



CORONAVIRUS

Update from the Club

27 May 2022 - After more than 2 years of living with coronavirus regulations, these will expire on Monday, 30 May when the requirement to wear a face covering in health and care settings ends.

However, the Welsh Government continues to recommend people take simple steps to protect their health - including the wearing of face coverings in health and care settings - as Wales moves beyond the emergency response to the pandemic.

6 May 2022 - The most recent three-week review was completed by 5 May.

Although restrictions have eased over recent months, we need to be mindful that Coronavirus has not gone away.

The Welsh Government continues to recommend that face coverings are worn in all indoor crowded or enclosed places; these and other measures can all work together to help reduce the transmission of Coronavirus and to keep us safe; vaccination remains our best defence against Coronavirus.

13 April 2022 - The Welsh Government has set out 5 simple steps for people to help everyone stay safe:

1. Stay at home (self-isolate) if you are ill or if you test positive for coronavirus.
2. Wear a face covering in crowded indoor public places.
3. Meet outdoors where possible and ensure indoor areas are well ventilated if meeting indoors.
4. Take additional precautions when visiting vulnerable people. Avoid meeting them if possible if you have any symptoms of a respiratory infection.
5. Wash hands regularly and cover coughs and sneezes.

The next 3-weekly review of coronavirus regulations will be carried out by 5 May.

25 March 2022 - two years after the first UK lockdown, the Wales First Minister announces / confirms, the following:

From 28 March:

- * face coverings are legally required only in health and care settings;
- * workplaces and premises open to the public must continue to do Coronavirus risk assessments.

From 18 April:

- * face coverings remain a legal requirement in health and care settings.

From 9 May:

- * if the current public health situation remains stable, the remaining restriction will be removed.

4 March 2022 - First Minister announces that, from 28 March, in Wales there will be no legal requirement to wear a mask, but is still advised. No legal requirement to self-isolate, but again it is still advised also, businesses no longer legally required to carry out a covid specific risk assessment (all subject to public health conditions).

At the Squash Club, there is now no need for our members and guests to sign in and out when they attend.

10 February 2022 - Wales announce how the remaining COVID protections will be relaxed as cases continue to fall; this follows the first three-week review of Wales' alert level zero measures.

Not all of the measures will be removed at once, because the pandemic is not over yet and so, some important protections stay in place, including face coverings in health and social care settings, on public transport and in all shops; they will also keep self-isolation rules in place.

From 18 February, the domestic COVID Pass will no longer be required for entry into indoor or outdoor events and venues, but events and venues will be able to continue to use it if they choose to.

From Monday 28 February, the requirement to wear face coverings will be removed from most indoor public places (including the Squash Club), apart from in retail, public transport and health and care settings.

If the public health conditions continue to improve, the legal requirement to wear face coverings in all remaining settings could be lifted by the end of March.

28 January 2022 - The phased lifting of the Alert Level 2 protections, put in place on Boxing Day to keep Wales safe as the COVID omicron wave swept across the country, were completed today as we move into Alert Level 0.

Some important protections will remain in place at Alert Level 0, including a requirement for mandatory face coverings in most indoor public places, including on public transport.

14 January 2022 - Today, we heard how restrictions in Wales will change over the coming weeks. Measures that were introduced to tackle the Omicron variant are to be lifted as Wales moves to Alert Level Zero.

Starting on **15 January**, numbers allowed to attend an outdoor event will go from 50 to 500 and, from **21 January**, crowds will be allowed to return to sporting events and no limits to outdoor events.

From **28 January**, nightclubs may reopen and hospitality can operate normally again. Covid passes may be required at some events, plus working from home is no longer a legal requirement.

On Thursday, **10 February**, the three-week review cycle returns as the country is at Alert Level Zero.

26 December 2021 - The Welsh Government's **Alert Level 2** plan has come into force from 6am this morning; this as a response to the growing number of Covid infections across the country linked to the Omicron variant.

Nightclubs will remain closed under the guidance, but pubs and restaurants will continue to operate with some restrictions in place. Measures in place from today:

- 2m social distancing in all premises which are open to the public, including hospitality.
- Rule of 6 will apply to gatherings in regulated premises such as hospitality venues.
- All licensed premises will need to take additional measures to protect customers and staff, including table service and collecting contact details.
- Face coverings will be required in hospitality settings at all times apart from when seated (unless you have a reasonable excuse not to wear a face covering).
- The new rules will also see the return of Track and Trace as mandatory.

