



**COVID-19 Guidance for Squash Clubs, Players, Coaches  
and Competitions in Scotland**

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**TOGETHER FOR SQUASH IN SCOTLAND**

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## 1.0 Introduction

Scottish Squash continues to fully support and follow Scottish Government guidelines relating to COVID-19, including ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all members of Scottish Squash. Working in partnership with The Scottish Government, **sportscotland** and our members, we have produced guidance for clubs, players, coaches and competitions in line with Scottish Government guidance on sport and physical activity.

From the 31 August 2020 indoor sport and leisure facilities are able to open if Scottish Government [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Guidance for the opening of indoor and outdoor sport and leisure facilities](#) is fully implemented:

- this includes the provision of indoor non-contact and contact sport training and competition activities for children up to and including 11 years of age; and
- indoor non-contact sport training and competition for those 12 years of age and over where physical distancing can be maintained.

You will also need to make sure that your club and players are made aware and can adapt to changes in guidance at short notice. Information on Scottish Governments approach to managing COVID-19 is available at [Scottish Government: Coronavirus in Scotland](#).

People who are symptomatic should self-isolate for 10 days; household members for 14 days as per info on NHS guidance. No one who is self-isolating should attend a sports facility/activity.

To manage a safe return to squash, it is a mandatory requirement that all clubs, facility operators and deliverers put in place comprehensive Test & Protect procedures to help break chains of transmission of Coronavirus (COVID-19). Further information is available within this guidance and at [Scottish Government: Test & Protect](#).



## 2.0 General Guidance

This guidance is not a 'one size fits all' approach as we appreciate squash clubs and facilities vary across Scotland and as such individual squash clubs should risk assess appropriately to ensure these procedures can be implemented. Please continue to err on the side of caution; clubs should not open unless all the necessary measures to ensure the safety of players and volunteers can be implemented. Players should only play if they feel fit, well and can adhere to the guidance put in place by their club. Also, given the length of time squash activity has been suspended, it is advised that anyone returning to court eases themselves back in to play gently.

There is absolutely no urgency or pressure to return to the court, however, if clubs and players feel ready and the following guidance is adhered to, squash activity can resume under the stated conditions. Where clubs choose to remain closed, please respect this decision.

This guidance is split into four sections and will be subject to review once The Scottish Government issues further advice and guidance:

Section 3 – Guidance for Clubs;

Section 4 – Guidance for Players;

Section 5 – Guidance for Coaches; and

Section 6 – Guidance for Competitions.



## 3.0 Guidance for Clubs

### 3.1 Club Management

- 3.1.1 This guidance should be read and implemented alongside the **sportscotland** '[Getting Your Facilities Fit for Sport](#)' guidance.
- 3.1.2 Clubs **MUST** appoint a [COVID-19 Officer](#) to ensure all appropriate management processes are in place and so that they can effectively oversee and maintain the implementation of measures outlined herein. An e-learning module for COVID Officers is available at:  
[https://rise.articulate.com/share/LIEWUj-o23H\\_4gC1AF002jdxdrCucQC0#/](https://rise.articulate.com/share/LIEWUj-o23H_4gC1AF002jdxdrCucQC0#/)
- 3.1.3 Clubs **MUST** notify Scottish Squash of the personal details of the appointed COVID-19 Officer by completing the online form [here](#).
- 3.1.4 Clubs should check with their insurance company that the correct and full cover is in place before any play can take place.
- 3.1.5 Clubs should check with their landlord or facility operator that they have permission to re-open.
- 3.1.6 Guidelines will be updated as we progress through the different phases of Scottish Government measures – Scottish Squash remains in discussions with **sportscotland** and The Scottish Government and so we recommend that you check the official Scottish Squash position at <https://www.scottishsquash.org/covid-guidance/> on a regular basis to stay abreast of the latest recommendations.
- 3.1.7 It is the responsibility of each club to undertake documented risk assessments, based on their local circumstances, prior to activity taking place. Consider safety first, particularly focusing on minimising the risk of infection/transmission. Appropriate measures must be put in place to ensure participants, staff and volunteers are always protected.
- 3.1.8 Working from home and working flexibly, where possible, remain the default. The [Scottish Government's Route map](#) states that the date that non-essential offices and call centres can re-open is still under review. Although we appreciate clubs and leisure facilities are able to reopen on 31 August 2020, we would encourage clubs to consider whether internal meetings and training must be completed in person. Or whether these can be completed online or via telephone. If it is essential that meetings and training takes place in



