

Accredited Tournament Eligibility Requirements - COVID Policy and Guidelines

Following a recent surge in the pandemic, shifting local government guidelines, and after extensive consultation with our Junior Squash Advisory Panel, our Medical Advisory Committee and our National Championships Committee, several additional safety measures are being put in place for accredited events effective from September 3, 2021.

We believe providing as safe an environment as reasonably possible is our responsibility and is what the community expects and wants from us. We certainly understand if some people remain hesitant to participate, or participate and travel extensively – these are unusual times, and everyone must individually and as a family balance the risks versus the benefits of the activities in which they engage.

It is our hope that these measures will help ensure squash events remain as safe as they have been, allowing them to continue, serving an important role in sustaining the sport for competitors, for the host facilities, tournament directors and teaching pros.

Summary Requirement Chart

	Vaccinated	COVID Test within 3 days	Rapid Test - day of	Masks off court	Masks on court
US Championships/JCTs - National Travel					
U11, U13	x	✓ - required	✓ - required	✓ - required	✓ - required
U15,U17, U19	✓ - required	✓ - required	✓ - required	✓ - required	x - recommended
Adult players	✓ - required	✓ - required	✓ - required	✓ - required	x - recommended
Spectators	✓ - required	x - recommended	x	✓ - required	n/a
Junior Gold - National Travel					
U11, U13	x	✓ - required	x - recommended *	✓ - required	✓ - required
U15,U17, U19	✓ - required	✓ - required	x - recommended *	✓ - required	✓ - required *
Spectators	✓ - required	x - recommended	x	✓ - required	n/a
Junior Silver - (Restrict to residence in contiguous states only from Sept 8, 2021)					
U11, U13	x	x - recommended	x - recommended	✓ - required	✓ - required
U15,U17, U19	✓ - required	x - recommended	x - recommended	✓ - required	✓ - required
Spectators	✓ - required	x - recommended	x	✓ - required	n/a
Junior Bronze - (Restrict to residence in-state only from Sept 8 2021)					
U11, U13	x	x - recommended	x - recommended	✓ - required	✓ - required
U15,U17, U19	✓ - required	x - recommended	x - recommended	✓ - required	✓ - required
Spectators	✓ - required	x - recommended	x	✓ - required	n/a
Adult and Skill Level Accredited Tournaments					
Adult Players	✓ - required	x - recommended	x - recommended	✓ - required	x - recommended
Spectators	✓ - required	x - recommended	x	✓ - required	n/a
District Leagues					
Players	x - recommended	x	x	✓ - required	x - recommended (required for unvaccinated players)
Spectators	x - recommended	x	x	✓ - required	x - recommended

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Vaccination Requirements

- Proof of vaccination must be provided, on or before the first day, by any player participating in a US Squash accredited tournament (except those participating in the U11 and U13 divisions of a junior tournament). All spectators at tournaments must also provide proof of vaccination. Fully vaccinated is defined as 14 days after the second shot if a two does vaccine or first shot if a one dose vaccine. For example, if the last shot was given on August 2, a player would be deemed to be fully vaccinated on August 16. The following lists tournaments included in this requirement.
 - All players in the U15, U17 and U19 divisions of any junior accredited tournament,
 - All players participating in an Adult or Skill level accredited event,
 - All players participating in a US Championship,
 - Any tournament spectators (limited to 2 per player)
- Players and spectators must upload their vaccination record using this [form](#)
- Exemptions on Medical or Religious grounds may be given for players only. In this case players must wear a mask on court at all times, as well as off court. They will also need to undergo rapid testing each day of the tournament.
 - To submit for a religious exemption, complete this [form](#).
 - To submit for a medical exemption, complete this [form](#).

COVID-19 Test Requirements

- For US Championships, JCT and Gold tournaments, which require national travel, all players in all age divisions must submit evidence of a negative COVID test taken within 3 calendar days of the first day of the tournament. For example, if a tournament started on August 13, the test must be administered on or after August 10. Please see below FAQs for details of types of test that are acceptable. Or players must be prepared to show documentation of recovery (proof of a recent positive viral test and a letter from your healthcare provider or a public health official stating that you were cleared to travel).
- For Junior Silver and Bronze tournaments, and all Adult and Skill level tournament, where travel is restricted, evidence of a negative COVID test is strongly recommended.
- No exemptions for testing will be given
- If a player tests positive, they will not be accepted into the tournament. Players in this case will be refunded and no penalty will be applied.

Rapid Test

- For US Championships, and JCT tournaments, all players will undergo a rapid test the day of the tournament.
- If a player tests positive they will be allowed to take two further rapid tests. If both subsequent tests return a negative result the player will be allowed to participate in the tournament. If one more is positive the player will not be allowed to participate.