You will not need a Covid Pass in order to visit pubs, restaurants and cafes - as per previous Welsh Government rulings. **The Squash Club will remain open, with existing protocols, such as the requirement to sign in at every visit.**

22 December 2021 - Further guidance and strong advice was issued today and, with effect from 26 December, the following will apply:

- No spectators allowed at any indoor, outdoor, professional or community sports event.
- 2 metre social distancing will be required in offices and all public premises.
- A maximum of six people can meet in public premises.
- Licenced premises will need to take additional reasonable measures to protect customers and staff.
- A maximum of 30 people can attend indoor events and a maximum of 50 people at outdoor events.
- People attending weddings or civil partnership receptions or wakes should take a lateral flow test before attending.
- Nightclubs will close.

17 December 2021 - The Welsh Government sets out new guidance and strong advice to help keep us all safe to celebrate Christmas. They ask everyone to try and reduce the number of people you meet, especially if you're seeing older or more vulnerable people over Christmas.

To stay safe in the run up to Christmas, Government advice to everyone is to follow the following measures to stay safe:

- Get vaccinated as a priority.
- If you're going out, take a Lateral Flow Test before you go.
- Meeting outdoors is better than indoors.
- Space out any socialising; respect social distancing.
- Wear a face covering and wash hands.

The situation at the Squash Club is unchanged, however, members are reminded that our earlier protocols still apply, as Wales continues to be at Alert Level 0.

16 December 2021 - All matches in the North West Counties Squash Leagues were postponed this evening, due to a sharp rise in the COVID Omicron variant.

13 December 2021 - After almost two long years of the pandemic, we had all hoped that we could put coronavirus behind us this Christmas. Unfortunately, we are once again facing a serious and worsening situation.

Today, the Welsh Government announce that urgent plans are being put in place to further accelerate the booster programme; new evidence shows that two doses of the Covid-19 vaccine are simply not enough to offer protection against the new

omicron variant that we all need.

They urge everyone to make getting a booster their priority, as "it is the single of the most important things you can do to protect yourself against coronavirus and this new variant".

17 November 2021 - The First Minister confirmed there will be no changes to coronavirus rules following the latest 21-day review. People throughout Wales were thanked for their "hard work" to help reduce record-high coronavirus case rates over the last three weeks.

Wales will therefore remain at alert level zero, which means all businesses are able to open and trade. And, the Covid Pass will not be extended to hospitality settings in this three-week cycle. For the Squash Club, it still means that some protocols will need to remain - signing in and out; maintaining social distancing, etc.

Mark Drakeford said: "Three weeks ago we were facing a very serious situation in Wales, but everyone has pulled together and cases have fallen back from those record high levels. He stressed, however, that the pandemic hasn't gone away - a fourth wave is sweeping across Europe, with many countries introducing stricter restrictions once again.

8 October 2021 - Today, the First Minister confirmed that Wales will remain at alert level zero for the next three weeks, following the latest review of the coronavirus regulations. This means all businesses are open and Wales has the lowest level of restrictions. Everyone faces a challenging winter ahead - coronavirus hasn't gone away and flu is forecast to return this winter.

The latest version of the Coronavirus Control Plan sets out two planning scenarios for the pandemic over the winter - in the first, called **Covid Stable**, Wales remains at alert level zero through the autumn and winter, with all businesses able to open.

The second, called **Covid Urgent**, is designed to deal with any sudden changes to the situation, caused by the emergence of a new, fast-spreading variant or if vaccine immunity levels fall, causing a rise in pandemic pressures, which risk overwhelming the NHS.

6 August 2021 - Today's much anticipated announcement from Welsh Government confirmed that Wales would move to Alert Level 0 from Saturday, 7 August; this means **we can now return to normal, unmodified play!** Some safety measures will continue however, e.g. face masks are still required to be worn in the Squash Club, while not on court. Further information on this is awaited.

14 July 2021 - It was announced that most COVID rules in Wales, but not all, are

set to be scrapped **from 7 August**. Some rules will also be eased this Saturday - to allow for six people to meet in private homes and holiday accommodation, and with social distancing outdoors no longer required by law.

New Welsh Government plans will see all legal limits on the number of people who can meet others end from that date.