person, [Scottish Government guidance for general workplaces](#) must be followed and a risk assessment should be completed.

### 3.1.9 Furloughed staff:

- 3.1.9.1 It is for each club and/or facility employer to decide when it is the appropriate time to return staff to work from the [Coronavirus Government Job Retention \('furlough'\) scheme](#).
- 3.1.9.2 A furloughed employee can take part in volunteer work if they do not provide services to or generate revenue for, or on behalf of, your organisation or a linked or associated organisation.
- 3.1.9.3 Changes to the furlough scheme took effect from 1 August 2020. Further information is available at [UK Govt: Job Retention Scheme Changes](#).

## 3.2 Club & Court Access

### 3.2.1 Changing rooms, showers, and toilets:

- 3.2.1.1 Use of changing rooms and showering facilities should be avoided where possible, although from the 31 August 2020 they may be made available for participants with disabilities or special needs.
- 3.2.1.2 Sports facility operators may open toilets for public use if they follow the guidelines outlined on The Scottish Government website: [Opening Public Toilets Guidelines](#).
- 3.2.1.3 For detailed facility guidance including a checklist that covers use of changing rooms, showers and toilets visit The Scottish Government [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance on the opening of indoor and outdoor sport and leisure facilities](#).

### 3.2.2 Locker rooms:

- 3.2.2.1 From the 31 August 2020 access to indoor locker rooms and storage areas is permitted for the dropping off and collection of sports equipment or clothing. The sports facility operator should ensure mitigating actions are put in place to minimise the risk of virus transmission including physical distancing, hygiene and cleaning measures.

### 3.2.3 Physical distancing and participation numbers:



- 3.2.3.1** Children aged 11 years and younger are not required to physically distance at any time, as set out in Scottish Government guidance.
- 3.2.3.2** For those 12 years of age and over taking part in sport or leisure activity, normal Scottish Government physical distancing and household number guidelines should be followed.
- 3.2.3.3** Consider different entry and exit routes to the clubs/courts where possible, and ensure this is clearly marked. Where safe and appropriate, clubhouse doors (excluding court doors) should be left open during opening hours. Consider marking two metre distances at appropriate points, such as within clubhouse corridors.
- 3.2.3.4** Further information on physical distancing guidance is available as set out in The Scottish Government: [Staying Safe and Protecting Others](#).
- 3.2.4** Spectators:
- 3.2.4.1** No spectating should take place other than where a parent/carer is supervising a child or vulnerable adult. In all cases physical distancing should always be followed.

### **3.3 Health, Safety & Hygiene**

- 3.3.1** Risk assessments should be carried out and documented for all activities and facilities. Consider safety first, particularly minimising the risk of infection/transmission. Appropriate measures must be put in place to ensure participants, staff and volunteers are protected.
- 3.3.2** Clubs and venue operators must ensure that relevant workplace guidance is followed for contractors and staff and ensure existing health and safety advice is maintained and aligned. This should be detailed in the risk assessment.
- 3.3.3** Cleaning of equipment, hand and respiratory hygiene are core measures to be implemented and provision should be made for these.
- 3.3.4** Clear guidance and plans are needed for cleaning of facilities and equipment, and waste disposal. For instance, common touchpoint surfaces (gates, door handles, handrails etc) should where possible be left open but if not possible, regular cleaning with disposable gloves should be undertaken.
- 3.3.5** A checklist for health, hygiene and cleaning considerations and actions is available here: [Getting your Facilities Fit for Sport](#).





