



**STAY  
COVID SAFE AT**  
THE BIRMINGHAM  
NATIONAL WHEELCHAIR  
TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS



Tennis Canada recognizes the importance of the Birmingham National Wheelchair Championships for the wheelchair players across Canada who have not competed nationally since 2019 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We are making every effort to ensure the tournaments are delivered with the health and safety of all being our top priority.

Our team has put together the following information to help you stay up to date on the latest advice and regulations from the Governments of Canada and Quebec, and Public Health, regarding staying COVID safe during your participation in the upcoming Birmingham Nationals

Please take the time to read this information as it has been designed to help keep you and our community safe.

*Please note that the protocols outlined in this document are subject to change based on public and provincial health authority regulations.*

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# FULL VACCINATION REQUIREMENT

## FULL VACCINATION REQUIREMENT

As per the Quebec Government's vaccination passport regulations, anyone aged 13 or over who is planning to attend the Birmingham Wheelchair Nationals as a player, family member or friend, coach, official, tournament organizer, volunteer, Tennis Canada staff member, or spectator, MUST show proof that they are adequately protected prior to their first entrance to the tournament site. An 'Adequately protected' status is attained when one of the following situations applies:

- you have received a second dose of a COVID-19 vaccine (Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca ou Covishield) in the past seven or more days;
- you have received a dose of Janssen COVID-19 vaccine in the past 14 or more days;
- you had COVID-19 more than 21 days ago and received a dose of vaccine in the past seven or more days.\*\*

\*\* [Government of Quebec](#)

**PLAYERS:** please upload your QC vaccination passport (residents of QC), or your proof of full vaccination to the following tournament link prior to the tournament:

[PLAYER VACCINATION STATUS](#)

If you reside in Quebec, you may create your vaccination passport using the link below:

[CREATE YOUR VACCINATION PASSPORT](#)

For players who reside outside of QC, proof of full vaccination will be required in the form of a PDF, QR code, or vaccination card.

**NON-PLAYERS:** are not required to upload proof of vaccination but must show evidence at the tournament entrance, along with an official ID card with photo, in order to be admitted.

You must *not* travel to the tournament venue if you have any of the COVID-19 symptoms listed on the Quebec government website. Instead, you must:

- Stay in your hotel room/accommodation
- Contact the Tournament Director immediately: Marie Davies, (450)778-5388

If required, the tournament organisers will provide information on the nearest COVID-19 testing site.

## SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The “Safe Environment” for the Birmingham Wheelchair Nationals will be active from the start of practice sessions at the event. Therefore, any persons who require access to areas of the site that are part of the event, from that date onwards, will need to adhere to the COVID-19 protocols in place.

Anyone refusing to comply with any of the protocols will be removed from the tournament site and refused entry for the remainder of the event.

To minimize large gatherings during the tournament several activities including the opening and closing ceremonies, player dinner and social events will not take place this year.

## DAILY HEALTH SCREENING

Prior to coming on-site each day you will be required to complete a Daily Health Check online or at the tournament entrance.

If possible, please complete this health screening prior to leaving your residence or accommodation, to avoid congestion at the tournament entrance. Only upon completion of this Daily Health Check, confirmation of full vaccination (where applicable as outlined above), and proof of identity (if required), will you be allowed to physically enter the tournament site.

[DAILY HEALTH CHECK](#)

## TESTING

If you experience any COVID-19 symptoms, please notify the Tournament Director by phone (Marie Davies 450-778-5388). You will then be directed to the nearest testing facility.



## PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Every effort will be made to ensure physical distancing can be adhered to throughout the venue. All individuals who are part of the event's Safe Environment must make every effort to maintain a physical distance of 2 metres from each other.

It is recommended that all individuals who are part of the Safe Environment limit their contact with anyone outside of the event to essential people only. Before, during and after matches, movement around the tournament site should be limited as much as possible. Players and their support staff are requested to leave the venue shortly following their matches.



## POSITIVE CASE PROTOCOL

Any individual who tests positive for COVID-19 during the tournament period may be required to undergo mandatory quarantine **at their own expense**. These individuals will be assessed on a case-by-case basis with the provincial health authorities.



