

Government of Meghalaya

Sports & Youth Affairs Department

No: SYA.91/2020/4

Dated: Shillong the 3rd of November 2020

SOP for Resumption of Badminton in Meghalaya through Sports Clubs and Associations

Whereas, the Sports & Youth Affairs Department, Government of Meghalaya had earlier notified the SOP for Non-Contact and Indirect-Contact Sporting Activities vide **No. SYA.91/2020/1 dated Shillong, the 16th June 2020**;

Whereas, the Sports & Youth Affairs Department is conscious of the impact COVID-19 has had on the sports ecosystem in the state, and therefore understands that it is crucial to draw up a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for resumption of organised and structured badminton activities through various Sports Clubs and Associations in the State that reassures all stakeholders involved;

Now, therefore, to ensure that all the key stakeholders of the badminton fraternity in the State follow all the health and safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the following protocol is hereby notified in continuation to the SOP for the resumption of Non-Contact and Indirect-Contact Sports Activities:

I. Introduction

- a. This SOP for Resumption of Badminton through various Sports clubs and Associations in the State shall be in accordance to the Order of the Home(Political) Department, Government of Meghalaya dated 10th September 2020 vide Order no. POL.75/2020/Pt11/66 and the general framework and protocols as stipulated in the SOP for Non-Contact and Indirect-Contact Sporting Activities and the State Health Department's protocols and guidelines on health, social distancing and hygiene.
- b. Sports Clubs and Associations that wish to resume badminton training related activities should submit an undertaking to the Deputy Commissioner confirming the adherence to the SOP detailed herein and obtain prior permission from the respective Deputy Commissioner.
- c. This SOP is intended solely for Sports Clubs and Associations for the conduct of Badminton training related activities only and not for the organisation of competitive badminton or mass congregations
- d. At all times the Sports Clubs and Associations must respond to the directives of the Health Department and other authorities.
- e. The detection of a positive COVID-19 case in a Sporting Club or Association will result in a standard public health response, which could include testing and quarantine of the individuals as per the protocols of the Health and Family Welfare Department.

II. Stakeholder Responsibilities

A. Clubs and Associations

Before Training

- a. Outdoor training is recommended wherever feasible. Indoor court training (if necessary) limited to singles only
- b. 2 players and 1 coach allowed with alternate court gap. During sparring both players must use their own set of shuttles
- c. A coach can coach on a ratio of up to 1: 15. with players being split into separate groups of no more than 6 players. There can be more than one group (up to 15) in a hall. This depends on the space available, the ability to maintain social distancing and maintaining sub-groups of no more than 6 subject to the overall ceiling of one third the capacity of the hall.
- d. As long as social distancing guidelines are met, parents/carers do not count towards the group size.
- e. As a club or coach organising a session, hand sanitisers must be made readily available and all trainees must carry their own hand sanitisers as well.
- f. Appointment of a Covid-19 Compliance Officer in conjunction with the Department of Health who will monitor the compliance of the SOPs and the protocols. The officer shall liaise with the sports clubs and associations of the training sessions to ensure compliance of the set out protocols before and after each training session.
- g. All movement on and off court and around the hall must be controlled by the designated session Covid-19 Officer
- h. If collecting monies from players, online or contactless payment wherever possible.

During Training

- a. Minimise the sharing of shuttlecock. It is recommended to allocate a quantity of shuttlecocks for each player. Each player is recommended to mark their allocated/own shuttlecock for easier recognition.
- b. In all settings before and after the session, and in any breaks, all participants should practise social distancing, in line with Government guidelines
- c. No spectators shall be permitted for the training sessions, except members of the Sports Club/Association. limited to not more than 10 personnel.

After Training

- a. Post completion of the training sessions the players should be encouraged to leave the venue rather than congregate.
- b. All shared equipment should be thoroughly washed, and disinfected, and clear delegation of the responsibility should be made at the start of the session.
- c. Warm-ups/cool-downs should always observe social distancing.
- d. Coaches are encouraged to maintain a record of the regular cleaning of club or team equipment that trainees use.

