



Squash Canada and Squash Nova Scotia Screening Policy

Approved by the Squash Canada Board of Directors, March 4, 2020
Approved by the Squash Nova Scotia Board of Directors, October 28, 2020

This Policy has been prepared by Squash Canada to be a Pan-Canadian Policy applicable to Squash Canada and its Provincial/Territorial Squash Associations that have approved the adoption of the Policy

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:
 - a) *“Board”* – The Board of Directors of Squash Canada or a PTA, as applicable
 - b) *“Criminal Record Check (CRC)”* – A search of the RCMP Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) system for adult convictions
 - c) *“Enhanced Police Information Check (E-PIC)”* – a Criminal Record Check plus a search of local police information, available from Sterling Backcheck
 - d) *“Individuals”* – All categories of membership defined in the Squash Canada Bylaws or PTA Bylaws, as well as all individuals engaged in activities with Squash Canada or its PTAs including, but not limited to, athletes, coaches, mission staff, chefs de mission, officials, volunteers, committee members, parents or guardians, and Directors and Officers
 - e) *“Local Police Information (LPI)”* – additional conviction and selected non-conviction information in national and local police data sources which may be relevant to the position sought
 - f) *“PTA”* – Provincial/Territorial Squash Association recognized by Squash Canada, in this case Squash Nova Scotia
 - g) *“Vulnerable Sector Check (VSC)”* – a detailed check that includes a search of the RCMP Canadian Police Information Centre (CPIC) system, local police information, and the Pardoned Sex Offender database
 - h) *“Vulnerable Individuals”* – A person under the age of 18 years old and/or a person who, because of age, disability or other circumstance, is in a position of dependence on others or is otherwise at a greater risk than the general population of being harmed by people in positions of trust or authority

Preamble

2. Squash Canada and its PTAs understand that screening personnel and volunteers is a vital part of providing a safe sporting environment and has become a common practice among sport organizations that provide programs and services to the community.

Application of this Policy

3. This Policy applies to all individuals whose position with Squash Canada or a PTA is one of trust or authority which may relate to, at a minimum, finances, supervision, or Vulnerable Individuals.

4. Not all individuals associated with Squash Canada or a PTA will be required to obtain a criminal record check or submit screening documents because not all positions pose a risk of harm to Squash Canada, PTAs, or participants. Squash Canada or the PTA will determine which individuals will be subject to screening using the following guidelines (Squash Canada or the PTA may vary the guidelines at their discretion):

Pre-Level 1 – Low Risk – Athletes who are selected to the National Team, international teams, and NextGen athletes. Examples:

- a) High Performance Squad members
- b) Pan Am Games Team
- c) World Junior Championship Team

Level 1 – Low Risk - Individuals involved in low risk assignments who are not in a supervisory role, not directing others, not involved with finances, and/or do not have unsupervised access to Vulnerable Individuals. Examples:

- a) Parents, youth, or volunteers who are helping out on a non-regular or informal basis

Level 2 – Medium Risk – Individuals involved in medium risk assignments who may be in a supervisory role, may direct others, may be involved with finances, and/or who may have limited access to Vulnerable Individuals. Examples:

- a) Athlete support personnel
- b) Non-coach employees or managers
- c) Directors
- d) Coaches who are typically under the supervision of another coach

Level 3 – High Risk – Individuals involved in high risk assignments who occupy positions of trust and/or authority, have a supervisory role, direct others, are involved with finances, and who have frequent or unsupervised access to Vulnerable Individuals. Examples:

- a) Full time coaches
- b) Coaches and athletic therapists who travel with athletes
- c) Coaches and therapists who could be alone with athletes

Screening Committee

5. The implementation of this policy is the responsibility of the Screening Committee, which is a committee of three (3) members. Squash Canada and its PTAs will ensure that the members appointed to their respective Screening Committees possess the requisite skills, knowledge and abilities to accurately screen documents and render decisions under this Policy.
6. The Screening Committee will carry out its duties, in accordance with the terms of this policy, independent of the Board.
7. The Screening Committee is responsible for reviewing all documents submitted and, based on the review, making decisions regarding the appropriateness of individuals filling positions within Squash Canada or the PTA, as applicable. In carrying out its duties, the Screening Committee may consult with independent experts including lawyers, police, risk management consultants, volunteer screening specialists, or any other person.

