



Impairment and Accommodation Policy

Date Approved	Date of Last Review	Date of Last Revision
August 20, 2020	August 20, 2020	January 2024

Definitions

1. The following terms have these meanings in this Policy:

- a) *“Accommodation”* – The obligation to take steps to adjust rules, policies, or practices that have a negative impact on Individuals based on prohibited grounds of Discrimination;
- b) *“Discrimination”* – Differential treatment of an individual based on one or more prohibited grounds which include race, citizenship, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic characteristics, or disability
- c) *Organizational Participant* – refers to all categories of individual members and/or registrants defined in the By-laws of Racquetball Ontario (the organization), as well as all people employed by, contracted by, or engaged in activities with, the organization, , including, but not limited to, employees, contractors, athletes, coaches, instructors, officials, volunteers, managers, administrators, committee members, parents or guardians, spectators, and directors and officers;
- d) *“Prescription Medication”* – throughout this Policy shall be understood to be medication that an Individual has been validly prescribed by a medical practitioner;
- e) *“Workplace”* – Any place where business or work-related activities are conducted. Workplaces include but are not limited to, Racquetball Ontario’s office, work-related social functions, work assignments outside Racquetball Ontario’s offices, work-related travel, training and competition venues, and work-related conferences or training sessions.

Purpose

2. This Policy describes how Racquetball Ontario will manage situations of impairment or potential impairment in the Workplace from an Organizational Participant’s use of legal or illegal drugs or substances, alcohol, or prescription medication, as well as potential sanctions for Organizational Participants who are found to be impaired in the Workplace in a manner that contravenes this Policy or any of Racquetball Ontario’s relevant and applicable policies.
3. This Policy also describes how and when Racquetball Ontario will make accommodations for Organizational Participants who require the use of prescription medication that may cause impairment in the Workplace or who have a diagnosed substance dependency on any legal or illegal

drug or substance, alcohol, or prescription medication which may or may not cause impairment in the Workplace. Such substance dependency may be considered to be a disability if diagnosed by a relevant healthcare professional.

Scope and Application of this Policy

4. This Policy applies to all Organizational Participants and to situations arising in the Workplace.
5. Whenever this Policy is found to be in conflict with relevant and applicable legislation, the legislation shall prevail.

Impairment

6. Impairment in the Workplace, subject to the **Accommodation** section of this Policy, is not permitted.
7. Impairment by Organizational Participants in areas other than the Workplace may or may not be permitted, pursuant to the category of Organizational Participants and level of impairment, as described in Racquetball Ontario's standards of conduct for each category of Organizational Participants.

Signs of Impairment

8. Signs of impairment include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Personality changes or erratic behaviour (e.g., increased personal conflicts, over-reaction to criticism);
 - b) Nervousness, sleepiness, poor memory, overly talkative, fatigued;
 - c) Working in an unsafe manner;
 - d) Altered appearance (e.g., odour of drugs or alcohol, glassy or red eyes, sweating, unsteady gait, slurring, poor coordination or balance);
 - e) Slurred speech, rambling, confused;
 - f) Citations for driving under the influence, or tickets or arrests for other criminal acts; or
 - g) Consistent lateness, absenteeism, or reduced productivity or quality of work.

Accommodation

9. Organizational Participants seeking an accommodation from Racquetball Ontario shall provide Racquetball Ontario with documented evidence from their relevant healthcare professional with a written description of the Workplace accommodations that the Organizational Participants healthcare professional considers to be appropriate.
10. If Racquetball Ontario becomes aware of a medical prescription for a diagnosed medical condition, a diagnosed substance dependency, or prohibited substance use by an Organizational Participants who

is an *athlete* (either by voluntary disclosure, complaint, or positive drug test), Racquetball Ontario will follow the steps as described in the **Substance Use by an Athlete** section of this Policy.

Disclosing Medical Prescription/Condition

11. An Organizational Participants who has a medical prescription for a diagnosed medical condition that may cause impairment in the Workplace may be accommodated by Racquetball Ontario. Racquetball Ontario will provide reasonable accommodation, to the point of undue hardship, unless there is reasonable justification to consider otherwise. In these cases, Racquetball Ontario will:
 - a) Discuss accommodation, based on the measures that the Organizational Participants healthcare professional considers to be appropriate and which have been provided to Racquetball Ontario by the Organizational Participants.

Disclosing Substance Dependency

12. An Organizational Participants who discloses a diagnosed substance dependency to Racquetball Ontario will be treated with compassion and respect and may be accommodated by Racquetball Ontario. Racquetball Ontario will provide reasonable accommodation, to the point of undue hardship, unless there is reasonable justification to consider otherwise. In these cases, Racquetball Ontario will:
 - a) Assist the Organizational Participants with obtaining support and resources that will accommodate their Workplace circumstances; however, such support and resources may or may not include financial resources, as determined by Racquetball Ontario; and
 - b) Discuss accommodation, based on the measures that the Organizational Participants healthcare professional considers to be appropriate and which have been provided to Racquetball Ontario by the Organizational Participants.

Racquetball Ontario Becomes Aware of Substance Dependency

13. Racquetball Ontario is aware that not all Organizational Participants will disclose a diagnosed substance dependency. Racquetball Ontario understands that it has a duty to inquire when it recognizes **Signs of Impairment** (described in Section 8 of this Policy) that may require reasonable accommodation or for Racquetball Ontario to take necessary and proportionate steps.
14. Should the Organizational Participant display signs of impairment, but not have or admit to a diagnosed substance dependency or ask for an accommodation, Racquetball Ontario will outline potential consequences of the Organizational Participant's behaviour (such as sanctions, complaints, or dismissal in the case of an employee or contractor).

