



Badminton Ontario
FINAL - Sept 2021
Return to Play Plan

COVID-19 Guidelines
for Hosting Provincial Events

Final Version 7 (September 2021)

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Badminton Ontario Return to Play Plan

COVID 19 Guidelines for Hosting Provincial Events

Version 7 (September 2021)

Introduction

A sense of normalcy is cautiously returning to badminton in Ontario and we are entering another phase in this fight against the pandemic. It is clear that we need to learn to exist and operate within a new framework and that some of the protocols and guidelines we have, and will put in place, are here to stay for the foreseeable future.

The COVID-19 pandemic is unprecedented and unlike any crisis we have had to face before. This is a manual on how Badminton Ontario is attempting to manage the situation, stay ahead of the curve and come out the other end as a strong organization with our values intact. However, we also have a duty to the badminton community to do what we can to keep people safe at our events.

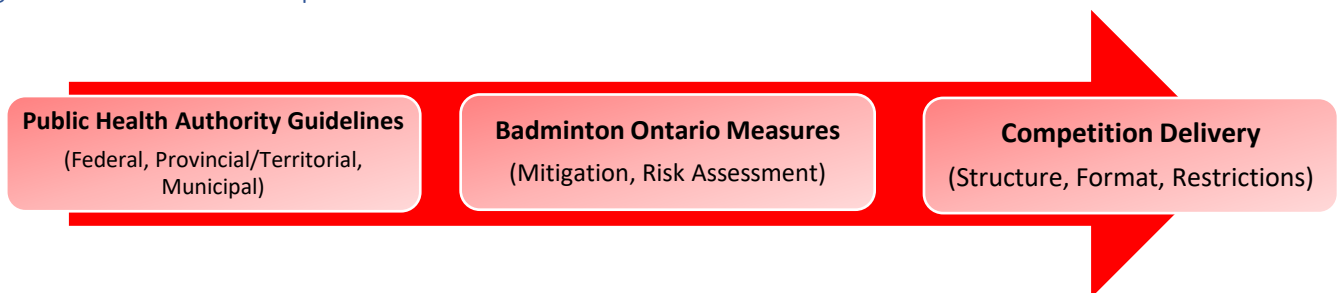
Protocols for Hosting a Provincial Event

Recently the response to COVID-19 in Ontario has shifted to questions regarding how best and when to re-open the province and restore operations to priority aspects of Ontario's economy. Sport event hosting in Ontario must address a thoughtful 'return to play' process that protects the health and safety of participants, technical officials, coaches, hosts, volunteers and spectators, and respects public health authority guidelines.

Return to Competition planning for provincial events involves three key components (see Figure 1).

- Public Health Guidelines
- Badminton Ontario Measures
- Competition Delivery

Figure 1- Return to Competition Framework



Public Health Authority Guidelines

Federal, Provincial and Regional COVID-19 movement and physical distancing measures take precedence over Badminton Ontario specific mitigation strategies. Badminton Ontario will continue to monitor the movement and physical distancing measures imposed by the various levels of government and will make

informed decisions around the viability of hosting events. Badminton Ontario has established the following metrics around the viability of organizing a provincial level event.

1. Gathering Size Restrictions

Badminton Ontario will host provincial events in compliance with the indoor gathering size based on 50% of fire code capacity with appropriate physical distancing measures.

Therefore, Badminton Ontario will review the host venue facilities layout and capacities to consider hosting events with the appropriate Badminton Ontario Measures. (see Figure 2).

Figure 2 – Consideration Pathway



Badminton Ontario Measures

Badminton Ontario has identified the following activities and resources which need to be in place for an event to proceed. (see Figure 3).

This document along with the *2021-22 COVID 19 Protocols for Badminton Ontario sanctioned events* document sets out the safety protocol related to COVID-19 to be followed for the safe delivery of Badminton Ontario sanctioned events.

Risk Mitigation Resources

In order to ensure that our players, coaches, volunteers, technical officials, spectators and staff are not exposed to undue risk due to COVID-19, Badminton Ontario will deploy resources (see section below referring to COVID prevention resources) to ensure that participants are aware of the risk and that risk mitigation strategies are implemented.

Vaccination Requirements

There is heightened risk of transmission of COVID-19 associated with the game of badminton due to the fact that it is played indoors with players frequently coming within a two-meter distance of one another. Tournaments present an increased risk of COVID-19 transmission for reasons such as travel, dining in public, and exposure to different players on court. In view of the high vaccination rate in Ontario, it is possible to implement protocols that will provide a sufficiently safe environment to run tournaments.

In order to ensure that our players, coaches, volunteers, technical officials, spectators and staff are not exposed to undue risk due to COVID-19, Badminton Ontario will be mandating that all participants must be fully vaccinated prior to participating in Badminton Ontario sanctioned programming and events.

Effective September 1, 2021, all participants (players, coaches, volunteers, technical officials, spectators, and staff) must be fully vaccinated, defined by a period of at least 14 days having passed since receiving

their second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine series, to take part in Badminton Ontario sanctioned programs and events.

Those with approved vaccination exemptions (i.e., medical, Ontario Human Rights Code) will be required to produce a negative rapid antigen or PCR test within 48 hours of the start of their participation in an event.

Badminton Ontario Event Schedule

A list of events and their dates can be found at <https://www.badmintonontario.ca/competitions/list/>

COVID Documentation Resources

Coaches, technical officials and participants will undergo a 4-step process in which each step advises them of the risks associated with participation at Badminton Ontario events. The steps are:

1. **Membership Purchase.** Upon renewal or purchase of an annual membership, players, technical officials, and coaches (or a parent/guardian on behalf of a minor, when applicable) will be required to check a box indicating they understand the terms and conditions of membership in Badminton Canada and their P/TSO which includes a section about COVID-19 (Appendix A).
2. **Event Registration.** Upon registration to a specific event, players, technical officials and coaches (or a parent/guardian on behalf of a minor, when applicable) will be required to check a box indicating they understand and agree to the terms and conditions for participating in a sanctioned event (Appendix B)
3. **Arrival at Event.** Upon arrival at the first day of competition, players, technical officials and coaches (or a parent/guardian on behalf of a minor, when applicable) will need to sign (or have signed) a copy of the Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Claims and Liability Agreement (Appendix B). Copies will be kept on file until 3 years after the date of the event.
4. **Declaration of Compliance.** Players, technical officials and coaches (or a parent/guardian on behalf of a minor, when applicable) will need to sign a copy of the Declaration of Compliance (Appendix C) **daily**. Copies will be kept on file until 3 years after the date of the event.
OR completion of an online health check survey upon entry on each day.