- 3.3.6** Ensure usual access to first aid and emergency equipment is maintained.
- 3.3.7** Ensure the first aid equipment has been updated appropriately for the COVID-19 pandemic and first aiders have undertaken appropriate additional training.
- 3.3.8** In the event of first aid treatment being required, it is recognised that a suitably qualified person, coach, or supervising adult may require to attend to the injured participant. The 'COVID-19 Officer' should consider processes for managing this as part of their risk assessment. This could include but not be limited to;
- provision of suitable personal protective equipment (PPE);
  - training of coaches/supervising adults; and
  - presence of one parent/carer being required at the activity for children/vulnerable adults.
- 3.3.9** Make hand sanitizers or wipes available for use at entrance/exit to clubs/courts where possible. Hand sanitiser should be at least 60% alcohol based and detergent wipes appropriate for the surface they are being used on. Cleaning products should conform to EN14476 standards.
- 3.3.10** Face coverings:
- 3.3.10.1** Sports facility operators should ensure participants and visitors wear face coverings, if indoors, before and after activity or when in non-playing areas of the facility e.g. reception, locker rooms and storage areas. This is a mandatory requirement.
- 3.3.10.2** Face coverings may not be required when using hospitality services such as café's, bars and restaurants. For further information refer to Scottish Government [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): tourism and hospitality sector guidance](#).
- 3.3.11** Players should be discouraged from wiping their hands on the walls and doors of the squash court, and to avoid any unnecessary touching of these surfaces.
- 3.3.12** Further health, safety and hygiene guidance is available at:
- [Health Protection Scotland: General guidance for non-healthcare settings](#)
  - [Health Protection Scotland: Cleaning in a non-healthcare setting](#)
  - [Health Protection Scotland: Hand hygiene techniques](#)
  - [St. John's Ambulance: Covid-19 advice for first aiders](#)
  - [HSE: First Aid during the coronavirus](#)

### 3.4 Test & Protect

**3.4.1** [Test and Protect](#), is Scotland's way of putting into practice NHS Scotland's test, trace, isolate and support strategy.

**3.4.2** Containing outbreaks early is crucial to reduce the spread of COVID-19, protect the NHS and save lives, and avoid the reintroduction of social and economic lockdown. This will support the country to return to, and maintain, a more normal way of life.

**3.4.3** Maintaining customer records:

**3.4.3.1** It is a mandatory requirement that sport facility operators collect the name, contact number, date of visit, time of arrival, and where possible the departure time of all those attending facilities or activities. Where attending as a small household group, the contact details for one member – a 'lead member' – will be sufficient.

**3.4.3.2** Sports facility operators should store information for 21 days and share it when requested to do so by public health officers.

**3.4.4** A leaflet providing information on the Test and Protect service from NHS Scotland is also available here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-test-and-protect-coronavirus-service/>

**3.4.5** Registration with the Information Commissioner's Office:

**3.4.5.1** In order to gather and store customer information securely, sports facility operators may need to be registered with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO). This will be the case if you are using an electronic system to gather and store data.

**3.4.5.2** If you are unsure whether you need to register, please contact the ICO via their helpline on 0303 123 1113, or visit [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).



### 3.5 Squash Activity

3.5.1 Squash activity for **CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OLD** is permitted at the club/facility under the following conditions:

Returning to Play – Children (Under 12 Years Old)		
Condition	What Does This Mean?	Further Details
<b>Unconditioned/Regular squash</b>	Children under 12 years old can resume regular and unconditioned squash activity/play with other children under 12 years old from another household.	Children under 12 years old can resume regular unconditioned squash activity <b>ONLY</b> if all other guidance in this document and all relevant <a href="#">Safeguarding Children guidance</a> is adhered to.

