

TABLE TENNIS “Return-2-Play”: **M.T.T.A COVID-19 PROTOCOLS:**

1. Athletes involved are targeted/ invited/ pre-registered, i.e. no “drop-in” players.
2. Maximum players and coaches will be set according to dimensions of the training room; about 1 person per 300 square feet. Anticipated maximum players and coaches will range from 6 players + 1 coach to a maximum of 12 players + 4 coaches.
3. No player is allowed to participate if they or anyone else in their family has recently tested Covid positive and/ or anyone in their family has recently travelled to another province or country and breaches Manitoba Government directives. Any affected player may only return to play after the standard 2-week quarantine period and/ or has tested negative for Covid.
4. Payment for programming by E-Transfer will be encouraged over cash or cheques.
5. All athletes will be presented a “Table Tennis Covid-19 Return 2 Play Facts” sheet as well as sign a “Covid: Return 2 Play Waiver Form.”
6. Players shall arrive at training facility and remain in their vehicle (or remain by their bike or stand alone if public transit was used) until the coach or facility operator opens the facility.
7. Athletes must arrive dressed in their table tennis gear, i.e. no use of change rooms.
8. Players shall at all times be encouraged to wear facemasks between arrival and when the off-table warm-ups begin.
9. The coach(es) shall at all times wear gloves and facemask. Only the coach or facility operator will touch the door to open and close the training room.
10. When indicated by the coach, the players may one by one enter the training room respecting minimum 6 feet/ 2 metres social distancing plus they shall sanitize their hands upon entry to the training room.
11. The above two points will apply if there are both outer facility doors as well as inner doors to open the training room.¹
12. No parents or spectators are allowed.
13. Only the coach(es) will set-up the tables, net-sets and barriers. Each table will be separated from the others by barriers.
14. Athletes will not touch any of the major equipment: tables/ nets/ barriers. This includes the “sweat-removal-touching” of the table surface near the net. Athletes will also not touch nor inspect each others paddles.
15. Athletes will store their gear at either their end of their court or under their table end.
16. While the coaches (es) are setting up equipment, the athletes will begin their off-table warm-up in their own designated table-end area thus fully respecting the minimum 6 feet/ 2 metres social distancing standard.
17. Only 4 balls per table will be used; each player will have 2 balls each clearly marked per player. The player may only touch their balls. If a ball(s) of opposing player enters their half of the court, the player shall either kick or bat the opponent’s ball back to the other half court never touching the ball with their hands.
18. If balls jump barriers and go into another court, only the coach is allowed to hop the court dividing barriers to retrieve and return these balls. The coach is at all times wearing gloves and facemask and the coach is using “ball-picker-uppers” to retrieve the balls, not their gloved hands.
19. Doubles play will not begin until Phase 2 at the earliest.
20. Multi-ball, with either the coach feeding the balls or the use of a robot, will not resume until Phase 2 at the earliest.
21. Athletes will bring their own water bottles filled to start the practice. Athletes will not be allowed to fill their bottles on site or use any washrooms or water fountains for drinking.
22. Washrooms will be for emergency use only and players will be able to go one at a time only. Athletes must sanitize or wash their hands both upon entry and exit of the washroom. There will be no on-site showering nor use of change rooms.
23. Athletes must remain in their own table-end area during any breaks.
24. At the end of practice, athletes will exit as they entered: wearing facemasks and respecting social distancing measures. The coach or facility operator will be the only person touching the exit doors. Parents must wait in their vehicles and must arrive at least 5 minutes before designated pick-up times; there will be no congregating of players nor parents either before or at the end of practice.
25. The coach shall disinfect all of the major equipment used: tables/ nets/ barriers/ ball-picker-uppers.
26. The athletes shall wash their balls at home.
27. Any breaches of these protocols will result in the removal of the offending athlete(s) from the program. They will finish out the current practice and then will be removed from subsequent practices.

¹ The players and coaches must fully respect any facility entry and exit requirements and these rules and regulations that would supersede those of the M.T.T.A.

28. These protocols may be in addition to those of the various facilities utilized by the M.T.T.A. and it is recognized that these public and private facilities may have differing standards from those expressed above.

RE: 2020/08/27