B. Venue Owners/Management

Before Training

- a. Booking of courts should be done in advance for easier coordination on the entrance and exit movement of the different groups.
- b. Keep attendance records for all session inclusive of trainees, coaches and management.
- c. It is recommended to have adequate time in between bookings to sanitise and disinfect the courts before and after every usage
- d. Hand sanitisers should be made available at the entrance and notice on proper sanitation guidelines should be displayed.
- e. It is advisable to keep windows open wherever possible and avoid the usage of air conditioning for better ventilation.
- f. limit contact/interactions, e.g. one-way systems in buildings and keeping doors open.
- g. If the venue management is hosting back to back club sessions, no players from the first session can attend the second session
- h. To operate safely, changing rooms, club rooms and shower facilities shall be closed. Only access to the toilets shall be made permissible.
- i. Deployment of sufficient housekeeping staff with the adequate sanitation and disinfectants in common areas and toilets.
- j. Clear signage (e.g. for one-way systems) to manage entry, parking arrangements, traffic flow and general movement around the venue to ensure social distancing can be maintained.
- k. In line with current Health Department guidelines and protocols, all participants (Players/Trainees, coaches, club and match officials, volunteers, spectators etc.) should be checked for symptoms of Covid-19. Any temperature above 38 Degrees Celsius should not be permitted to participate in the training sessions and should be reported immediately to the Covid-19 Officer for further investigation.

During Training

- a. consistent sanitisation and disinfection of common utilities and fixtures i.e. doorknobs/handles washrooms toilets etc.

After Training

- a. Sanitisation of change rooms, washrooms toilet facilities and fixtures.
- b. Sanitisation of nets, posts, sports equipment and material belonging to the venue management.

C. Players/Trainees

Before Training

- a. Players should bring along their own equipment such as racquet, shuttlecocks, shoes and water bottle etc. No sharing of sports equipment, Rackets, yoga mats, towels, water bottles etc.
- b. Ensure booking of facility beforehand for independent training sessions – one cannot turn up to a session unless they have pre-booked either independently or through a club or association
- c. Warm-up and cool down should be done individually
- d. Wipe down the equipment before and after training sessions.
- e. Practice personal hygiene: handwashing, use of sanitizers.

- f. Ensuring adequate sleep, proper nutrition.
- g. Players/Trainees should arrive at the venue changed and ready to train limiting the time spent in common change rooms.
- h. Covid-19 self-assessment using Arogya Setu App and self-monitoring for symptoms.
- i. Submission of duly filled consent form for training as enclosed in Annexure I of the earlier notified SOP for Non-Contact and Indirect-Contact Sporting Activities.

During Training

- a. Players should avoid using their hands to pick up shuttles from other courts; where possible - they should use their own rackets to return them. Only handle those that have been marked as your own
- b. Avoid using/touching other equipment such as nets, posts, court mops where possible. If it is essential to set up or take down nets ensure the trainees wash their hands immediately afterwards in line with Government guidance.
- c. Instead of shaking hands, players can touch rackets with their opponents and nod/put their hand across their chest when greeting the match officials
- d. Covering of mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing.
- e. Maintaining social distancing throughout the training sessions.
- f. All participants must remain socially distanced during breaks in play, with spaced areas for equipment and refreshment storage for each individual including officials and substitutes.

After Training

- a. Cool down and fitness training are recommended to be done outdoors where possible
- b. After the conclusion of the training session, all Players/Trainees should immediately wash their hands with liquid soap as per the Health Department Protocols.
- c. Training clothing material worn by the players/trainees during the session i.e. jerseys, shorts, socks etc. should be packed into separate bags/containers which should be immediately washed with disinfectants and adequate quantities of detergent.
- d. Proceed to leave the venue immediately after cool-down exercises and technical briefings.

**Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of
Meghalaya
Sports & Youth Affairs Department**

Memo No: SYA.91/2020/2(A)

Dated: Shillong the 3rd of November 2020

Copy to:

1. P.S. to Minister I/c Sports & Youth Affairs for Information of Minister.
2. P.S to Chief Secretary, to the Govt. of Meghalaya, for information of Chief Secretary.
3. P.A to Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Sports & Youth Affairs, Department for Information.
4. The Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills District, West Khasi Hills District, South West Khasi Hills District, Ri-Bhoi District, West Jaintia District, East Jaintia Hills District, West Garo Hills District, East Garo Hills District, South Garo Hills District, North Garo Hills District, South West Garo Hills District for information and Necessary action with a request to circulate the all Meghalaya Sports Clubs and Associations.
5. The Chief Engineer, State Sports Council Meghalaya for information and Necessary Action.

By Order Etc.

**Joint Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya
Sports & Youth Affairs Department**