\*Children under 12 years old can participate in solo squash, and household squash, as per below.

3.5.2 Squash activity for **ADULTS & YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12 & ABOVE** is permitted at the club/facility **ONLY** under the following conditions:

Returning to Play – Adults & Young People (Age 12 Years Old & Above)		
Condition	What Does This Mean?	Further Details
<b>Solo squash</b>	<p>This allows one person to use the squash court at any one time, exclusively for the duration of their booking.</p> <p>The court booking is exclusive to the person who made the booking i.e. a group cannot book the court and take turns to use the court one at a time.</p>	Solo squash can resume <b>ONLY</b> if all other guidance in this document and any relevant <a href="#">Safeguarding Children guidance</a> is adhered to.
<b>Household squash</b>	Household squash allows unconditioned squash/play to resume if both players live in the same household	Household squash can resume <b>ONLY</b> if all other guidance in this document and any relevant <a href="#">Safeguarding Children guidance</a> is adhered to.

3.5.3 Where a participant with a disability requires functional support to enable their participation in physical activity and sport this can be provided without



maintaining physical distancing. This support can be provided by a coach or other individual. In such circumstance the responsible 'COVID-19 Officer' should consider appropriate mitigating actions as part of the risk assessment. For instance, providing appropriate PPE, limiting the number of participants an individual provides functional support to, limiting the duration spent in close proximity, or a combination of actions.

## 3.6 Equipment

- 3.6.1 Sports facility operators should, where possible, remove equipment including benches, scoreboards, tables and any other objects that are not essential for participation purposes.
- 3.6.2 Where the above is not possible appropriate cleaning measures, including provision of sanitiser and disposable gloves, should be put in place to reduce the risk of contamination.
- 3.6.3 Bins may be provided but should be regularly checked, cleaned/sanitised, emptied and disposed of using appropriate PPE.
- 3.6.4 All fixed equipment should be checked prior to use to avoid participants having to adjust or touch it.
- 3.6.5 Where shared equipment is necessary for an activity appropriate hygiene measures must be put in place to ensure the equipment is thoroughly cleaned before, during and after use.

## 3.7 Bookings & Payments

- 3.7.1 Clubs should organise a system for booking and allocation of court times that ensure the safety of all players.
- 3.7.2 Operate online booking for courts and sessions where at all possible, or alternatively phone bookings (SportyHQ's online booking system is free for all Scottish Squash member clubs, please contact [ross.cairns@scottishsquash.org](mailto:ross.cairns@scottishsquash.org) for support with set-up or further information).
- 3.7.3 Implement a buffer period of 20-30 minutes between court/session booking slots to allow time for court cleaning and for players to leave before the next players arrive.
- 3.7.4 Consider staggering the start time of court bookings so that players do not all arrive/leave at the same time.



**3.7.5** Take any payments via contactless or online, and avoid handling cash.

## **3.8 Communication**

**3.8.1** Clubs and operators should communicate clearly and regularly with members and participants setting out what they are doing to manage risk, and what advice they are giving to individuals before, during and after visits to the club/activity.

**3.8.2** Clubs should advise their members if and when their squash club is open and ready for play and what procedures must be followed for those planning to play.

**3.8.3** Ensure signage on guidelines for playing squash safely and promoting hygiene measures is clearly displayed (& ensure these remain up to date as restrictions change).

**3.8.4** Make them aware in advance of measures you are putting in place at your club, and guidelines they are asked to follow.

**3.8.5** Ideally sports facility operators should publish an action plan detailing their plans to re-open safely.

**3.8.6** Communicate clearly opening times and how people can safely access a facility, if relevant, for example through a booking or queuing system.

**3.8.7** It is more important than ever to consider inclusive guidance for people who need support to be active and sports facility operators should consider this as part of their work to encourage people to return.