Procedures

15. Any medical information voluntarily shared by the Organizational Participant with Racquetball Ontario will not be disclosed to any third-parties or to any Organizational Participant or supervisors who are not directly involved with the Organizational Participant's work and/or any Workplace accommodation.

16. After reviewing written documentation from an Organizational Participant physician or healthcare professional, Racquetball Ontario will provide reasonable Workplace accommodation for the Organizational Participant, to the point of undue hardship or there is reasonable justification to consider otherwise.
17. In preparation for the Workplace accommodation, Racquetball Ontario will review the Organizational Participant's tasks and objectives and determine what needs to be accommodated, and what can and cannot be accommodated. Such determinations will form the basis of the Organizational Participant's Workplace accommodation plan.
18. An Organizational Participant's Workplace accommodation plan should:
 - a) Be completed and signed by Racquetball Ontario, the ~~Individual~~, Organizational Participant and the Organizational Participant's supervisor (if any);
 - b) Identify the specific Workplace accommodation measures or solutions;
 - c) Be flexible;
 - d) Identify certain behaviours that may be significant; and
 - e) If necessary, describe a "return to work agreement" in the event of a prolonged absence.
19. If Racquetball Ontario provides Workplace accommodation to an Organizational Participant who may be impaired from the use of prescription medication for a diagnosed medical condition, or who has a diagnosed substance dependency defined as a disability, this will not preclude Racquetball Ontario from imposing sanctions against the Organizational Participant as described in this Policy and/or Racquetball Ontario's *Discipline and Complaints Policy* and as may be applicable and necessary in the circumstances.

Substance Use by an Athlete

20. Racquetball Ontario is committed to clean sport and endorses the 2021 Canadian Anti-Doping Program and the World Anti-Doping Code. Racquetball Ontario confirms that it has adopted and/or commits to respect the 2021 CADP as its primary domestic anti-doping policy.
21. Athletes are responsible for knowing whether they are using or will need to use any prescription medication(s) that contain prohibited substances. The current List of Prohibited Substances can be found online on website of the World Anti-Doping Agency or the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport.
22. Racquetball Ontario will approach certain substance use by athletes in the following manner:
 - a) *Athlete requires the use of a prescription medication that contains a prohibited substance* – the athlete must consult with the Canadian Centre for Ethics and Sport ("CCES") to determine whether the athlete can obtain a Therapeutic Use Exemption;
 - b) *Athlete requires the use of a prescription medication that may cause impairment* – Racquetball Ontario shall determine whether the athlete may continue to train or compete while using a prescription medication that may cause impairment or whether any accommodations can be

made while the athlete requires the use of the prescription medication. Such a determination will be made by Racquetball Ontario following consultation with relevant medical professionals and in consideration of the safety of the athlete and other participants;

- c) *Athlete reveals diagnosed substance dependency* – Racquetball Ontario will provide the athlete with any assistance and/or resources that it can reasonably provide; direct the athlete to healthcare professionals as appropriate. Depending on the dependency, Racquetball Ontario may or may not decide to prohibit the athlete from participating in training or competitions, either as a sanction (as described in this Policy or in any other relevant and applicable policy, including Racquetball Ontario’s *Discipline and Complaints Policy*) or as a preventive safety measure for the athlete or for the safety of other participants, or impose any other **Sanction** permitted by a relevant and applicable policy;
- d) *Athlete has positive drug test* – Racquetball Ontario will respect to the 2021 Canadian Anti-Doping Program, as well as its own policies for Anti-Doping and Discipline and Complaints (as applicable), and any direction or sanction from the CCES or the World Anti-Doping Agency.

Sanctions

23. Racquetball Ontario may apply sanctions in the following circumstances:

- a) When an Organizational Participant is impaired in the Workplace;
- b) When an Organizational Participant’s impairment violates Racquetball Ontario’s *Code of Conduct and Ethics*; or
- c) When an Organizational Participant who has been provided a Workplace accommodation performs tasks that are precluded by such an accommodation.

24. Sanctions that may be imposed include:

- a) Removal from the area or Workplace (by sending the Organizational Participant home with appropriate transportation, if necessary);
- b) Temporary suspension from safety-sensitive work or tasks in the Workplace;
- c) Temporary suspension from participation in the Workplace (until a complaint is filed under the terms of Racquetball Ontario’s *Discipline and Complaints Policy*);
- d) Temporary suspension of Workplace membership benefits or privileges (until a complaint is filed under the terms of Racquetball Ontario’s *Discipline and Complaints Policy*);
- e) If the Organizational Participant is an employee or contractor, requiring a fitness for work assessment;
- f) If the Organizational Participant is an employee or contractor, a leave of absence (with or without pay, depending on the circumstances) from the Workplace pending further investigation; or

- g) If the Organizational Participant is an employee or contractor, discipline pursuant to Racquetball Ontario's policies for human resources or the Organizational Participant's Employment Agreement or Contractor Agreement (as applicable).

25. Additional sanctions may be applied if Racquetball Ontario or another Organizational Participant submits a complaint against the Organizational Participant under Racquetball Ontario's *Discipline and Complaints Policy*.

Review and Update

26. Racquetball Ontario pledges to update this Policy as necessary to reflect changes in legislation, applicable policies or best practices, and will review the Policy annually for the first three years following its initial implementation.

References

27. Racquetball Ontario consulted the following references in the development of this Policy:

- a) *Blazing the Trail – What the legalization of cannabis means for Canadian employers* (Conference Board of Canada, 2018);
- b) *Impaired at Work – A guide to accommodating substance dependence* (Canadian Human Rights Commission, 2017);
- c) *Workplace Strategies: Risk of Impairment from Cannabis* (Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety, 2018).