Screening Requirements

8. A Screening Requirements Matrix is provided as **Appendix A**.
9. It is the policy of Squash Canada and its PTAs that when an individual is first engaged by the organization:

- a) Pre-Level 1 individuals will:
 - i. Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization
- b) Level 1 individuals will:
 - i. Complete an Application Form (**Appendix B**)
 - ii. Complete a Screening Disclosure Form (**Appendix C**)
 - iii. Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization
- c) Level 2 individuals will:
 - i. Complete an Application Form
 - ii. Complete a Screening Disclosure Form
 - iii. Complete and provide an E-PIC
 - iv. Provide one letter of reference related to the position
 - v. Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization
 - vi. Provide a driver's abstract, if requested
- d) Level 3 individuals will:
 - i. Complete an Application Form
 - ii. Complete a Screening Disclosure Form
 - iii. Complete and provide an E-PIC and a VSC
 - iv. Provide one letter of reference related to the position
 - v. Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization
 - vi. Provide a driver's abstract, if requested
- e) If an individual subsequently is charged, convicted for, or is found guilty of, an offense they will report this circumstance immediately to Squash Canada or the PTA, as applicable. Additionally, the individual will inform the organization of any changes in their circumstance that would alter their original responses in their Screening Disclosure Form.
- f) If Squash Canada or the PTA learns that an individual has provided false, inaccurate, or misleading information, the individual will immediately be removed from their position and may be subject to further discipline in accordance with the *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Young People

10. Squash Canada and its PTAs define a young person as someone who is younger than 18 years old. When screening young people, Squash Canada and its PTAs will:
- a) Not require the young person to obtain a VSC or E-PIC; and
 - b) In lieu of obtaining a VSC or E-PIC, require the young person to submit up to two (2) additional letters of reference.
11. Notwithstanding the above, Squash Canada or a PTA may ask a young person to obtain a VSC or E-PIC if the organization suspects that the young person has an adult conviction and therefore has a *criminal record*. In these circumstances, the organization will be clear in its request that it is not asking for the young person's *youth record*. Squash Canada and its PTAs understand that they may not request to see a young person's youth record.

Renewal

12. Unless the Screening Committee determines, on a case-by-case basis, to modify the submission requirements, individuals who are required to submit an E-PIC, Screening Disclosure Form, VSC, or Screening Renewal Form, are required to submit the documents as follows:

- a) An E-PIC every three years
- b) A Screening Disclosure Form every three years
- c) A Screening Renewal Form (**Appendix D**) every year
- d) A Vulnerable Sector Check once

13. The Screening Committee may request that an individual provide any of the above documents at any time. Such request will be in writing and reasons will be provided for the request.

Orientation, Training, and Monitoring

14. The type and amount of orientation, training, and monitoring will be based on the individual's level of risk, at the discretion of Squash Canada or the PTA, as applicable.
15. Orientation may include, but is not limited to: introductory presentations, facility tours, equipment demonstrations, parent/athlete meetings, meetings with colleagues and supervisors, orientation manuals, orientation sessions, and increased supervision during initial tasks or initial period of engagement.
16. Training may include, but is not limited to: certification courses, online learning, mentoring, workshop sessions, webinars, on-site demonstrations, and peer feedback.
17. At the conclusion of orientation and training, the individual will be required to acknowledge, in written form, that they have received and completed the orientation and training.
18. Monitoring may include but is not limited to: written or oral reports, observations, tracking, electronic surveillance (e.g., facility security cameras), and site visits.

How to Obtain an E-PIC or VSC

19. An E-PIC may be obtained by requesting one through Squash Nova Scotia who will send the individual a link to Sterling Backcheck at the expense of Squash Nova Scotia.
20. Individuals may only obtain a VSC by visiting an RCMP office or police station, submitting two pieces of government-issued identification (one of which must have a photo), and completing any required paperwork. Fees may also be required.
21. Fingerprinting may be required if there is a positive match with the individual's gender and birth date.
22. Squash Canada and its PTAs understand that they may be required to assist an individual with obtaining a VSC. A Request for VSC (**Appendix E**) may need to be submitted or other documentation may need to be completed that describes the nature of the organization and the individual's role with vulnerable individuals.

Procedure

23. Screening documents must be submitted to the following individual:

Mallory Taylor mtaylor@sportnovascotia.ca

24. An individual who refuses or fails to provide the necessary screening documents will be ineligible to volunteer or apply for the position sought. The individual will be informed that their application and/or position will not proceed until such time as the screening documents are submitted.

