wearing a non-medical mask (i.e. cloth mask) when keeping my distance is difficult.
8. I agree and accept responsibility to ensure I have the proper equipment required for the activity.
9. I further understand that the RA will collect health and other personal information from me with the intent to fulfill their obligation to me. I agree with the RA's practice of keeping my personal information confidential and subject only to legal requirements to disclose or legal exceptions (emergency). I accept that the RA will use this information to improve the services that I receive. I also appreciate that the RA will not disclose, divulge or otherwise communicate to any person or business any such confidential information without my written consent to do so.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

I do hereby agree for myself, heirs, executors, administrators and assigns do release and forever discharge the RA, or their directors, officers, employees, servants or agents (including club convenors/organizers/volunteers) and all other program participants of any and all claims, demands, damages, costs, expenses, actions or causes of action whether in law or equity in respect of death, injury, infection, illness, permanent disability, loss or damage to person or property however caused, including but not limited to negligence (such as the failure to adequately clean and disinfect surfaces, adequately inform and educate participants re: COVID-19 protocols, adequately ventilate areas, adequately screen participants) arising or to arise out of my participation in such activities, clubs and programs at the RA, whether held at RA facilities or at any other location.

In addition, I do hereby agree to hold harmless and indemnify the RA, or their directors, officers, employees, servants or agents (including club convenors/organizers/volunteers) and all other program participants from any and all claims or liability for any damage to property of, or personal injury to, any third party, due to or associated with COVID-19 or any other contagious or infectious illness, resulting from RA activities and programs of any kind whether held at RA facilities or at any other location.

Please note: All fields marked with an * are required.

By marking YES, I declare that I have read, understood and that I agree to the contents of this ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND INFORMED CONSENT AGREEMENT and RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT in its entirety. *

I acknowledge that I have executed this agreement voluntarily and that it is to be binding on myself, my heirs, spouse, children, parents, guardians, next of kin, executors, administrators and legal personal representatives. I further acknowledge by marking YES that I have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against the RA on the basis of any claims from which I have released herein.

YES

First Name*: _____

Last Name*: _____

Date*: _____

Witness*: _____

I have read and understood the following protocols, guidelines and recommendations: the General Protocols – RE: COVID-19, the specific RACC Return-To-Play Protocol, and the Ottawa Public Health’s (OPH) recommendations as outlined in points 2 and 4 of the Assumption of Risk and Informed Consent Agreement section above.

YES

This document will remain in effect until the RA, per the direction of the municipal or provincial government and health officials, determine that the COVID-19 compliance acknowledgements are no longer required.