Other individuals, such as spectators, contractors, venue staff, event staff, and Badminton Ontario staff will undergo a 2-part process, which are step 3 (Arrival at Event) and step 4 (Declaration of Compliance) described above.

In addition to the documentation required from participants and other individuals, Badminton Ontario will require that a log be kept which includes details about the cleaning of equipment and the public areas of the venue. A copy of this log must be returned to Badminton Ontario post-event. A sample log is provided in Appendix D.

COVID Prevention Resources

At each event participants are expected to have their own personal protective equipment (“PPE”), however, Badminton Ontario will have the following materials available at the draw desk to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 to event participants:

1. Disposable face masks to be used by host committee and other event staff. Or available to participants at a nominal fee.
2. Clear face shields to be used by the host committee and other event staff.
3. Hand Sanitizer. One bottle per court, plus an additional two bottles for the main entrance and two bottles for the draw desk.
4. Ample supply of disinfectant wipes.
5. Disposable gloves.
6. Two electronic touchless temperature devices.
7. Table top shields for the draw desk, referee station, and PACO front entrance station

Onsite Management of COVID Risk Mitigation Resources

In order to manage the collection/submission of waivers and assumption of risk agreements, declarations of compliance, and cleaning logs as well as the distribution of COVID prevention resources, Badminton Ontario will provide and pay for, if necessary, an additional tournament official at each event. The list of responsibilities for this individual are outlined in Appendix E.

This individual will be known as the Participant Access Control Officer(s) (PACO or PAC Officer) and will also be responsible to ensure the monitoring of temperatures of all those entering the facility. Individuals with a temperature greater than 37C will not be admitted into the venue.

COVID Participant Surcharge

There will be additional costs for each competition in the form of COVID-19 prevention resources and the onsite management of resources. While Badminton Ontario will be able to absorb some of these costs, there will be a need to add a COVID-19 servicing fee to each registrant. This surcharge will be \$15 per player per tournament.

Figure 3



Delivery

Risk Assessment

If Public Health Guidelines permit the event, and if Badminton Ontario can implement the Badminton Ontario Measures described in this document, Badminton Ontario will then apply the Risk Assessment tool to determine the limitations on the event's structure. Decisions for returning to competition and hosting provincial events must be based on a risk assessment. The R-CAT (Appendix F) is a risk management tool that includes all factors from the general WHO Risk Assessment and Mitigation Checklist for Mass Gatherings as well as additional factors relating to sporting events. The R-CAT enables organizers to determine a more accurate overall risk score. This tool has been adapted specifically for return to competition planning in the Canadian context.

The R-CAT is foremost a planning tool that provides an opportunity to document strategies and receive a calculated risk score. It can be completed in advance of lifted restrictions - but COVID-19 movement and physical distancing measures take precedence over badminton-specific mitigation strategies.

The R-CAT is a two-step tool. In the first step, if the event score is 1 or greater (range is 0 to 4) the second step must be completed. Upon completion of Step 2, the score will outline modifications that need to be implemented at the event in order to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19.

Universal Competition Delivery Modifications

Outline of responsibility between Host Facility and Badminton Ontario –

1. Badminton Ontario to manage the conduct of participants and spectators along with Field of Play (FOP).
2. Host to manage the sanitization and cleaning of the facility and common areas.
3. Clear communication and understanding about mixed usage of the facility.
 - a. If the facility has separate enclosed areas in the same facility then Badminton Ontario needs to outline use of common areas and maximum number of patrons within.
 - b. If the facility does not have a separate enclosed area then Badminton Ontario must be clear that they are the sole user of the facility for the duration of the event.

Pre-event preparations –

1. Badminton Ontario may conduct a site visit of the facility prior to the event for planning purposes. Outline designated space for PACO desk, draw desk, FOP coaches/officials, etc.
2. Steam shuttles
3. Print extra signage
 - a. Direction flow, mask requirement, notices, tournament protocol, etc.
4. PPE kits for all officials and volunteers
 - a. Face shields, gloves, PA systems, hand sanitizer
5. To have at the draw desk: tabletop shields, marking tape, spare masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes
6. Venue Set-up

- a. Pre-event site visit (if necessary) and sketch out the set-up plans for each venue; identifying draw desk, check-in/waiver area, coach/officials spots for each court, direction flow, spectator area (if applicable)
 - b. Venue will be set-up to maximize physical distancing
 - c. Bring floor marking tape to mark physically distanced spots
 - d. Identify direction of flow
 - e. Set-up draw desk area and storage of equipment in controlled area
7. Pre-event sanitization
- a. Ensure that all tournament specific equipment is cleaned prior to delivery to venue
 - b. Communication with Host Facility on what venue equipment needs to be cleaned prior to event commencement

Participant Check-in Process –

1. All patrons attending the event will be greeted by a Participant Access Control Officer (PACO) at the front entrance. This PAC Officer will not leave the front entrance unattended at any time; they will be relieved for breaks by another officer throughout the day.
2. PAC Officers will be an experienced tournament official.
3. PACO will perform temperature checks of all participants. This includes all participants that enter during the day. If a participant has a temperature above 37 degrees Celsius they will not be allowed to enter the venue.
4. Ensure all participants are wearing PPE: Face masks or coverings (that covers your nose, mouth, and chin without gapping) are mandatory and must be worn by everyone in attendance except during warmups and when competing. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the competition area. Badminton Ontario will have a small supply of these items onsite, but recommends individuals bring their own supplies.
5. Ensure that all participants have completed:
 - a. Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Claims and Liability Agreement
 - b. Declaration of Compliance Forms or the online healthy check survey.
6. PACO will also input athlete names on a google doc so that the draw desk will be updated and can check athletes into Tournament Planner Software file without the players needing to check in at the draw desk again on each day.
7. If athletes are leaving the venue when they still have matches occurring later in the day, they must notify the Draw Desk Official.