## 4.0 Guidance for Players

### 4.1 Stay up to date

- 4.1.1 Players should check if the club is open for play. Please be patient and understanding if the club cannot open their facilities.
- 4.1.2 Scottish Government information is available at [Scottish Government: Coronavirus in Scotland](#).
- 4.1.3 Be aware that guidance can change, and restrictions may be reintroduced - ensure you have checked the latest version of guidelines for your activity.

### 4.2 Court Bookings

- 4.2.1 Where the club allows, ensure you have booked a court in advance and make payment online.
- 4.2.2 Please make sure you leave the court promptly at the end of your allotted time.

### 4.3 Equipment

- 4.3.1 Take all your own equipment (do not share equipment such as rackets, grips & towels).
- 4.3.2 Only take the minimum amount of equipment with you that you need to play.
- 4.3.3 Clean and wipe down your equipment, including rackets and water bottles before and after use.
- 4.3.4 Bring a full water bottle, and do not share food or drink with others.
- 4.3.5 Ensure you take all your belongings with you at the end of the session and do not leave anything behind.

### 4.4 Travelling to and from the Club

- 4.4.1 Please check before you leave that toilet facilities will be available at the club.
- 4.4.2 Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before leaving home. Information on hand hygiene is available at: [Health Protection Scotland: Hand hygiene techniques](#).



- 4.4.3** Where possible, avoid using public transport and adhere to Scottish Government physical distancing and travel guidelines.
- 4.4.4** Arrive as close to possible to when you need to be at the club and allow others to leave before you enter. If you need to wait, then do so away from the club and clear of any entrances or exits.
- 4.4.5** Take your own hand sanitiser to the club and use regularly throughout the activity.
- 4.4.6** If driving, park your car in such a way as to facilitate physical distancing. Car sharing should be avoided, unless with other members of your household.
- 4.4.7** Avoid touching fixed equipment including gates, fences, or benches.
- 4.4.8** After completing your exercise/activity, return directly to your car (if appropriate) and leave.



## 4.5 Squash Activity

**4.5.1 PLAYERS UNDER 12 YEARS OLD** can participate in squash under the following conditions:

Returning to Play – Children (Under 12 Years Old)		
Condition	What Does This Mean?	Further Details
<b>Unconditioned/Regular squash</b>	Children under 12 years old can resume regular and unconditioned squash activity/play with other children under 12 years old from another household.	Children under 12 years old can resume regular unconditioned squash activity <b>ONLY</b> if all other guidance in this document is adhered to.

\*Players under 12 years old can participate in solo squash, and household squash, as per below.

**4.5.2 PLAYERS AGED 12 YEARS OLD AND ABOVE** can participate in squash activity **ONLY** under the following conditions:

Returning to Play – Adults & Young People (Age 12 Years Old & Above)		
Condition	What Does This Mean?	Further Details
<b>Solo squash</b>	Adult players (aged 12 & above) can only use the squash court on an individual basis.  The court booking is exclusive to the player who made the booking (i.e. a group cannot book the court & take turns to use the court one at a time).	Adult players (aged 12 & above) can only participate in solo squash if all other guidance in this document is adhered to.
<b>Household squash</b>	Players can participate in unconditioned squash activity with someone from the same household.	Players can participate in unconditioned household squash activity if all other guidance in this document is adhered to.

**4.5.3** Where a participant with a disability requires functional support to enable their participation in physical activity and sport this can be provided without maintaining physical distancing. This support can be provided by a coach or other individual. In such circumstance the responsible 'COVID-19 Officer'





should consider appropriate mitigating actions as part of the risk assessment. For instance, providing appropriate PPE, limiting the number of participants an individual provides functional support to, limiting the duration spent in close proximity, or a combination of actions.

