



PICKLEBALLBC

Return to Sport Guidelines – Outdoor Pickleball

PICKLEBALLBC recognizes and appreciates the authority and guidance role of [viaSport BC](#) in the development of this Return to Sport Pickleball (RTS-P) document.

This RTS-P document focuses **solely** on outdoor pickleball activity. ALL pickleball activity whether within local club authority or not falls within this RTS-P document.

A reminder to all **PICKLEBALLBC** and Pickleball Canada (PCO) members - compliance with all applicable laws is a requirement of the PCO insurance policy. As well, the BC Ministerial Order No.M183 related to Protection Against Liability of Sports only protects those organizations that are properly implementing applicable emergency and public health guidelines.

All pickleball clubs of whatever nature and size have the responsibility to create their own specific Return to Sport Guidelines in compliance with the **PICKLEBALLBC** Return to Sport Guidelines and viaSport Return to Sport Guidelines.

Every individual pickleball player, whether part of a club, **PICKLEBALLBC** or Pickleball Canada has the obligation to be in compliance as well. This obligation extends to all non-members as well.

The following are pickleball specific recommendations and considerations as you decide to return to pickleball:

Restarting Pickleball Concerns

- Do a risk assessment and control analysis - refer to viaSport RTS Appendix G
- Understand and maintain conditions that should prevent individuals from participating
 - You are sick or not feeling well in any way
 - You have been in close contact with someone who is sick or has COVID-19 symptoms
- Be cognizant of current (updated) PHO and Government directives
- Maintain physical distancing
- Limit group or gathering size
- Drop-in pickleball play and random partner mixing are not recommended.

Cleanliness Concerns

- Review / repeat general personal cleanliness instructions
- Consider common equipment cleanliness issues - balls, paddles
- Consider high touch points cleanliness specifically - gates, chairs, benches
- Develop court access plans - ingress and egress routes



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Control or Management Concerns

- All plans need to have *what if* controls in place
 - Club recourse if a player violates the guidelines
 - Individual's response to violations
- All plans should consider a waiver or participant agreement - [viaSport RTS Appendix D](#)
- All plans need to have contact tracing plans
- All plans must be clearly communicated to all potential participants - [viaSport RTS Appendix E](#)

The specific details of any localized plan are the responsibility of that club or community.

PICKLEBALLBC is available for consultation at all times. Email contact: info@pickleballbc.ca

There is an abundance of supportive current information on the viaSport website. The [viaSport Return to Sport Guidelines](#) and the [viaSport related FAQ](#) set are very good resources and should be considered required reading.

We are the safest when we ALL abide by the same rules - Government and common sense.

Approved by:

PICKLEBALLBC

Board of Directors

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