Shuttlecock Management –

1. Shuttles will be steamed at the Badminton Ontario office prior to the event.
2. Two (2) match shuttles will be distributed at the beginning of each match.
3. Athletes are responsible for supplying their own match shuttles beyond the two (2) that have been supplied at the beginning of the match. These additional shuttles should be kept separated on their own side of the court until it is needed.
4. Athletes are responsible for supplying their own warm-up shuttles. They may bring the shuttles from their previous match with them to the next match for warm-up.
5. There will be one shuttle bin placed courtside for each team on each court for used shuttles.

6. For matches that are being officiated, before each umpired match, umpires will bring an empty sanitized shuttle bin with them to the court. At the end of the match the umpire should bring the bin to the draw desk to be emptied and sanitized.
7. If the match is not officiated, then the monitoring umpire should bring empty sanitized bins and swap with the courtside bins; then taking the used shuttles and bins to the draw desk to be emptied and sanitized.
8. There will be a supply of sanitized shuttle bins at the draw desk area.
9. There will be a larger bin designated at each event for disposal of shuttles.

Reporting scores and Consolation sign-up –

1. The Draw Desk and Referee station will be set-up with table top shields and clear floor markings identifying where people should stand.
2. Athletes/teams reporting scores must stand in designated area while reporting scores and/or signing up for consolation rounds.
3. When there is an extended secondary screen set-up showing the match list, participants may look at the information displayed but should not loiter in front of the screen. Although the participants should not be touching the secondary screen, it will be cleaned and sanitized often.

Etiquette –

1. The standards of etiquette have been modified. Players will touch rackets at the end of the match and will politely wave to the umpire and service judge.
2. Return shuttle to other side with racquet (athletes should minimize touching the shuttle as much as possible).
3. During the Coin Toss before an umpired match, players are required to stand 2 meters from the umpire and each other.

Officials' responsibilities –

1. Bring your kits to each tournament
 - a. Clipboards, warning cards, accreditation, stopwatches, pens, portable PA system, blue record book, face masks, and PPE kits
2. Must complete the Safe Sport Respect in Sport module online, Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Claims and Liability Agreement, and Daily Declaration of Compliance Forms
3. Shuttle management and court management duties
4. When umpiring on court:
 - a. Umpires may remove their mask after the coin toss, only immediately before calling the match to play.
 - b. Umpires may choose to wear face mask/shield and gloves when umpiring on court
 - c. Bring hand sanitizer
 - d. Bring empty sanitized shuttle bins
 - e. Remind players about non-contact court etiquette
5. Referee specific:
 - a. Officials briefing: reminder of extra precautions, highlight specifics to the venue, etc.
 - b. Referee tournament report
6. Recommendation: Download the BWF Statutes App for references

FOP Management –

1. Determine the allowance/restriction of spectators
 - a. Reduced spectator spacing with physical distancing measures or parent/guardian only to accompany a minor.
 - b. How to manage this?
 - i. Mark the lounge area for physical distancing.
 - ii. When not using full court capacity in a venue, designate a (couple of) court(s) to spectators. Mark spacing on floors.
 - iii. In venues without a lounge, may need to assign court space for spectators.
2. Identify the Flow / Direction of participant movement within the facility and put up signage and floor markings.
3. In the event an athlete slips or dives on court, the area (or that half of the court) should be cleaned after the match.

Regular Cleaning and Sanitization –

1. Facility and Competition Equipment cleaning log
 - a. Identifies what is to be cleaned by the Host Facility versus the Tournament Organizers
 - b. Notes when items/areas are cleaned
2. Items and areas that need to be cleaned frequently include: Welcome/front desk, Draw Desk, Extended secondary monitor, Referee station, Courtside coaches/officials chairs, Nets and Net posts, Equipment bins, Officials break room, Entrances, doorways, and hallways, All handles, Benches, chairs, tables, and counters, Washrooms, Common areas and lounges

Medal Ceremony –

1. Dependent on risk level.
2. Scenario A: Medals ceremony done at the completion of each discipline per age group. Recipients must wear face mask and stand 2 meters apart. Person handing out medals must wear face mask; no hand shaking. One parent/guardian permitted to spectate and take photos.
3. Scenario B: No medals ceremony; medals handed out directly to athletes upon completion. Medals should be taken by the athlete from a tray and they put it around their own neck for singles. Doubles partners can take the medal and put it around their partners neck.

Wrap-up –

1. All tournament equipment must be cleaned before being packed away.
2. All forms and agreements must be properly stored and transported to the Badminton Ontario office.

Post-event Summary –

1. Reports from: Referee, Draw Desk, PACO.
2. Create and/or adjust existing templates.
3. Ensure all hardcopies (Declarations) are organized and kept at the Badminton Ontario Office.
4. If any Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Claims and Liability Agreements were signed onsite, make sure to scan and file with others.

Modifications Specific to Risk Level

Based on the results of the R-CAT tool, the potential risk of COVID transmission at the provincial event is categorized into 5 different risk levels. They are: negligible risk of transmission, very low risk of transmission, low risk of transmission, moderate risk of transmission and high risk of transmission.

The chart below outlines additional modifications Badminton Ontario will implement based on the risk level associated with the event. Modifications can occur around the number of disciplines offered at the event, if spectators are allowed in the venue, if there will be modification to doubles and mixed doubles play, venue arrivals and departures, and medal ceremonies.

Competition Modifications					
Risk Level	Disciplines and Age Groups	Spectators	Doubles Play	Arrival / Departure	Medal Ceremonies
Negligible	All Events* All Age Groups	Allowed (Social Distancing)	As per laws of badminton	No change	Yes
Very Low Risk	All Events* Only U15/17/19	One parent/guardian allowed for Jr events only	As per laws of badminton	Arrive in time and depart immediately after they complete their participation in the discipline	No
Low Risk	All Events* Only U15/17/19	One parent/guardian allowed for Jr events only	As per laws of badminton	Arrive in time and depart immediately after they complete their participation in the discipline	No
Moderate Risk	Singles Only Only U15/17/19	One parent/guardian allowed for Jr events only	No Doubles play	Arrive in time and depart immediately after they complete their participation in the discipline completion	No
High Risk	Event Cancelled				

Communications

Badminton Ontario will ensure that the messaging across all of our platforms (website, social media, emails, notice releases, conversations with participants, etc.) is aligned and timely. We will communicate to each participant at an event both what they can expect in terms of safety precautions as well as event modifications.