Nightclubs could resume trading, and social-distancing laws inside will be replaced with a requirement for workplaces to assess the risk. Importantly, face masks will still be required in most indoor public places (including the Squash Club), except in hospitality businesses, such as pubs and restaurants.

The changes come despite rising cases of coronavirus in Wales and all plans depend on the state of the pandemic in Wales, and no new variants being identified.

19 June 2021 - The First Minister announced that any rule changes, that had been anticipated from 21 June, will now be put on hold for a further 4 weeks, to be reviewed again on 15 July.

This is due the Covid-19 delta variant which has entered Wales and quickly spread throughout the country. It is now the most dominant variant of all new cases in Wales and once again we're facing a serious public health situation. We remain in Alert Level 2 which means there is no change in the guidance to the Club in relation to a return to play.

27 May 2021 - At the Club's AGM, it was agreed to re-open the changing and shower areas of the Squash Club, providing that all appropriate risk assessments are carried out by members using those areas. The Club will work within the Welsh Government guidance for enhanced cleaning and the promotion of social distancing.

17 May 2021 - Wales moves into Alert Level 2 with, in particular, the hospitality sector being allowed to open for indoor service, as well as a further easing of restrictions for socialisation.

From this date, members will be able to purchase their light cards at the Sports Complex Bar, during the normal opening hours.

3 May 2021 - the Squash Club finally reopened for members to play on Monday, 3 May. There are still a number of restrictions in place e.g. showers not in use; modified squash games only to be played, etc. however, we are confident that these will only be temporary and that further easings may take place on 17 May!

26 April 2021 - in yet another surprise move, we heard that further restrictions would be eased and Squash Wales confirmed these with their extensive document "Return to Play - guidance & protocols".

Members are encouraged to read this and, in particular, be familiar with all of the requirements being placed on the Club, to ensure compliance to reopen:

<https://s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/squash.wales/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/26151358/SW-Return.pdf>

9 April 2021 - in a surprise move, the Welsh Government announce that gyms and leisure centres will be allowed to open one week earlier than planned.

This means that the Squash Club will re-open from 3 May but still with strict protocols necessary. For the Club to be compliant, only Individual and one-to-one

training will be allowed, or matches between from members of a same family bubble - all other ways to play have to remain banned. A direct communication will be issued to all members when we've had confirmation of the details from Squash Wales.

27 March 2021 - linked to the *Coronavirus Control Plan*, confirmation from the Welsh Government that **from today** -

- * Stay local restrictions will be lifted (within Wales);
- * Self-contained accommodation can re-open;
- * Outdoor children's activities can take place;
- * Libraries and archive services can re-open;
- * 6 people from 2 households can meet outdoors, socially distanced.

19 March 2021 - the Welsh Government issue their updated *Coronavirus Control Plan*, which takes account of vaccination and the dominant Kent variant, setting out how they will move through the alert levels and help people and businesses plan for the future, as they continue to unlock the current restrictions.

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-03/coronavirus-control-plan-revised-alert-levels-in-wales-march-2021.pdf>

As part of the approach to get to Alert Level 3, the Plan identified the following areas to be considered as part of the **22 April review**, if the public health situation continues to remain positive and vaccination rates continue to increase:

Gyms, leisure and fitness facilities
Outdoor attractions
Outdoor hospitality - Weddings; Community centres; Organised activities (30 outdoors, 15 indoors); and Extended household.

12 March 2021 - we remain at **Alert Level 4**, however, the fourth review looked at some first steps of a phased approach out of lockdown.

From 13 March, the stay-at-home restrictions are replaced by a new interim stay

local rule - taking a 5 miles rule of thumb as guidance.

* Also, no more than 4 people from 2 households will be able to meet in their local area outdoors, including in gardens. There must be no indoors mixing and social distancing should be followed.

* Outdoor sports facilities can reopen, including tennis courts, golf courses and bowling greens. A maximum of 4 people from 2 households can take part in activities using local sports facilities.

* Indoor care home visits can resume for one designated visitor, with the permission of the care home.

From 22 March, the first steps to re-open non-essential retail will begin and Garden Centres will reopen.

During that third week of the review period, if the public health conditions continue to be favourable, **from 27 March**, changes for the Easter holidays will be confirmed, including:

* Lifting Stay Local restrictions to allow people to travel within Wales.

* Self-contained holiday accommodation will re-open for one household.

* Organised children's activities outdoors will restart.

* Libraries will reopen.