25. Squash Canada and its PTAs understand that there may be delays in receiving the results of an E-PIC or a VSC. At its discretion, the organization may permit the individual to participate in the role during the delay. This permission may be withdrawn at any time and for any reason.
26. Squash Canada and its PTAs recognize that different information will be available depending on the type of screening document that the individual has submitted. For example, an E-PIC may show details of a specific offense, or not, and/or a VSC may be returned with specific information or simply a notification indicating 'cleared' or 'not cleared'. The Screening Committee will use its expertise and discretion when making decisions based on the screening documents that have been submitted.
27. Following the review of the screening documents, the Screening Committee will decide:
 - a) The individual has passed screening and may participate in the desired position;
 - b) The individual has passed screening and may participate in the desired position with conditions;
 - c) The individual has not passed screening and may not participate in the desired position; or
 - d) More information is required from the individual.
28. In making its decision, the Screening Committee will consider the type of offense, date of offense, and relevance of the offense to the position sought.
29. The Screening Committee must decide that an individual has not passed screening if the screening documentation reveals any of the following:
 - a) If imposed in the last three years:
 - i. Any offense involving the use of a motor vehicle, including but not limited to impaired driving
 - ii. Any offense for trafficking and/or possession of drugs and/or narcotics
 - iii. Any offense involving conduct against public morals
 - b) If imposed in the last ten years:
 - i. Any crime of violence including but not limited to, all forms of assault
 - ii. Any offense involving a minor or minors
 - iii. Any offense involving theft or fraud
 - c) If imposed at any time:
 - i. An individual's conviction for any of the following *Criminal Code* offenses:
 - a. Any offense of physical or psychological violence
 - b. Any crime of violence including but not limited to, all forms of assault
 - c. Any offense involving trafficking of illegal drugs
 - d. Any offense involving the possession, distribution, or sale of any child-related pornography
 - e. Any sexual offense

Conditions and Monitoring

30. Excluding the incidents above which, if revealed, would cause the individual to not pass screening, the Screening Committee may determine that incidents revealed on an individual's screening documents may allow the individual to pass the screening process and participate in a desired position with *conditions* imposed. The Screening Committee may apply and remove conditions at its discretion and will determine the means by which adherence to conditions may be monitored.

Records

31. All records will be maintained in a confidential manner and will not be disclosed to others except as required by law, or for use in legal, quasi-legal, or disciplinary proceedings.
32. The records kept as part of the screening process include but are not limited to:
 - a) An individual's Vulnerable Sector Check
 - b) An individual's E-PIC (for a period of three years)
 - c) An individual's Screening Disclosure Form (for a period of three years)

- d) An individual's Screening Renewal Form (for a period of one year)
- e) Records of any conditions attached to an individual's registration by the Screening Committee
- f) Records of any discipline applied to any individual by Squash Canada, by a PTA, or by another sport organization

Appendix A – Screening Requirements Matrix

Risk Level	Roles* (note Young People exception)	Training Recommended/Required	Screening
Pre-Level 1 Low Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Team Athletes NextGen Athletes International Athletes 	Required: Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders, or https://safesport.coach.ca/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None
Level 1 Low Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents, Youth or Volunteers acting in non-regular or informal basis. 	Recommended: Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders, or https://safesport.coach.ca/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete an Application Form (Appendix B) Complete a Screening Disclosure Form (Appendix C) Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization
Level 2 Medium Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athlete support personnel Non-Coach employees or managers Directors Coaches who are typically under supervision of another coach. Officials 	Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://protectchildren.ca/en/get-involved/online-training/commit-to-kids/ Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders, or https://safesport.coach.ca/ Required (coaches): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCCP Make Ethical Decisions module 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete an Application Form (Appendix B) (excepting Squash Canada staff, Board members, officials/assessors and coach developers) Complete a Screening Disclosure Form (Appendix C) Participate in training, orientation, and monitoring as determined by the organization Complete and provide an E-PIC Provide one letter of reference related to the position (coaches and athlete support personnel only) Provide a driver's abstract, if requested
Level 3 High Risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full Time coaches Coaches or team medical/paramedical personnel who travel or could be alone with athletes Coaches, volunteers or team personnel who work with young people 	Recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> https://protectchildren.ca/en/get-involved/online-training/commit-to-kids/ Required (coaches): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect in Sport for Activity Leaders, or https://safesport.coach.ca/ NCCP Make Ethical Decisions module 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Level 2 Requirements (above) Provide a VSC with E-PIC A second letter of reference from a sport organization

*Young People

Squash Canada and its PTAs define a young person as someone who is younger than 18 years old. When screening young people, Squash Canada and its PTAs will:

- a) Not require the young person to obtain a VSC or E-PIC; and
- b) In lieu of obtaining a VSC or E-PIC, require the young person to submit up to two (2) additional letters of reference

Appendix B – Application Form

Note: Individuals who are applying to volunteer or work within certain positions with Squash Canada or a PTA must complete this Application Form. Individuals need to complete an Application Form once for the position sought. If the individual is applying for a new position within Squash Canada or within a PTA, a new Application Form must be submitted.

NAME: _____
First Middle Last

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **GENDER IDENTITY:** _____
Month/Day/Year

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

POSITION SOUGHT: _____

By signing this document below, I agree to adhere to the policies and procedures of Squash Canada and/or the PTA (as applicable), including but not limited to the *Code of Conduct*, *Conflict of Interest Policy*, *Privacy Policy*, and *Screening Policy*. Policies are located at the following link: <https://nssquash.ca/about/policies-and-regulations/>

I recognize that I must pass certain screening requirements depending on the position sought, as outlined in the *Screening Policy*, and that the Screening Committee will determine my eligibility to volunteer or work in the position.