Badminton Ontario will also prepare for a participant to notify our organization if they have tested positive for the virus at one of our events. Badminton Ontario will react quickly, sincerely, and transparently when dealing with this potential situation.

All Badminton Ontario members are responsible for notifying Badminton Ontario in the event they feel unwell and/or have tested positive for COVID-19 prior to the start of the event/activities.

Those who have tested positive for COVID-19 prior to entry into the facilities will be required to leave immediately. They will also be required to notify Badminton Ontario of any other participants they have been in contact with.

Should a participant be notified of a positive COVID-19 test result after the event/activities are underway, the event/activities will be terminated immediately. Local Public Health Authorities, the District Members Associations, Member Clubs, and participants will be notified immediately.

Participant Relations

- Badminton Ontario needs to be aware that participants will be frustrated, stressed and scared.
- Badminton Ontario must send out a pre-event communication outlining: (Appendix G)
 - All the protocols that registered players, coaches and parents/guardians will have to adhere to before attending.
 - All the modifications to the specific event
- When informed that an individual who attended a Badminton Ontario event tested positive, in addition to the external communications we plan to put out (Appendix H), we will also reach out to every participant individually via email.
- When informed that an individual who attended a Badminton Ontario event tested positive:
 - Badminton Ontario will have staff on hand to answer all calls and emails in a manner as quickly and practical as possible.
 - Badminton Ontario will recognize that it is not qualified to give medical advice or advise on next steps. We will direct individuals to the appropriate government website for further advice and protocol.

External Communications

Badminton Ontario will prepare templates of communications for various scenarios that we can adapt quickly and use across all platforms. Badminton Ontario prefers good news to reach our participants from the press or social media, but bad news should come directly from the provincial office.

Badminton Ontario is fortunate to have a robust database and good engagement on our social media so we do not feel the need to send a press release about the postponement/cancellation of every event. However, we will post to our website and send out an email to participants immediately.

Next Steps

It is important to note that Badminton Ontario will continue to review and update this document as the understanding of COVID-19 by Public Health Authorities evolves. The most up to date version of this document can be found at www.badmintonontario.ca.

If you have any questions regarding this document please contact:

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Additional RESOURCES

[Guidance for facilities for sports and recreational fitness activities during COVID-19](#)

[Public Health Ontario](#)

[Reopening Ontario in Stages](#)

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Appendix A

BADMINTON ONTARIO

Membership and Annual License Terms and Conditions

As a condition of registration for membership, a Participant (or the Participant's parent/guardian, if the Participant is younger than the age of the majority) agree to the following terms:

1. When purchasing a membership, a Participant will be issued a single Member ID which shall be their permanent Member ID so long as they participate in the sport of badminton anywhere in Canada, unless extenuating circumstances arise that justify the issuance of a different Member ID. Badminton Canada, in consultation with its Member, the Provincial Sports Organization Badminton Ontario (the "PSO") that issued the Participant's Member ID, shall have the sole authority to determine what constitutes exceptional circumstances for the purpose of determining whether a Participant may be issued a different Member ID.
2. All memberships shall include an embedded Badminton Canada membership; however, all memberships shall be between the PSO and the Participant, and may, for players, be issued for participation at the national, provincial, regional or local level, while coach and official memberships may be issued at the national or provincial level.
3. A Participant may hold multiple memberships and multiple types of memberships (i.e., as a coach, player or official) issued by different Members; however, a Participant may only compete for or represent a single Member for the term for which their memberships is issued. For further clarity, a single Member is a Member of Badminton Canada, including a Provincial or Territorial Sport Organization.
4. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, while a Participant may only compete for a single Member during the term of a memberships, they may coach or officiate for another Member during that same term.
5. The PSO has authority to define the benefits included with a membership and may impose further eligibility requirements or other terms or conditions from time to time that a Participant must comply with in order to obtain a membership (or maintain their membership) with the PSO.
6. All Participants are required to familiarize themselves with the benefits included with a membership issued by the PSO, as well as the eligibility requirements or other terms or conditions of a membership that may be imposed by the PSO.
7. The PSO shall have the authority to determine the term of any membership issued to a Participant.
8. A Participant may only apply for a membership with the PSO if the Participant is a primary resident of Ontario. The Participant shall have the responsibility for establishing primary residency in Ontario and shall do so by providing any of the following to the PSO:
 - An Ontario health card or driver's license;
 - Evidence that the Participant's primary residence is located in Ontario ; or
 - In the case of a minor or a student who is studying in a different province, territory or country, proof that their parent or guardian is a primary resident in Ontario.If the applicant cannot provide any of these items, please provide a reason:
9. A Participant who has left Ontario on a temporary basis for training or education reasons may apply for a membership with the PSO if they can provide evidence of primary residency as outlined immediately above.
10. Should a Participant not satisfy any of the conditions mentioned above, they may nevertheless apply for a membership from the PSO if it has previously issued a membership to the Participant

and if they have strong ties and that they wish to continue to exclusively represent the PSO. In such circumstances, before issuing a membership, the PSO must consult with Badminton Canada, which may, in its absolute discretion, decide whether the Participant should be issued a membership by the PSO.

A Participant's failure to adhere to these terms may result in immediate revocation of the Participant's membership. Further, should any Participant provide the PSO or Badminton Canada with fraudulent information or documentation or should they make any misrepresentation to the PSO or Badminton Canada when applying for a membership, their membership will be immediately revoked and the Participant may be subject to further discipline in accordance with the relevant disciplinary policy of the PSO or Badminton Canada.

Date of Document: June 4, 2021

By typing your name or parent/Guardian on this, you agree that you are to be bound by all that is contained in this Consent Form.

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Name

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian (if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old)

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian (if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old)

Appendix B

BADMINTON ONTARIO

ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER OF CLAIMS AND LIABILITY AGREEMENT

For participation in all Sanctioned Badminton Ontario activities and competitions occurring between September 1, 2021, and August 31, 2022

Foreword: Badminton Ontario, the Provincial Sport Organization (“PSO”) governing badminton in Ontario, greatly acknowledges the leadership of Badminton Canada. The PSO endorses and adopts the guiding principles previously outlined by Badminton Canada in this Assumption of Risk and Waiver of Claims and Liability Agreement (“the Agreement”).