The next review will take place on 1 April (!) - we hope by then that there will be some indication of when indoor sports clubs / centres may re-open.

19 February 2021 - in the third review of the current Alert Level 4 lockdown, the First Minister confirmed that the **stay-at-home restrictions are set continue for a further three weeks**, pending the next review on 13 March. Also, from Monday 22 February, children aged three to seven will begin returning to schools in a phased way, while some vocational learners on courses that require practical learning, will return to college.

Mr Drakeford announced some minor changes to the current rules:

* From Saturday 20 February, four people from two different households will be able to meet outdoors for socially distanced local exercise (not private gardens).

* From March 1, the law will be changed to allow licensed wedding venues to re-open but only to perform wedding and civil partnership ceremonies.

* Sport Wales will make arrangements for more of our talented athletes to resume training and playing.

* With more people living and working in older people's care homes being vaccinated, they will look again at guidance for care home visiting.

29 January 2021 - in a second review of the current Alert Level 4 lockdown, Mark Drakeford confirmed that, in light of the on-going COVID situation, the lockdown is to continue for a further three weeks; that is until at least the next review, due

on 19 February. Importantly, that means **the guidance issued on 19 December still applies.**

15 January 2021 - the First Minister announces a tightening of lockdown rules for supermarkets; they will be required by law to have enhanced COVID risk assessments and systems in place, as well as limiting the number of shoppers in store, this amid concerns about COVID safety.

The NHS remains under threat, in particular at Wrexham, as hospitals struggle to cope. Meanwhile, the pace of vaccinations continues across Wales with community vaccine trials beginning.

11 January 2021 - today the Welsh Govt published their national COVID-19 vaccination strategy and priorities for the coming months. It's a very serious situation with the pandemic in Wales currently but the vaccine offers hope for the future.

Over 86,000 people have already received their first dose of the vaccine in Wales. More and more people are receiving their vaccine every week and the pace will accelerate as more supply becomes available and our infrastructure builds.

8 January 2021 - the coronavirus pandemic has reached a significant point. Cases in Wales remain very high and so the alert Level 4 lockdown restrictions, which were introduced at midnight on 19 December, will all remain in place.

Mark Drakeford indicated that unless there is a significant reduction in cases of coronavirus before 29 January - the date of the next three-week review of the regulations - school and college students will continue to learn online until the February half term.

Everyone is required to stay home and avoid all but essential travel.

5 January 2021 - a New Year, a new lockdown. That's the grim news announced as all four home nations are now into a lockdown situation, with coronavirus continuing to spread and the number of UK cases exceeding the spike of last Spring.

The situation in Wales is due to be reviewed later in January, however, the reality is that indoor sports are unlikely to be allowed back before February !

19 December 2020 - in a startling change of plan, Mark Drakeford announces new lockdown restrictions from midnight tonight. From 20 December, **the Squash Club has to close** and the whole of Wales moves into Alert Level 4 where everyone **MUST:**

- Follow social distancing rules with people you don't live with or who are not in your support bubble.
- Wear a face covering (if you are able to) in all indoor public places.

- Stay at home.
- Not create an extended household (single adults or single parents may join with one other household to form an exclusive support bubble).
- Meet only the people you live with or your support bubble indoors.
- Meet only your household or support bubble in private gardens.
- Meet only your household or support bubble outdoors.
- Work from home if you can.
- Not travel without reasonable excuse.
- Not travel internationally without reasonable excuse.

There is no end date to these restrictions, but they will be reviewed after three weeks.

16 December 2020 - Mark Drakeford, Wales' First Minister, announces new tougher Coronavirus Christmas rules, this on the day that 11,000 new positive cases were recorded.

Starting on Christmas Eve, the new restrictions will mean:

- * All non-essential shops cannot reopen after that time, meaning there will be no Boxing Day sales;
- * Gyms, Leisure centres, hairdressers and other close-contact services must also shut at the end of the working day on December 24;
- * Christmas bubbles should now only include two families;
- * Full lockdown will start in Wales on December 28;
- * The new restrictions apply to the whole of Wales and will be reviewed after three weeks.

From Christmas Eve, this does include the Squash Club, which will be closed for all play until further notice.

14 December 2020 - The Welsh Government's Coronavirus Control Plan was published on Monday of this week, and the document outlines the measures in place at each tier of lockdown in Wales. The document also outlines the thresholds at which the Government will consider moving into, or out of a lockdown tier.