## 4.6 Maintain Social Distancing

- 4.6.1 Children aged 11 years and younger are not required to physically distance at any time, as set out in Scottish Government guidance.
- 4.6.2 For those 12 years of age and over taking part in sport or leisure activity, normal Scottish Government physical distancing and household number guidelines should be followed unless otherwise advised by your relevant Sports Governing Body, club or facility operator, as certain activities have exemptions.
- 4.6.3 Normal physical distancing and household number guidelines will however be applicable before and after the sporting activity or when taking breaks.
- 4.6.4 Coaches, officials, parents and carers should continue to observe physical distancing when involved in children's activity as a coach, official or spectator. Please refer to specific club or facility guidelines.
- 4.6.5 Where access through an indoor space is provided, it should be for one person at a time, ideally with a one-way system in operation. Participants should ensure not to make contact with hard surfaces such as door handles and move through the area without stopping or congregating at any time.
- 4.6.6 Further information on physical distancing guidance is available at [Staying Safe and Protecting Others](#).

## 4.7 Health, Safety & Hygiene

- 4.7.1 Face coverings:
  - 4.7.1.1 Players and visitors to indoor sports facilities should wear face coverings before and after activity or when in non-playing areas of the facility (e.g. reception, locker rooms & storage areas).
  - 4.7.1.2 Face coverings do not need to be worn when undertaking physical activity, exercise or showering/changing.
  - 4.7.1.3 Face coverings do not need to be worn in a sports facility hospitality environment (i.e. café, restaurant or bar).



**4.7.2** Avoid touching your face and ensure to clean your hands with at least 60% alcohol gel when you finish participating.

**4.7.3** Players should refrain from wiping their hands on the walls and doors of the squash court, and to avoid any unnecessary touching of these surfaces.

## **4.8 Test & Protect**

**4.8.1** [Test and Protect](#), is Scotland's way of putting into practice NHS Scotland's test, trace, isolate and support strategy.

**4.8.2** The gathering of contact information from anyone attending sport/leisure activities or facilities in a secure and safe manner, will assist NHS Scotland's Test and Protect service to identify any clusters of cases, contact those who may have been exposed to the virus, and request them to take appropriate steps to prevent potential onward spread.

**4.8.3** Maintaining customer records:

**4.8.3.1** In order to support Test and Protect sports facility operators are required to collect the name, contact number, date of visit, time of arrival, and where possible the departure time of all those attending facilities or activities. Where attending as a small household group, the contact details for one member – a 'lead member' – will be sufficient.

**4.8.3.2** It is important that sport facility operators and customers cooperate, as it will be crucial to national efforts to suppress the virus.

**4.8.3.3** Sports facility operators will store information for 21 days and share it with public health officer when requested.

**4.8.4** A leaflet providing information on the Test and Protect service from NHS Scotland is also available [here](#).



## 5.0 Section 5 – Guidance for Coaches

In order to deliver coaching activity in line with the guidance outlined in this section Scottish Squash Licenced Coaches (herein referred to as coach/es) **MUST** hold a valid [Scottish Squash Coach Licence](#). To check the status of your licence please contact [allan.mckay@scottishsquash.org](mailto:allan.mckay@scottishsquash.org)

Coaches can work indoors, providing all activity is consistent with current [Scottish Government guidance](#) on health, physical distancing and hygiene – they will also need to make sure that they can adapt to changes in guidance at very short notice.

In addition, please see **sportscotland's** [Getting Coaches Ready for Sport](#) resource which can be used by Coaches to help them get ready for delivering squash.

People who are symptomatic should self-isolate for 10 days: household members for 14 days as per info on NHS guidance. No one who is self-isolating should attend a sports activity. Coaches and participants should cancel attendance, even if at very short notice, if symptomatic.

### 5.1 General

**5.1.1** It is the responsibility of each venue operator, club and coach to ensure documented risk assessments, based on local circumstances, are completed prior to any activity taking place. Consider safety first, particularly focusing on minimising the risk of infection/transmission. Appropriate measures must be put in place to ensure participants, staff and volunteers are protected at all times.

