



College Squash Association (CSA) COVID-19 Guidelines – Fall 2021 (Updated Oct. 14, 2021)

Shown below are College Squash Association's current guidelines related to COVID-19 mitigation on member institutions' campuses. These guidelines apply to all CSA teams – both varsity and club. In cases where CSA has not stated a requirement, state, local, and institutional policies take precedence, but it is expected that institutions will consult CSA (and US Squash) guidance in squash-specific situations.

When discrepancies arise in COVID-19 policies between two competing teams, the policy of the home team or the host venue/locality will apply. If a policy disagreement threatens the viability of a match and a resolution cannot be reached, teams should alert the CSA League Commissioner.

For full squash participation policies published by the national governing body, US Squash, please visit [this site](#).

Vaccine Requirements

For the 2021-2022 season, the CSA will require all student-athletes, athletics personnel, and match officials to be fully vaccinated with a CDC-authorized COVID-19 vaccine. "Fully vaccinated" is defined as 14 days after the second shot of a two-dose vaccine or first shot of a one-dose vaccine.

Student-athletes and athletics personnel can apply for an exemption from the vaccination requirement for medical or religious reasons only. A student-athlete's eligibility for such a waiver will be decided by the institution at which they are enrolled.

Each institution is responsible for reporting to CSA how many student-athletes and coaches are granted exceptions. Those who have been granted a vaccination exemption will be required to fully comply with their institution's policy for testing of non-vaccinated individuals. Each institution must attest that all institutional representatives have been either vaccinated or tested in accordance with this policy.

Testing

All *vaccinated* individuals affiliated with CSA teams must participate in the expected testing regimen of their institution. If, for example, only a percentage of vaccinated students are selected for testing at a school each week, CSA student-athletes must be included in the pool of students who could be selected for testing.

Individuals affiliated with CSA teams who are *not fully vaccinated* should participate in a weekly PCR/NAAT testing plan or a three-times-per-week antigen testing regimen. If the non-vaccinated player's team has a competition(s) during a week, the player must have a negative test result in hand before traveling to the site of competition.

- If the negative result came from a PCR test, the test must have been administered within 84 hours (3.5 days) of the team's first match start time.
- If that result came from an antigen test, the test(s) must be administered within 36 hours (1.5 days) of **each** match start time.

CSA is not currently mandating full test reporting, but the Association does expect that all coaches and student-athletes will act appropriately to protect the health and safety of the college squash community.



The testing policy for the CSA end-of-season championship events will be published later during the winter season when more information about the current COVID-19 climate is available.

Masking

All CSA players, coaches, and spectators are strongly encouraged to wear a mask at all times when they are not on court. Players who are on court for a match may play without a mask if they are fully vaccinated. Players who are granted a vaccine exemption for medical or religious reasons must wear a mask at all times, whether on or off court. **This masking policy may be superseded by institutional policies or local ordinances.*

Competitions

All emergencies, including a COVID-19 outbreak, that could impact the viability of CSA competitions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the CSA League Commissioner in consultation with the campus administrators involved and the Chair of the CSA Rules & Regulations Committee.

If an institution is unable to field a lineup with the minimum acceptable number of healthy players for a match (7), the following steps must take place:

- 1) Team administrators, coaches, and/or team captains must notify the CSA League Commissioner immediately (i.e., as soon as it becomes known that a medical outbreak could adversely affect the ability of a team to compete).

- 2) If the result of the outbreak is that a team cannot start at least seven (7) healthy players, team administrators, coaches, or team captains must submit to the CSA League Commissioner medical documentation signed by a campus health administrator verifying that the team cannot compete due to a medical condition or related impact (for example, quarantine regulations).
 - a. If a full campus is closed or a local authority prevents a team from traveling or competing, formal notice of that closure or prohibition should take the place of the medical documentation.
 - b. If medical documentation is not provided, the team with the outbreak may have to forfeit the contest.
 - c. An institution will be presumed able to field a team for the scheduled contest as long as it has seven (7) healthy rostered players available. CSA will make the final determination if teams disagree about the ability for the match to proceed as scheduled.

- 3) If a match is cancelled due to an emergency like a medical outbreak, team administrators (or their designees) from the involved schools must agree to a rescheduled competition date.
 - a. The decision about the rescheduled contest must be made within three days of the cancellation
 - b. If teams are not able to find a new contest date within the three-day window, the CSA League Commissioner will convene with team administrators to determine a date for the rescheduled match.
 - c. If teams are not able to agree to a new competition date, the CSA League Commissioner will make the final decision about the contest. If a new competition date is not feasible, the match will be deemed a “no contest” without any reflection on the team rankings.



- 4) All competitions – both scheduled and rescheduled – must be played by no later than the Sunday evening prior to the respective team championship events.

For varsity teams, the minimum number of matches required to qualify for the National Collegiate Team Championships remains at 10. The CSA League Commissioner will evaluate situations on a case-by-case basis if a team falls below the minimum number of matches solely due to an unexpected emergency like a medical outbreak.

For club teams, the minimum number of matches required to qualify for the Club Team Championships is 6, with at least 4 of those contests coming against different opponents.

Match Introductions

CSA teams are strongly discouraged from staging match introductions on court with all participants present in one place, as has traditionally been done. Coaches/Captains are encouraged to be creative and thoughtful about ways to introduce the player matchups while maintaining proper social distancing.

Match Officials

CSA expects all match officials to be fully vaccinated prior to working at a college competition. CSA will not accept vaccination exemption requests from match officials during the 2021-2022 season.

Spectators

The decision to allow spectators to watch an intercollegiate squash match in person will be left to the discretion of the institution which is hosting the contest. CSA member institutions should consider limiting the number of spectators who have access to the squash court area (2 spectators per player is a recommended starting point). Further, if spectators are allowed to attend, CSA recommends that players and spectators remain separated in the facility to the extent that it is possible.

Again, any spectators in attendance should wear masks at all times while in the host facility.

These policies are subject to change based on national, statewide, and local medical conditions, as well as guidance from institutional leaders, US Squash, and the NCAA.