## CONTACT TRACING

Individuals who are deemed to be a close contact of a person who tests positive may also be required to quarantine, as directed by the public health authorities.

Contact tracing will be conducted at the tournament, by signing in and out of the site, to ensure a comprehensive list of individuals on-site is maintained each day.

A close contact is generally defined as a person who:

- Had contact within 2 metres for longer than 15 minutes consecutively without a mask.
- Had high-risk contact, even if less than 15 minutes (e.g. kissing, coughing in the face).

Proximate contacts who have been in the same room for more than 1 hour should closely monitor their symptoms for the following 14 days.

In addition to the Birmingham Wheelchair Nationals contact tracing measures, everyone is recommended to download the COVID Alert app and always keep it active on their phone. These can be downloaded from the [Apple App](#) and [Google Play](#) stores.



## FACE MASKS

All individuals will be required to wear face masks at **all times on-site and in tournament-provided vehicles**, other than during an exemption period.

The exemption period includes the following:

- Players during practice or competition, except when leaving the court (e.g. bathroom break)
- Anyone when actively eating or drinking at a safe distance of 2m from another person.

Please bring your own medical masks to the tournament. Additional medical masks will be made available at key locations around the site. Masks should be replaced approximately every 4 hours or when soiled.



## SANITIZER

All persons entering the sites are required to use the sanitizer provided at the entrance. Sanitizer will also be available at several areas around the site and attendees are urged to use them on frequent occasions during their visit.

It is recommended that players wash or sanitize their hands before and after their matches

Other recommendations include:

- Washing hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoiding contact with face and eyes with unwashed hands.
- Avoiding common greetings such as handshakes and instead greeting with a wave or racquet touch.
- Avoiding contact with high frequency touch points.



## TRANSPORT

Anyone who is part of the Safe Environment and staying at a hotel or at their own personal residence/accommodation, is encouraged to drive their own vehicle to the tournament site, to minimize the risk of becoming a close contact.

If required, transport will be provided for players, to and from Pierre Elliott Trudeau International Airport or a Montreal train station, and also between the official hotel and the tournament site. Masks must be worn at all times and social distancing regulations will be enforced in each vehicle.

Transport requirements ***must*** be communicated in advance, by completing the form at the following link:

[TRANSPORT REQUIREMENTS](#)



## BATHROOM FACILITIES

Toilets will be available on-site but no showers.



## FOOD AND DRINK

Access to food and drinks on-site will be limited. Lunches for players and registered guests will be pre-ordered from an outside caterer. Snacks will be pre-packaged and distributed to players each morning.



## GARBAGE

All trash must be placed in the recycling or garbage cans provided and not left around for other persons to manipulate.



## PLAYERS

### ***PRACTICE COURTS***

Only confirmed reservations are allowed access to the practice courts. No more than 4 players per court at any one time.

### ***ARRIVAL ON-SITE***

Players must arrive at the venue shortly before the scheduled start of their match, in tennis attire, and leave the venue immediately after the match. If you have a second match later in the day, it is recommended that leave the site and return shortly before that match.



### **CONGRATULATIONS**

At the end of each match, players need to congratulate each other without physical contact (by touching racquets, for example).

### **BALLS**

Only balls identified with their court should be handled by the players. Balls from other courts should be returned without touching them with your hands.

### **TOWELS**

Towels will not be available at the tournament site. Please make arrangements to bring your own.



**FAMILY MEMBERS,  
FRIENDS AND  
PERSONAL COACHES**

### **NUMBER OF GUESTS**

A maximum limit of family members/friends or coaches permitted to accompany each player may be enforced, pending the club and Quebec health authority guidelines. This directive would be in place to avoid exceeding the maximum number of people allowed at a competition site.

### **SEATING**

Limited seating will be available for external spectators and may be designated by the tournament organisers.

### **CAPACITY**

If the total number of persons on-site has reached the maximum allowed by the Quebec government, spectators may be refused entry.