**5.1.2** Children under 12 do not need to maintain physical distance between themselves.



## 5.2 Squash Coaching

5.2.1 Squash coaching for **CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OLD** is permitted at the club/facility under the following conditions:

Squash Coaching – Coaching Children (Under 12 Years Old)		
Condition	What Does This Mean?	Further Details
<p><b>One to one coaching with physical distancing</b> (Coach <b>MUST</b> position themselves off court at all times)</p>	<p>Coaching can resume for children under 12 years old providing physical distancing is maintained at all times.</p>	<p>During one to one coaching the coach <b>MUST</b> position themselves off court.</p> <p>Physical distancing must adhere to current Scottish Government guidance.</p>
<p><b>Group coaching with physical distancing</b> (Coach <b>MUST</b> position themselves off court at all times)</p>	<p>Coaching can resume for children under 12 years old providing physical distancing is maintained at all times between the coach and all participants.</p>	<p>During group coaching the coach <b>MUST</b> position themselves off court.</p> <p>Group size can be set by the coach in line with updated risk assessments.</p>

5.2.2 Squash coaching for **ADULTS & YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 12 & ABOVE** is permitted at the club/facility **ONLY** under the following conditions:

Squash Coaching – Adults & Young People (Age 12 Years Old & Above)		
Condition	What Does This Mean?	Further Details
<p><b>One to one coaching with physical distancing</b> (Coach <b>MUST</b> position themselves off court at all times)</p>	<p>Coaching can resume for adults and young people (aged 12 and above) providing physical distancing is maintained at all times.</p>	<p>During one to one coaching the coach <b>MUST</b> position themselves off court. Physical distancing must adhere to current Scottish Government guidance.</p>
<p><b>Group coaching with physical distancing</b> (Coach <b>MUST</b> position themselves off court at all times)</p>	<p>Coaching can resume for adults and young people (aged 12 and above) providing physical distancing is maintained at all times between the coach and all participants. Participants within the group must be from the same household.</p>	<p>During group coaching the coach <b>MUST</b> position themselves off court. Group size can be set by the coach in line with updated risk assessments.</p>

**5.2.3** Where a participant with a disability requires functional support to enable their participation in physical activity and sport this can be provided without maintaining physical distancing. This support can be provided by a coach or other individual. In such circumstance the responsible 'COVID-19 Officer' should consider appropriate mitigating actions as part of the risk assessment. For instance, providing appropriate PPE, limiting the number of participants an individual provides functional support to, limiting the duration spent in close proximity, or a combination of actions.

## **5.3 Additional Information**

**5.3.1** A face covering must be worn by all people when in indoor communal areas, except where an exemption applies (as defined in the legislation), or where there is a 'reasonable excuse' not to wear a face covering such as exercising/undertaking physical activity. Consider this as part of your risk assessment.

**5.3.2** At all times coaches should:

**5.3.2.1** Plan appropriately for the session in advance, be aware of responsibilities, be clear on expectations with participants and build in a review period to reflect on effectiveness and safety of the session. A detailed document including checklists is available to support coaches at [Getting Coaches Ready for Sport](#).

**5.3.2.2** Ensure signage on guidelines for participating safely and promoting hygiene measures are clearly displayed and up to date.

**5.3.2.3** Be aware of their responsibilities and that of their participants before, during and after each session.

**5.3.2.4** Check, in advance of delivery, that appropriate insurance policies are in place for all coached activities and that their insurance is valid for the activities they plan to deliver.

**5.3.2.5** Find out about their direct and surrounding delivery environment in advance of the session and contact the venue operator, where relevant, to confirm any changes in processes and procedure.

**5.3.2.6** Ensure appropriate policies are in place and in line with respective Scottish Governing Body and local authority or leisure trust safeguarding best practice.



**5.3.2.7** Ensure they have an approach to activity that is feasible and safe to deliver.

**5.3.2.8** Coaches working with children should familiarise themselves with the additional considerations developed by Children 1st: [Child Wellbeing and Protection Considerations](#).