This is a binding legal agreement. Clarify any questions or concerns before agreeing to be bound by this Agreement.

1. This Agreement must be signed by the Participant and/or the Participant’s parent/guardian (if applicable, when the Participant is younger than the age of majority in his/her province of residence) prior to participation. The age of majority in the Province of Ontario is eighteen (18) years old. The Participant agrees to be bound by and acknowledges the terms set out in this Agreement . When applicable, the Participant’s parent/guardian acknowledges and agrees to the terms on behalf of the Participant and references in this document to the Participant agreeing to or acknowledging a risk or term is understood to be referring to the Participant’s parent/guardian agreeing to or acknowledging the risk or term on behalf of the Participant.

ACTIVITIES

2. The Participant warrants that the Participant is voluntarily participating in the sport of badminton and the spectating, orientation, instruction, activities, competitions, programs, and services (collectively the “Activities”) of the PSO. For further clarity, the PSO includes its Directors, Officers, committee members, members, employees, coaches, volunteers, officials, participants, agents, sponsors, owners/operators of the facilities in which the Activities take place, and representatives, and is not responsible for any injury, personal injury, damage, property damage, expense, loss of income or loss of any kind suffered by a Participant during or as a result of the Activities, even when caused by the negligence of the PSO.

RISKS

3. The Activities have foreseeable and unforeseeable inherent risks, hazards and dangers that no amount of care, caution or expertise can eliminate, including without limitation, the potential for serious bodily injury, permanent disability, paralysis, and loss of life. These risks include but are not limited to:
 - a) Executing strenuous and demanding physical techniques;

- b) Vigorous physical exertion, strenuous cardiovascular workouts and rapid movements;
 - c) Exerting and stretching various muscle groups;
 - d) The failure to properly use any piece of equipment or from the mechanical failure of any piece of equipment;
 - e) Spinal cord injuries which may render the Participant permanently paralyzed;
 - f) Serious injury to virtually all bones, joints, ligaments, muscles, tendons and other aspects of the Participant's body or to the Participant's general health and well-being;
 - g) Abrasions, sprains, strains, fractures, or dislocations;
 - h) Concussion or other head injuries, including but not limited to, closed head injury or blunt head trauma;
 - i) Physical contact with other participants, spectators, equipment, and hazards;
 - j) Contact with a racquet, shuttlecock, net, or the court;
 - k) Not wearing appropriate safety or protective equipment;
 - l) Failure to act safely or within the Participant's own ability or within designated areas;
 - m) Travel to and from competitive events and associated non-competitive events which are an integral part of the Activities;
 - n) Exposure to disease including COVID-19 and other contagious illnesses.
4. The PSO may offer or promote online programming (such as webinars, remote conferences, workshops, and online training) which have some different foreseeable and unforeseeable risks than in-person programming. These risks include but are not limited to privacy breaches, hacking, technology malfunction or damage, in addition to the risks set out above in section 3. a)-l).
5. The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization and COVID-19 is extremely contagious. The PSO has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, the PSO cannot guarantee that the Participant will not become infected with COVID-19. Further, participating in the Activities could increase the Participant's risk of contracting COVID-19 or any other contagious disease.
6. While the PSO will use every best effort to demonstrate and implement reasonable precautions to protect Participants, there is no guarantee that every situation involving risk to a Participant can be avoided when participating in activities delivered by the PSO.

TERMS

7. In consideration of the PSO allowing the Participant to participate in the Activities, the Participant (or the Participant's parent/guardian, if applicable) agrees:
- a) That the Participant is not relying on any oral or written statements made by the PSO or their agents, contained in any medium, including but not limited to a brochure or advertisement or in individual conversations, to agree to participate in the Activities;
 - b) That when the Participant practices or trains in their own space, the Participant is responsible for the Participant's surroundings and the location and equipment that is selected for the Participant;

- c) That the Participant's mental and physical condition is appropriate to participate in the Activities and the Participant assumes all risks related to the Participant's mental and physical condition;
- d) To comply with the rules and regulations for participation in the Activities as outlined in the regulation section of each Activity; extending to and including additional health and safety practices as required by the PSO;
- e) To comply with the rules of the facility and use all equipment properly and for its intended purpose only;
- f) That if the Participant observes an unusual significant hazard or risk, the Participant will remove themselves from participation and immediately bring their observations to a representative of the PSO;
- g) The risks associated with the Activities are increased when the Participant is impaired and the Participant will not participate if impaired in any way;
- h) That it is the Participant's sole responsibility to assess whether any Activities are beyond the skill level of the Participant. By the Participant commencing an Activity, the Participant acknowledges and accepts the suitability and conditions of the Activity as measured against the skills of the Participant;
- i) That COVID-19 is contagious in nature and the Participant may be exposed to, or infected by, COVID-19 and such exposure may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, or death; and
- j) That the Participant is responsible for choosing the Participant's safety or protective equipment and the secure fitting of that equipment.

DISCLAIMER

8. The Participant (or the Participant's parent/guardian, if applicable) assumes all risks arising out of, associated with or related to, participation in the Activities and waives any and all claims that the Participant may have now or in the future against the PSO. The Participant, when the age of majority or older, accepts and fully assumes all such risks and possibility of personal injury, death, property damage, expense and related loss, including loss of income, resulting from participation in the Activities.
9. The Participant (when 18 years old or older) forever releases and indemnifies the PSO from any and all liability for any and all claims, demands, actions, damages (including direct, indirect, special and/or consequential), losses, actions, judgments, and costs (including legal fees) (collectively, the "Claims") which the Participant has or may have in the future, that might arise out of, result from, or relate to, participation in the Activities, even though such Claims may have been caused by any manner whatsoever, including but not limited to, the PSO's negligence, gross negligence, negligent rescue, omissions, carelessness, breach of contract and/or breach of any statutory duty of care of the PSO.
10. The PSO is not responsible or liable for any damage to the Participant's vehicle, property, or equipment that may occur as a result of the Activities. This Agreement is governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario and if any portion thereof is held invalid, the balance shall,

notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect. Notwithstanding the waiver of Claims as set out above, the Participant (or the Participant's parent/guardian, if applicable) agrees to file any proceeding against the PSO in the Province of Ontario and further agrees that the substantive law of the Province of Ontario will apply with regard to conflict of law rules.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

11. The Participant (and the Participant's parent/guardian, if applicable) acknowledges that they have read and understand this agreement, that they have executed this agreement voluntarily, and that this agreement is to be binding upon themselves, their heirs, spouse, children, parents, guardians, next of kin, executors, administrators and legal or personal representatives. It is further acknowledged that by signing this agreement the Participant (when 18 years old or older) has waived the right to maintain a lawsuit against the PSO on the basis of any claims from which they have released herein.

