ACA COVID PROTOCOL

In effect through December 31, 2021, for all ACA tournaments

I. ORGANIZER DUTIES

PRE-TOURNAMENT

Evaluate the venue for potential problems ahead of time (ventilation, spacing) and attempt to correct any issues, if reasonable to do so.

Chose a set of safety protocols from the available options listed in Part III

Ensure all players are informed of the ACA's tournament safety protocols (Part III), safety commitment (Part IV), and waiver (Part V)

Ensure the TD is aware of the chosen COVID safety protocols and willing to enforce them

Post signage about COVID safety protocols at the venue

Assist the TD in enforcing safety protocols if necessary or requested

Appoint an assistant TD if necessary [The ACA will have to pay for this] and two assistants for extremely large tournaments

POST TOURNAMENT

Process COVID notifications from players and spectators. If an attendee notifies the organizer that they have tested positive within the 10 days following a tournament, the organizer shall:

Post a notice on the ACA website of a possible exposure,

Protect the identity and confidentiality of the attendee, and

Inform Alberta Health on the matter.

II. TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR DUTIES

Enforce all safety protocols put in place by the organizer and the ACA

Enforce all legally required safety protocols

At the start of the tournament, inform the attendees of the safety protocols in effect

III. TOURNAMENT SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Note that national, provincial, or local laws may supersede any or all of these rules. Provincial law has an exception to mask mandates for anyone who can produce a medical exemption letter.

OPTIONAL: Organizers may choose none, any, or all of the following optional safety measures:

Have attendees fill out COVID questionnaires or do a COVID symptom check list before the start of each round or day

Require temperature checks for attendees

Limit attendance to individuals who have been fully or partially vaccinated

Require rapid tests for attendees [The ACA would not pay for this, but an organizer could check to see if they can get them for free from the AB govt if desired]

ENCOURAGED: Organizers are encouraged to do the following:

Limit attendance to help physically distance boards

Reduce, discourage, or ban spectators

Create a plan to discourage players from congregating or lingering between rounds

Consider timing rounds to allow for extra cleaning and better ventilation

Organizers must place as much distance as possible between boards

No food may be eaten on tournament premises. No communal drinks (read: coffee pots) may be used. Individual, outside drinks are okay, as long the attendee doesn't fully remove mask to drink it

Players must refrain from walking around to view other boards unless they can remain 2 metres distant when doing so

Clean all chess boards, clocks, pieces, tournament chairs, and high-touch surfaces before and between rounds [The ACA will have to pay for cleaning supplies]

Consider whether to eliminate the skittles area, post "use at your own risk" signage there, or arrange for regular cleaning of the area

MANDATORY: These protocols are required:

Organizers will provide cleaning supplies to clean boards, pieces, chairs and high touch surfaces as stated in encouraged section.

Players must be given a full refund if they withdraw before round 1 due to medical reasons

No handshakes

Each venue must include multiple sanitation stations stocked with hand sanitizer. All players must clean their hands between rounds. [The ACA will have to pay for hand sanitizer.]

While attendees are encouraged to bring their own masks, disposable masks must be on hand for anyone who forgets. This will not be advertised. [The ACA will have to pay for disposable masks.]

Masks are required for all attendees, including spectators, age 3 years and older, in all tournament spaces. Organizers may waive the mask rule under any of the five following conditions:

- 1)The tournament is held outdoors,
- 2) The tournament is held indoors in a well-ventilated space with a minimum of two meters between boards (all directions),
- 3) All attendees are fully vaccinated, or
- 4) All attendees agree to lift the mask mandate ahead of time, without pressure from the organizer and without it being a condition for playing in the tournament
- 5) An organizer may waive the mask rule for an individual who can provide a negative COVID 24 hour test or proof of full vaccination

IV: SAFETY COMMITMENT AND AGREEMENT

The Alberta Chess Association (ACA) is committed to providing a safe tournament experience and will work with the tournament venue, organizer and director to ensure the health and safety of its tournament participants.

In light of ongoing COVID and communicable health risks more generally, the ACA will implement health and safety protocols appropriate to the public health circumstances existing at the time of the tournament. The ACA will exercise reasonable efforts for protocols that will comply with or exceed any local public health requirements.

These protocols may include the following: proof of COVID vaccination status, self-monitoring, use of personal protective equipment and social distancing, or other similar measures. Compliance with some or all protocols adopted by the ACA may be mandatory for participation in the tournament. Additional information regarding the specific health and safety measures, and any necessary consents by you, will be communicated to participants prior to the tournament.

Participants agree that they will not attend the tournament if within 14 days preceding the tournament they have:

Tested positive or presumptively positive for COVID or other communicable disease or been identified as a potential carrier of COVID or other communicable disease; or

Experienced any symptoms commonly associated with COVID or other communicable disease; or

Traveled to a country that is subject to any travel restrictions by Health Canada; or

Been in direct contact with or the immediate vicinity of (collectively, the "Encounter") any person who is either confirmed or suspected of being infected with COVID or other communicable disease or who has travelled to a Prohibited Country within the last fourteen (14) days preceding the Encounter.

V: WAIVER

By entering any tournament, players agree that the venue, ACA and tournament organizers cannot guarantee that they will not as a result become infected with COVID-19. Entrants further certify that during the 14-day period before the tournament, they have not experienced any symptoms associated with COVID-19, which include fever, cough, or shortness of breath, or had close or direct contact with anyone who is either confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19.