NAME (print): _____ **DATE:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Appendix C – Screening Disclosure Form

NAME: _____
First Middle Last

OTHER NAMES YOU HAVE USED: _____

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **GENDER IDENTITY:** _____
Month/Day/Year

CLUB (if applicable): _____ **EMAIL:** _____

Note: Failure to disclose truthful information below may be considered an intentional omission and the loss of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges

- 1. Have you been convicted of a crime? If so, please complete the following information for *each conviction*. Attach additional pages as necessary.**

Name or Type of Offense: _____

Name and Jurisdiction of Court/Tribunal: _____

Year Convicted: _____

Penalty or Punishment Imposed: _____

Further Explanation: _____

- 2. Have you ever been disciplined or sanctioned by a sport governing body or by an independent body (e.g., private tribunal, government agency, etc.) or dismissed from a coaching or volunteer position? If so, please complete the following information for each disciplinary action or sanction. Attach additional pages as necessary.**

Name of disciplining or sanctioning body: _____

Date of discipline, sanction or dismissal: _____

Reasons for discipline, sanction or dismissal: _____

Penalty or Punishment Imposed: _____

Further Explanation: _____

- 3. Are criminal charges or any other sanctions, including those from a sport body, private tribunal or government agency, currently pending or threatened against you? If so, please complete the following information for each pending charge or sanction. Attach additional pages as necessary.**

Name or Type of Offense: _____

Name and Jurisdiction of Court/Tribunal: _____

Name of disciplining or sanctioning body: _____

Further Explanation: _____

PRIVACY STATEMENT

By completing and submitting this Screening Disclosure Form, I consent and authorize Squash Canada and/or the PTA to collect, use and disclose my personal information, including all information provided on the Screening Disclosure Form as well as my Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check (when permitted by law) for the purposes of screening, implementation of the *Screening Policy*, administering membership services, and communicating with National Sport Organizations, Provincial Sport Organizations, Clubs, and other organizations involved in the governance of sport. Squash Canada and its PTAs do not distribute personal information for commercial purposes.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information contained in this Screening Disclosure Form is accurate, correct, truthful and complete.

I further certify that I will immediately inform Squash Canada or the PTA (as applicable) of any changes in circumstances that would alter my original responses to this Screening Disclosure Form. Failure to do so may result in the withdrawal of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges and/or disciplinary action.

NAME (print): _____

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Appendix D – Screening Renewal Form

NAME: _____
First Middle Last

CURRENT PERMANENT ADDRESS:

Street City Province Postal

DATE OF BIRTH: _____ **GENDER IDENTITY:** _____
Month/Day/Year

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

By signing this document below, I certify that there have been no changes to my criminal record since I last submitted an Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form to Squash Canada or to the PTA. I further certify that there are no outstanding charges and warrants, judicial orders, peace bonds, probation or prohibition orders, or applicable non-conviction information, and there have been no absolute and conditional discharges.

I agree that any Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form that I would obtain or submit on the date indicated below would be no different than the last Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form that I submitted to Squash Canada or the PTA. I understand that if there have been any changes, or if I suspect that there have been any changes, it is my responsibility to obtain and submit a new Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form to the Screening Committee instead of this form.

I recognize that if there have been changes to the results available from the Enhanced Police Information Check and/or Vulnerable Sector Check and/or Screening Disclosure Form, and that if I submit this form improperly, then I am subject to disciplinary action and/or the removal of volunteer responsibilities or other privileges at the discretion of the Screening Committee.

NAME (print): _____ **DATE:** _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Appendix E – Request For Vulnerable Sector Check

Note: Squash Canada and its PTAs will be required to modify this letter to adhere to any requirements from the VSC provider

INTRODUCTION

Squash Nova Scotia is requesting a Vulnerable Sector Check for _____
(Full name of individual)
who identifies as a _____ and who was born on _____.
(gender) (Birthdate yyyy-mm-dd)

DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION

Squash Nova Scotia is a not-for-profit provincial organization governing the sport of squash in Nova Scotia located in Halifax NS.

DESCRIPTION OF ROLE

_____ will be acting as a _____.
(Name) (role)

In this role, the individual will have access to vulnerable individuals.

[Insert additional information re: type and number of vulnerable individuals, frequency of access, etc.]

CONTACT INFORMATION

If more information is required from Squash Nova Scotia, please contact the Screening Committee Chair:

Phil Jourdeuil philjourdeuil@gmail.com

Signed: _____ Date: _____