Date of Document: June 4, 2021

By typing your name or parent/Guardian on this, you agree that you are to be bound by all that is contained in this Consent Form.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Name

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Parent/Guardian (if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old)

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____
Parent/Guardian (if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old)

Appendix C

BADMINTON ONTARIO - DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE – COVID-19 (Version 3 – Sept 2020) For (Event & Date)

Individual Name (print): _____

Individual's Parent/Guardian _____
(if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old)

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

WARNING !

ALL INDIVIDUALS ENTERING THE FACILITY MUST COMPLY WITH THIS DECLARATION

Badminton Ontario (the "Organization") requires the disclosure of exposure or illness in order to safeguard the health and safety of all participants and limit the further outbreak of COVID-19. This Declaration of Compliance will be kept safely and personal information will not be disclosed unless as required by law or with your consent.

An individual (or the individual's parent/guardian, if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old) who is unable to agree to the terms outlined in this document is not permitted to enter the facilities or participate in the Organization's activities, programs, or services.

I, the undersigned being the individual named above and the individual's parent/guardian (if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old), hereby acknowledge and agree to the terms outlined in this document:

- 1) The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the World Health Organization and COVID-19 is extremely contagious. The Organization has put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and requires all individuals (or their parent/guardian, when applicable) to adhere to the compliance standards described in this document.
- 2) The individual has not been diagnosed with COVID-19. **OR** If the individual was diagnosed with COVID-19, the individual was cleared as recovered by provincial/territorial or local public health authorities.
- 3) The individual has not been exposed to a person with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19. **OR** If the individual was exposed to a person with a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, the date of exposure was more than 14 days prior to the date this Declaration of Compliance was signed.

- 4) The individual is attending or participating voluntarily and understands the risks associated with COVID-19. The individual (or the individual's parent/guardian, on behalf of the individual (when applicable)) agrees to assume those risks, including but not limited to exposure and being infected.
- 5) The individual has not, nor has anyone in the individual's household, experienced any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 14 days (including fever, new or worsening cough, fatigue, chills and body aches, respiratory illness, difficulty breathing, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea, pink eye, or loss of taste or smell).
- 6) If the individual experiences, or if anyone in the individual's household experiences, any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 after submitting this Declaration of Compliance, the individual will immediately isolate, notify the Organization, and not attend any of the Organization's facilities, activities, programs or services until at least 14 days have passed since those symptoms were last experienced.
- 7) The individual has not, nor has any member of the individual's household, travelled to or had a lay-over in any country outside Canada. If the individual travels, or if anyone in the individual's household travels, outside Canada after submitting this Declaration of Compliance, the individual will not attend any of the Organization's facilities, activities, programs or services until at least 14 days have passed since the date of return.
- 8) The individual is following recommended guidelines, including but not limited to practicing physical distancing, trying to maintain separation of six feet from others, adhering to recognized hygiene best practices, and otherwise limiting exposure to COVID-19.
- 9) The individual will follow the safety, physical distancing and hygiene protocols of the Organization.
- 10) This document will remain in effect until the Organization, per the direction of the provincial/territorial government and provincial/territorial and local public health authorities, determines that the acknowledgements in this Declaration of Compliance are no longer required.
- 11) The Organization may remove the individual from the facility or from participation in the activities, programs or services of the Organization at any time and for any reason if the Organization believes, in its sole discretion, that the individual is no longer in compliance with any of the standards described in this document.

Signature and date required for each day of competition:

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian (if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old)

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian (if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old)

Signature: _____ Date: _____
Parent/Guardian (if the individual is younger than eighteen (18) years old)

Appendix E

Badminton Ontario Participant Access Control Officer (PACO)

The Participant Access Control Officer (PACO) is responsible for the implementation and management of COVID-19 mitigation strategies at specific Badminton Ontario Provincial Events during the 2021/22 competitive year. The PACO in collaboration with the Technical Director (TD) will ensure the administration, organization, and execution of Badminton Ontario's risk mitigation plans and activities around COVID-19 in conjunction with the local host committee, the venue operator, and the Head Referee of the events. The successful candidates will work under the direct supervision of the Technical Director.

Pre-Event Management and Planning

1. Work with the venue operator and chair of the host committee to determine venue flow and physical distancing markers. This may include a pre-event site visit.
2. Work with the venue operator to determine preexisting health and safety protocols and ensure there is alignment between their activities and Badminton Ontario Health and Safety plans.
3. Work with the venue operator in order to ensure the required documentation is received around the cleaning of public spaces within the venue.
4. Work with the chair of the host committee in order to ensure the required documentation is received around the cleaning of field of play equipment.
5. Work with the chair of the host committee in order to ensure that at least one volunteer is available to assist the PACO while the venue is open.
6. Mark the venue to ensure social distancing is practiced.
7. Set up Health and Safety Registration Desk the day prior to the event if the venue permits; otherwise a couple hours prior to the event start time.

Event Management

1. Management of the Health and Safety Registration desk. This is the first point of contact for all individuals arriving at the event venue.
2. Ensure that each individual attending the event completes the required documentation and has their temperature taken upon arriving.
3. Input athlete names into a google doc file shared with the Draw Desk for daily check-in so that participants do not need to check-in at the draw desk upon arrival.
4. Maintain all required documentation.
5. Ensure frequent cleaning of badminton areas and equipment is performed by another tournament personnel; and maintain a record of these cleaning activities.
6. Ensure the deployment of other health and safety materials (sanitizer, disinfectant wipes, face shield, masks, etc.) provided by Badminton Ontario for the event.
7. Ask any individuals who are not complying with the required measures (such as refusing to wear a mask) to leave the venue.