## **5.4 Communication with Members/Customers**

**5.4.1** Coaches should communicate clearly and regularly with participants setting out what they are doing to manage risk, and what advice they are giving to individuals before, during and after visits to the venue/activity.

**5.4.2** Communicate clearly opening times and how people can safely access a facility, if relevant, for example through a booking or queuing system.

**5.4.3** Ensure there is a process for cancellation should it be necessary.

## **5.5 Health, Safety & Hygiene**

**5.5.1** Coaches should ensure they have access to first aid and emergency equipment. Where equipment is stored indoors coaches should ensure public access to indoor areas is restricted as much as possible with hygiene and safety protocols reviewed as part of the risk assessment. Coaches should ensure that first aid equipment has been updated appropriately for the COVID-19 pandemic and first aiders have appropriate training.

**5.5.2** When undertaking coaching the coach should ensure, where possible, that everyone involved avoids touching surfaces, sharing equipment and touching their mouth and face.

**5.5.3** Cleaning, hand, and respiratory hygiene are core measures and provision should be made for these. Clear guidance and plans are needed for cleaning of equipment and waste disposal. Toilets may be available if operators follow the guidelines outlined on the Scottish Government website [Opening Public Toilets Guidelines](#). Please check with your venue operator in advance of your session.

**5.5.4** Coaches should ensure hand sanitizers or wipes are available for use at entrance/exit to activity where possible and ask participants to bring their own hand sanitiser (hand sanitiser should be at least 60% alcohol based and detergent wipes appropriate for the surface they are being used on).



**5.5.5** All appropriate cleaning procedures and equipment/disinfectant should be provided as per Health Protection Scotland guidance. Cleaning products should conform to EN14476 standards.

**5.5.6** A checklist for health, hygiene and cleaning considerations and actions is available here: [Getting your Facilities Fit for Sport](#).

**5.5.7** Further guidance is available at:

- [Health Protection Scotland: General guidance for non-healthcare settings](#)
- [Health Protection Scotland: Cleaning in a non-healthcare setting](#)
- [Health Protection Scotland: Hand hygiene techniques](#)
- [Health and Safety Executive: First aid during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)
- [St. John's Ambulance: Covid-19 advice for first aiders](#)
- [HSE: First Aid during the coronavirus](#)

## **5.6 Equipment Provision & Use**

**5.6.1** Participants should bring their own equipment where possible, including water bottles, towels and sport specific items.

**5.6.2** Where shared equipment is necessary for an activity appropriate hygiene measures must be put in place to ensure the equipment is thoroughly cleaned before, during and after use.

**5.6.3** No personal equipment should be left at a facility by a coach or participant once the activity has ended.

## **5.7 Bookings & Payments**

**5.7.1** Online bookings should be taken if possible. If not, alternative measures should be put in place including phone bookings.

**5.7.2** Where possible and in line with Data Protection regulations, a register of users should be kept in case there is a need to track and trace. Please follow any guidance provided by your employer or venue operator.

**5.7.3** Consider introducing buffer periods between sessions to stagger start times so that participants do not all arrive/leave at the same time.

**5.7.4** Where possible use online or contactless payment options and avoid handling cash.



- 5.7.5** Workers, venue operators and clubs must ensure that they follow all relevant workplace guidance for contractors and staff and that existing health and safety advice is maintained and aligned. This should be detailed in the documented risk assessment.





## 6.0 Section 6 – Guidance for Competitions

In line with Scottish Government guidance, a further announcement on the resumption of squash competitions will follow. Scottish Squash guidelines state that no competitions are permitted and that clubs and players should use this period to familiarise themselves with these guidelines before undertaking competition.



## 7.0 Section 7 – Acknowledgements

Scottish Squash would like to thank everyone involved in the creation of this guidance, in particular: **sportscotland**, The Scottish Government and the World Squash Federation.



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