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- If a player tests positive, they will not be accepted into the tournament. Players in this case will be refunded and no penalty will be applied.
- For Junior Gold, Silver and Bronze tournaments, and Adult and Skill Level tournaments, rapid testing of participants is recommended.

Masking

- All players and all spectators must wear a mask at all times off court.
- For US Championships and JCT tournaments players participating in the U15, U17 and U19 divisions and all Adult divisions will be allowed to play their match on court without a mask. Players participating in Adult or Skill level tournament will also be allowed to play without a mask. However, in this case players are still recommended to play with a mask to curb transmission of the virus whilst playing.
- For Gold, Silver and Bronze tournaments U15, U17 and U19 players must wear a mask on court.

* where a tournament director of a Junior Gold tournament elects to carry out rapid testing, players in the U15, 17, 19 divisions will be allowed to compete on court without masks.
- U11 and U13 players must wear a mask on court for all tournaments.
- Players are recommended to continue to play and practice with a facemask.

Spectators

- A maximum of 2 spectators per player will be allowed into the squash court area, be they parents, friends or coaches.

Scheduling

- For all tournaments the U11 and U13 divisions will be played at separate venues where possible. Where not feasible, these divisions will be played separately from U15, U17 and U19 divisions with as little mixing as possible between the two groups.

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FAQs

What types of COVID-19 test are acceptable to be taken within 3 calendar days of the tournament?

Players must be tested with a viral test that could be either an antigen test or a nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT). Examples of available NAATs for SARS-CoV-2 include but are not restricted to reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), reverse transcription loop-mediated isothermal amplification (RT-LAMP), transcription-mediated amplification (TMA), nicking enzyme amplification reaction (NEAR), and helicase-dependent amplification (HDA). The test used must be authorized for use by the FDA.

Examples:

- Diagnostic Lab Test (PCR): The RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel Test - NAAT is used to detect genetic material (mRNA) of the coronavirus and will be sent to a laboratory to determine results in a variable amount of time†. ([Pixel/Quest](#)) \$119
- Rapid Antigen Test
 - **Abbott BinaxNOW™ COVID-19 Ag Card Home Test**, Enabled by eMed, utilizes a digital platform to virtually guide the user through the test process from beginning to end. The test delivers results in just 15 minutes with no instrumentation, using proven lateral flow technology.

NAVICA, Abbott's complementary smartphone app, provides a Digital Health Pass with BinaxNOW test results to show where people gather such as workplaces, schools, events, and when traveling.

- Results reporting in 15 minutes
- Test sensitivity of 97.1% and specificity of 98.5%
- Third-party verification ensures authentication
- Digital Health Results sent to mobile app with Digital Health Pass or Guide To Care Instructions
- 24/7 Live Support – eMed certified guides & customer support agents

<https://www.emed.com/products/covid-at-home-testkit-six-pack?hsLang=en>

- **Ellume COVID-19 Home Test** – The test includes a nasal swab with protect child adapter, a dropper, processing fluid, and a Bluetooth® connected analyzer for use with an app on your phone. (\$45)

<https://www.ellumehealth.com/products/consumer-products/covid-home-test/>

What information must be included on the test result?

A test result must be in the form of written documentation (paper or electronic copy). The documentation must include:

1. Type of test (indicating it is a NAAT or antigen test)
2. Entity issuing the result (e.g. laboratory, healthcare entity, or telehealth service)

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3. Specimen collection date. A negative test result must show the specimen was collected within the 3 days before the first day of the tournament. A positive test result for documentation of recovery from COVID-19 must show the specimen was collected within the 3 months before the first day of the tournament.
4. Information that identifies the person (full name plus date of birth)
5. Test Result

What if I have had a COVID-19 vaccine or have tested positive for antibodies? Do I still need a negative COVID-19 test or documentation of recovery from COVID-19?

Yes, at this time all players, regardless of vaccination or antibody status, are required to provide a negative COVID-19 test result or documentation of recovery.

What is the justification for letting people who recently recovered from COVID-19 participate without a negative test? What about reinfections?

People who have recovered from COVID-19 can continue to test positive for up to 3 months after their infection. CDC does not recommend retesting within 3 months after a person with COVID-19 first developed symptoms (or the date of their first positive viral diagnostic test if their infection was asymptomatic). Even if they have recovered from COVID-19, people who develop [symptoms of COVID-19](#) should not participate and should seek care for testing and evaluation. This guidance may be updated as additional information about people who have recovered from COVID-19 becomes available.

Can US Squash help me get a refund for travel expenses if I have to cancel or delay travel because of testing requirements?

US Squash does not reimburse and is unable to help travelers get reimbursements for travel expenses as a result of canceled or delayed travel because of COVID-19 or testing requirements.

Will US Squash reimburse me for the cost of a COVID-19 test?

US Squash is not able to reimburse travelers for COVID-19 testing fees. You may wish to contact your insurance provider or the location that provided your test about payment options.