The Coronavirus Control Plan is available via the following link; it provides some insight into lockdown measures we are likely to see well into 2021:

<https://gov.wales/coronavirus-control-plan-alert-levels-wales>

4 December 2020 - from 6.00 pm, new all Wales restrictions come into force, mostly affecting hospitality businesses. The Squash Club is allowed to remain open, however, the Sports Club Bar will be closed until at least 17 December, when the next review is due. Members should note that Light Cards will still be available for sale in the Squash Club.

1 December 2020 - on 1 December, new restrictions were announced by the Welsh Government for the period until 17 December, essentially these are designed to

strengthen regulations in response to an increase in coronavirus cases in Wales.

The greatest impact will apply to the hospitality businesses. From Friday, pubs, bars, restaurants and cafes will have to close by 6 p.m. and will not be allowed to serve alcohol in the premises; this will include the Brymbo Sports Club.

However, gyms, non-essential retail and close-contact services will remain open; this acknowledging the positive impact on mental health and well-being by allowing people to exercise. That will mean **the Squash Club remains open** but members are reminded that Welsh Government restrictions continue to apply, with all of the Club's COVID-19 protocols remaining in place.

24 November 2020 - the four devolved Governments agree a national approach to easing restrictions covering the five days of Christmas break.

23 November 2020 - we start the first of four weekly coaching sessions (up to the Christmas break) for those juniors who have not been back on court since last March. Working strictly to Squash Wales guidelines, it was good to see these young people back and enjoying the activity.

9 November 2020 - the Squash Club re-opens again after two weeks; importantly, with all of the Club's pre-Firebreak Lockdown protocols remaining in place.

7/8 November 2020 - we take the latest lockdown as an opportunity to refresh both the Ladies and Mens' changing rooms. Though they are currently out of use, due to the COVID-19 restrictions, they will be ready and looking better for when these are eased.

6 November 2020 - With Wales exiting the 17-day Firebreak on Monday, 9th November, Squash Wales confirmed that all leisure facilities can re-open in accordance with the Welsh Government Guidelines and that includes all Squash Clubs / courts.

Please Note - Ways to Play:

- Matches are now only permitted from players in the same household or players from their extended household.
- Players not from the same household or extended household can only play social distance squash / routines or solo practice.
- You can play sport or exercise in a group of up to 30 people outdoors or 15 people indoors, if this is part of an organised activity managed for example by a gym, a leisure centre or a sports club. Children aged under 11 and those organising the activity (such as coaches) are not included in these numbers, but the organisers will need to take all reasonable measures to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

2 November 2020 - today the Welsh First Minister announces what restrictions will be in place when the Firebreak Lockdown ends on 9 November. It seems to indicate that there may be an opportunity for indoor sports to resume; further detail is expected during the week.

23 October 2020 - this evening at 6.00 pm, the Squash Club was required to close as part of the Firebreak Lockdown, until Monday 9 November.

19 October 2020 - the Welsh Government announce a two-week firebreak will be introduced across Wales at the end of this week to help regain control of coronavirus. This means that a series of restrictive measures will be in place from

6pm on Friday, 23 October until the start of Monday, 9 November 2020.

The firebreak lockdown will apply in the same way across Wales and supersedes any current restrictions.

Importantly for our members, this does mean that the Squash Club will be **closed for all play** during the 2-week lockdown period. The Sports Complex will also be closed and the main gates are likely to be locked.

16 October 2020 - confirmation is finally received from Squash Wales that children and young people can leave local lockdown areas for sport. The new regulations come into effect from 6pm on Friday 16th October.

12 October 2020 - good news in that the BS&SC Bar is to re-open. Squash light cards will continue to be made available within the Squash Club (and at the Bar) until there is an improvement in the current situation of restrictions.

9 October 2020 - Welsh Government announce their intention to ease restrictions on juniors crossing County boundaries to attend sports training. This was, however, still subject to final confirmation.

3 October 2020 - the BS&SC Bar was closed until further notice due to some members of staff testing positive for COVID-19. As a consequence, members were not able to purchase light cards at the Bar, and so we made arrangements for cards to be available at the Squash Club.

29 September 2020 - the Welsh Government announce further local lockdown restrictions across Wales, including Wrexham; this will mean that from 6-00 pm on Thursday, 1 October there should be no travel in or out of the Borough without a valid reason to do so. We await any further information from Squash Wales regarding any impact this may have for indoor sports.