Post Event

1. Prepare a final report.
2. Assist the Draw Desk to note inventory of any unused safety material.
3. Return to Badminton Ontario all hardcopies of signed waivers, declarations of compliance and cleaning logs.

Education and Experience-

1. PAC Officers will be selected from the pool of existing Ontario tournament officials (experienced referees, umpires, and draw desk) who are comfortable taking on this new role.
2. Ideally, PAC Officers will have demonstrated supervisory skills.

Key Competencies-

1. Ability to organize and manage multiple tasks.
2. Execute sound judgement in decision-making.
3. Demonstrate excellent inter-personal and communication skills.
4. Take initiative to address challenges.
5. Oral and written English language skills required and in French an asset.
6. Ability to work within a team.

Remuneration-

\$150 per day of event competition.

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Appendix F

Risk Assessment for Badminton Events

<i>Date of Risk Assessment</i>	
<i>Club Name</i>	
<i>City</i>	
<i>Province</i>	
<i>Present re-open phase/stage/level (local and provincial)</i>	
<i>Public Health Contact Number</i>	
COVID Strategic Operations Team (see Mitigation Checklist for responsibilities)	
<i>Name of Person Completing this Tool</i>	
<i>Name of Communications Lead</i>	
<i>Name of Medical Lead</i>	
<i>Name of Operations Lead</i>	
<i>Primary Venue Contact Name and Email</i>	

STEP 1 - Initial Risk Assessment

The questions below will enable hosts to review the additional considerations specific to return to sport, and thus inform their risk checklist for COVID-19. This will help staff and volunteers to understand and manage any additional risk from COVID-19.

The risk assessment should be reviewed and reassessed regularly during the planning phase and updated immediately prior to the transition to the operational phase, especially in light of the rapidly evolving nature of the outbreak.

The risk assessment for COVID-19 must be coordinated and integrated with the local risk assessment for COVID-19. The person completing the questionnaire should include input from the local public health authorities, consult WHO's latest technical guidance, and ensure that there is an up-to-date evaluation of the epidemiological situation.

Initial Risk Assessment

Please answer Yes (1) or No (0) to the following questions to determine a risk assessment score that incorporates factors specific to the events activities.

Additional risk of COVID-19 to return to competitions	Yes (1)/No (0)	Score	Comments
Will the event be held in a region that has documented active local transmission of COVID-19 (community spread) in the last 14 days?	0	0	NOTE: If there are physical distancing measures in place or gathering size restrictions in your area - answer YES.
Will the event be held in venues/facilities with access by multiple user groups or Events?	0	0	
Will the event have participants relocating from areas outside the host city that have documented active local transmission of COVID-19 (community spread)?	0	0	
Will the event include participants (athletes or coaches) at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease (e.g. people over 65 years of age or people with underlying health conditions)?	0	0	
Total initial COVID-19 risk score		0	

2021

Total Initial Risk Assessment Score
0 - Negligible
1 - Very Low Risk
2 - Low Risk
3 - Moderate Risk
4 - High Risk

STEP 2 - Modified Risk Assessment

If you have answered yes to any of the questions above, then reconsider whether you are able to modify any of the answers to modify the risk assessment score that may be used to inform your event checklist.

Modified Risk Assessment			
Additional risk of COVID-19 to return to competition	Yes (1)/No (0)	Score	Comments
Will the event be held in a region that has documented active local transmission of COVID-19 (community spread) in the last 14 days?		0	NOTE: If there are physical distancing measures in place or gathering size restrictions in your area - answer YES.
Will the event be held in venues/facilities with access by multiple user groups or Events?		0	Are you able to restrict or schedule facility access to discrete limited groups?
Will the event have participants relocating from areas outside the host city that have documented active local transmission of COVID-19 (community spread)?		0	If ALL members from outside the location are able to quarantine for 14 days before entering the Event - answer NO.
Will the event include participants (athletes or coaches) at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease (e.g. people over 65 years of age or people with underlying health conditions)?		0	If you are able to restrict or eliminate high risk individuals access to the Event - answer NO.
Total modified COVID-19 risk score		0	