23 September 2020 - at their AGM, the North West Counties Squash Committee unanimously, but regrettably, agreed that they would have to abandon the 2019/20 season.

Final League positions for Teams will be determined by looking at the uncompleted league fixtures and replicating results of the corresponding fixture from the first half of the season. This could be good news for our Teams as they were competing for promotion.

14 September 2020 - Squash Wales issued their latest newsletter in which they describe how quickly the situation is changing across the country, including the impact of a local lockdown in Caerphilly.

Important for our members, **face coverings are now legally required** for anyone over the age of 11 in all indoor public places and this includes clubs and leisure centres. This will apply to everyone attending the Squash Club, other than when they're on court playing.

7 September 2020 - a statement has been issued by the Welsh League Panel to declare the 2019-20 Season null and void, due to the passage of time since the scheduled end of that Season and the less viable and relevant it has become.

This means there is no promotion, relegation or otherwise being applied.

26 August 2020 - as part of the Welsh Govt. / Squash Wales requirements for a return to play at Clubs & Centres, all have to appoint a **Covid-19 officer**; this individual is the key implementor and central point of contact for all Covid-19 matters at the Club.

To ensure compliance, the Covid-19 officers must all complete modules as part of an online Awareness Course, run through the Welsh Sports Association. At our Club this falls to Club Secretary, Jim Tunley.

24 August 2020 - revised guidance for Clubs was issued by Squash Wales. All Clubs and Centres **MUST** adhere to these regulations and procedures for a safe return to play. It is a very fluid situation and such guidance will change again over the coming weeks and months.

3 August 2020 - Squash Wales circulate their "**Protocol and guidance for the Return to Play and the re-opening of Squash Clubs/Courts**" document, which includes key principles for a return to play, safety in the Club environment, hygiene regulations, strict rules when playing / practicing with suggested game formats / routines, some thoughts on the legal position as Clubs and Centres re-open, as well as an initial risk assessment matrix for Clubs.

25 July 2020 - Squash Clubs across England were today allowed to re-open for play, providing they had appropriate arrangements in place for a safe return.

Meanwhile we still await advice from Squash Wales and the Welsh Government on the position of indoor centres and Clubs re-opening.

15 July 2020 - Ahead of the next Welsh Government review of the regulations on 30 July, the Welsh Sports Association will have detailed discussions with local authorities, NGBs and other operators to understand how gyms, leisure centres, fitness studios and swimming pools can introduce measures to safely open (possibly, we hope from 3 August).

9 July 2020 - The Government announce that indoor sports facilities in England may reopen from 25 July, with social distancing in place. It's possible that in Wales this may be allowed from 3 August. We now await further details and guidance from the Welsh Government and Squash Wales.

Regarding a return to competitive action, the NWCSL have no further update following their most recent statement. It remains the position that any recommencement of the 2019/20 season is contingent on Government and England Squash guidance. They imposed a cut-off date of 14 December to have completed the 2019/20 season.

7 July 2020 - The North Wales League Committee announce that they have abandoned the current League, with all results null and void. See Teams Page for details.

23 June 2020 - The Government announced some easing of the lockdown today, but advised that facilities listed as "close proximity" venues, including gyms and indoor sports clubs, must remain closed and this includes anyone wishing to engage in solo practice or members of the same household playing on a squash court. Subject to public health, the aspiration now is to reopen these facilities in mid-July.

22 June 2020 - Squash Wales publish their "Return to Play Roadmap", highlighting the current regulations and guiding principles in moving towards opening up all squash facilities.

20 June 2020 - Irish Squash announce that clubs may reopen on June 29th, with restrictions in place, including but not limited to:

- * Each club to appoint a COVID-19 Officer/committee. This is mandatory for all clubs.
- * Online court booking system is mandatory, with intervals allowed for cleaning.
- * Courts must be booked in advance of play - no turning up to play without a booking.

- * One or two players allowed on court - social distancing maintained with training routines advised by coaches.
- * No match play permitted.
- * Standard hygiene and social distancing measures for COVID-19 required off court.

17 June 2020 - England Squash confirm that all squash activity remains suspended following the UK Government's advice to close sports facilities. It confirms - *"As before, the public cannot: exercise in an indoor sports court, gym or leisure centre, or go swimming in a public pool."*

And so, all squash clubs and facilities should remain closed until further notice - this includes anyone wishing to engage in solo practice or members of the same household playing on a squash court.

Everyone is very eager to see squash return as soon as it possibly can, in a safe way that is aligned to Government advice. We will share more information at the appropriate time, so that we can all get back on court.

2 June 2020 - There's a traffic light start for squash in France from today. In some areas of the country, solo practice or 2 player coaching sessions with social distancing but with a strict 2 meter requirement **ONLY** are allowed. There are no traditional matches, or more than 2 players on court at any time, plus strict protocol guidance must be followed. Amber zones are to be reviewed on 22 June.

2 June 2020 - Squash Wales advise they are closely monitoring the Welsh Government advice around the coronavirus situation - *see the SW Newsletter elsewhere on our website*. All squash activity in Wales remains suspended following the Government's advice to close sports facilities. We are very eager to see squash return as soon as it possibly can, in a safe way that is aligned to Welsh Government advice. We will share more information at the appropriate time, so that we can all get back on court.

11 May 2020 - Advice on community squash is that Clubs and facilities should remain closed until further notice, this following the Prime Minister's address to the nation on 10th May.

As we await further information from the UK Government, we will put together some temporary protocols and start to plan for when it is OK to reopen.

21 April 2020 - COVID-19 Update from the NWCSL on a strategy to be adopted in moving the League forward once the lockdown has been lifted and clubs are open to play squash once again.

It is their intention to recommence the 19/20 season once the Government, together with England Squash, have each advised that it is safe and acceptable to

do so. They will, however, introduce a cut- off date of the 14th December to have the season completed.

If and when it becomes clear that the season can't complete by this date, NWCSL will have to reconsider the position and decide if the 2019/20 season is abandoned.

In addition, if 2019-2020 season can't be completed before 14 December, the league might also have to be reduced to one round of matches for 2020-2021 [if home and away matches were played, it would take the next season into July]. They continue to keep the situation under review.

9 April 2020 - Today CourtCare completed the refurbishment of both courts. They have done some warranty work on the front walls, re-painted the other walls and topped up front walls with aggregate. When we return back to play, both courts will be like new!

21 March 2020 - Today the Squash Club **CLOSED** for play with immediate effect and until further notice. This followed strong and clear advice from Government, our Governing Bodies and the Brymbo Sports & Social Complex Directors.

19 March 2020 - The Squash Club remains open. We heard that from Friday, March 20, all schools in the UK will close indefinitely, with A-levels, GCSEs and SATs cancelled. In the context of this unprecedented and rapidly changing situation, we at the Club made the call to **suspend our Juniors Coaching programme with immediate effect.**

16 March 2020 - The North West Counties Squash League, with guidance from England Squash, announce that all NWCSL play will be suspended with immediate effect. This affects our Thursday night teams.

15 March 2020 - The Junior Coaching programme at the Club will continue tomorrow (16 March), however, this will be reviewed in consultation with all parents concerned, and in consideration of any threat of local schools' closures and Government advice.

15 March 2020 - The North West Counties Squash League set out their position to advise, at this point, they will not be suspending the league but will await further updates from government and England Squash

14 March 2020 - Due to the continued threat from Covid-19 virus, Squash Wales suspended all League programme activity throughout Wales with immediate effect.

This suspension will run at least until the end of April when the situation is to be reviewed. All Tuesday evening courts have now been made available for general use by members.

13 March 2020 - Given the unprecedented situation we're all facing as a result of Covid-19, Squash Wales advised that the 2020 North Wales Masters Open, which was scheduled at Brymbo for the weekend 21-22 March, is to be POSTPONED.

The postponement comes as a result of the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in Wales and in the wake of the World Health Organization's declaration on Wednesday that COVID-19 constitutes a global pandemic.

Subsequently, Squash Wales have also decided to postpone all junior and senior events, including Training Nights, until the end of April 2020. This will affect events such as Junior Squads, the Masters Home Internationals and 5 Nations.

Our League programmes are almost complete for 2019-20 and, as the numbers are relatively small, for now Squash Wales will continue with these, though they remain under daily review and may change in the future. All concerned will be informed of any change.

Our Coaching Team will speak with parents and continue to monitor the situation as it affects schools. If the schools are closed then an urgent decision will need to be made about our Monday evening Coaching Programme.

JT/WBSC