Total Modified Risk Assessment Score		Recommended Changes to Event
0 - Negligible	Modified risk of transmission and further spread of COVID-19 in relation to event is considered <u>negligible</u> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants (including spectators) should respect social distancing practices. • Venue should be set up to maximize social distancing. (EX. tape on floor, reduced facility access) • Modify etiquette rules to allow for no contact. • Shuttle are to be provided at the start of the day to each player competing and should not be touched by competitors or partners during the competition (Initials should be added by player to identify their shuttles) • Provide additional hand sanitation court side. • All participants (players, coaches, parents, event staff, volunteers) must <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Undergo temperature check (will not be allowed to enter with a temperature greater than 37C) o Wear face mask o Sign daily DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE Form.
1 - Very Low Risk	Modified risk of transmission and further spread of COVID-19 in relation to event is considered <u>very low</u> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All event disciplines can be held (MS, WS, MD, WD, XD). • For Junior events, only one parent per family can attend otherwise the venue should be closed to spectators. • Venue should be set up to maximize social distancing. (EX. tape on floor, reduced facility access) • Modify etiquette rules to allow for no contact. • Shuttle are to be provided at the start of the day to each players competing and should not be touched by competitors or partners during the competition (Initials should be added by player to identify their shuttles). • Participants should arrive just before their match and leave immediately afterwards. • Provide additional hand sanitation court side. • All participants (players, coaches, parents, event staff, volunteers) must <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Undergo temperature check (will not be allowed to enter with a temperature greater than 37C) o Wear face mask o Sign daily DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE Form.
2 - Low Risk	Modified risk of transmission and further spread of COVID-19 in relation to the event is considered <u>low</u> . Recommend checking whether mitigation measures can be strengthened.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All event disciplines can be held (MS, WS, MD, WD, XD). • Junior events, only one parent per family can attend otherwise the venue should be closed to spectators. • Venue should be set up to maximize social distancing. (EX. tape on floor, reduced facility access) • Players/pairs will not switch sides • Modify etiquette rules to allow for no contact. • Shuttle are to be provided at the start of the day to each players competing and should not be touched by competitors or partners during the competition (Initials should be added by player to identify their shuttles) • Participants should arrive just before their match and leave immediately afterwards. Provide additional hand sanitation court side. • All participants (players, coaches, parents, event staff, volunteers) must <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Undergo temperature check (will not be allowed to enter with a temperature greater than 37C) o Wear face mask o Sign daily DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE Form.
3 - Moderate Risk	Modified risk of transmission and further spread of COVID-19 in relation to the event is considered <u>moderate</u> . Recommend <u>significant</u> efforts to improve mitigation measures or reduce risk of transmission (decrease risk assessment score) and postpone event until appropriate measures are in place.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only singles events (MS & WS) should be held • For Junior events, only one parent per family under the age of major can attend otherwise the venue should be closed to spectators. • Venue should be set up to maximize social distancing. (EX. tape on floor, reduced facility access) • Players will not switch sides • Modify etiquette rules to allow for no contact. • Shuttle are to be provided at the start of the day to each players competing and should not be touched by competitors or partners during the competition (Initials should be added by player to identify their shuttles) • Participants should arrive just before their match and leave immediately afterwards. Provide additional hand sanitation court side. • All participants (players, coaches, parents, event staff, volunteers) must <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Undergo temperature check (will not be allowed to enter with a temperature greater than 37C) o Wear face mask o Sign daily DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE Form.
4 - High Risk	Modified risk of transmission and further spread of COVID-19 in relation to the event is considered <u>high</u> . Recommend <u>significant</u> efforts to improve <u>both</u> mitigation measures and reduce risk of transmission (decrease risk assessment score). EVENTS SHOULD NOT PROCEED UNTIL FURTHER MITIGATION CAN REDUCE OVERALL RISK.	Event / Competition cancelled unless strategies implemented to reduce risk score.

Appendix G

Badminton Ontario

Pre- Event email to Players, Parents and Coaches

(date)

Badminton Ontario is excited to welcome you to the (name of event) in (city). Prior to travelling to this event, Badminton Ontario would like to inform you of certain changes to our standard event hosting practices in light of the current pandemic. These changes come in two forms. Changes that will be standardized for all our events and those specific to the local situation regarding COVID-19.

Our Approach

Badminton Ontario is taking a measured approach to ensure that we reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission. This approach is done in collaboration with our local host facility, the District Member badminton association and Public Health Authorities' guidance.

Guiding Principles

1. We will use a common sense approach to Health and Safety that embraces the new norms of society.
2. We will respect all guidelines from Government and Public Health Authorities.
3. We will respect physical distancing protocols.
4. We will enhance cleaning and hygiene practices at the venue.
5. We will invest in our events to ensure we are prepared to host a great and safe event.

Standardized Changes

The standardized changes for the 2021-2022 season for all Badminton Ontario events are:

1. Upon arrival each day, you will be greeted at the door by a Badminton Ontario Participation Access Control Officer (PACO). They will be positioned at the main entrance for the duration of the event.
2. Upon arrival on the first day of competition, each individual must sign (or have signed) an Assumption of Risks and Waiver of Claims and Liability Agreement applicable for the current competition season.
3. Each day, all participants (and anyone arriving to the facility) must sign a declaration that they do not have COVID-19 symptoms and they have not potentially exposed themselves to COVID-19 or complete an online health check survey.
4. Each participant (and anyone arriving to the facility) must undergo a temperature check when entering the venue. This includes in and out during the day. If your temperature is above 37 degrees Celsius you will not be allowed to enter the venue.
5. Shuttlecock allocation: Two (2) match shuttles will be distributed at the beginning of each match. Athletes are responsible for supplying their own match shuttles beyond the two (2) that have been supplied at the beginning of the match. These additional shuttles should be kept separated on their own side of the court until it is needed. Athletes are responsible for supplying their own

warm-up shuttles. They may bring the shuttles from their previous match with them to the next match for warm-up.

6. Face masks/coverings (that covers your nose, mouth, and chin without gapping) are mandatory and must be worn by everyone in attendance except during warmups and when competing. Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the competition area. Badminton Ontario will have a small supply of these items onsite, but recommends individuals bring their own supplies.
7. The venue will be marked to maximize social distancing. Please respect these markings.
8. The standards of etiquette have been modified. Players will touch rackets at the end of the match and will politely wave to the umpire and service judge.

Event Specific Changes

Upon reviewing the current Public Health Authority Guidelines and the Venue specific Health and Safety Guidelines, the following additional modifications have been implemented for the (name of event):

1. *All events or just singles*
2. *Spectators are allowed or not allowed except for one parent/guardian of a minor*
3. *Teams will switch sides or not switch sides*
4. *Participants can stay at the venue all day or must arrive just before their match and leave immediately following their match*
5. *There will or won't be a medal presentation.*

Failure to Comply

Badminton Ontario is taking these steps to minimize the risk of COVID transmission at our events and to ensure best efforts towards health and safety practices. If a participant does not comply with the requirements, they will not be granted access to the event or they will be removed from the event if they have already been granted access.

Draws and Match Schedule

Please note that approved draws and match start times have been posted online. You may find all draws for the tournament at the link here: (insert link to draw list)

Badminton Ontario is looking forward to welcoming you to the (name of event). Should you have any questions about the changes that the event or any other aspect of our COVID-19 strategy please feel free to contact me at

(insert contact information)

Appendix H

Sample Communications Template

A PARTICIPANT WHO HAS COVID-19:

In these challenging times, Badminton Ontario believes in complete transparency and we need to share that the Health Department has informed us that a participant at **(insert name of tournament)** has tested positive for COVID-19. Our staff is currently reaching out to everyone who attended the event to let them know they may have been exposed. Respecting the participant's privacy, we will not be sharing their name.

Kindly note that the identified person was in attendance on (date) participating in the (age group) events.

Out of an abundance of care, we will be postponing / cancelling the following events/activities **(list events/activities)** until further notice. We apologize to everyone for the inconvenience, and we look forward to welcoming you back to compete at our events when we feel it is safe to do so.

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