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## 2022 Hardball Doubles Squash Rules Revisions

On behalf of Squash Canada and US Squash, please find below a synopsis of the WSF - APPROVED RULE CHANGES for Hardball Doubles Squash with supporting logic. For the complete Hardball Doubles Squash Rules – [Click Here](#).

Submitted by: USA/Canada Joint Hardball Doubles Squash Rules Review Committee, Approved by WSF

January 1, 2022: The Hardball Doubles Squash Rules and Hardball Doubles Squash Interpretations will reflect the following changes.

### **1) Illness/Cramping**

*This rule change has been made to move more in line with singles squash rules.*

*Change: Illness and Cramping should be considered a loss of condition, NOT a self-inflicted injury. In an instance of illness or cramping, play should continue immediately, or the player must concede the game. Players who are unfit should not be rewarded with break time. Rather, opponents who apply pressure to an unfit opponent through superior play should be rewarded.*

### **2) Eye Guards/Dropped Equipment**

*This rule change has also been proposed to move more in line with singles squash rules.*

*Change: Should a player drop his or her eye guards or any other piece of equipment other than the racquet, the offending side will lose the rally. If the loss of equipment is caused by interference or contact with another player, a let will be played. A point will only be lost due to losing control of a racquet only if it occurs during the act of swinging. Otherwise, a racquet can be picked up, and the rally continues.*

### **3) Warm Up Time**

*This rule change has been made to be more appropriate and more sustainable for tournaments on tight schedules*

*Change: Warm up time shall be changed from five minutes per team with a two-minute interval before play to three minutes per team with a one-minute interval before play. There is a consensus that 12 minutes of total warm up is far too long and that 7 minutes is believed to be sufficient.*

### **4) Hit by Ball**

*Clarification: This rule was clarified in the instance of a ball being left after a shape. Prior language did not include the condition of shaping and caused confusion about whether a team would lose a point if a player hit his partner with the ball when neither opponent made a play on the ball versus if those opponents swung at and missed or shaped for the ball. Prior to the clarification, rule 8(d) contradicted rule 8(a).*

The 2021 Hardball Doubles Rules have been fully vetted and approved by both US Squash and Squash Canada (Doubles Officiating Committees, Doubles Committees and Board of Directors) and changes have now been APPROVED by WSF Rules Commission. Effective January 1 2022

Thank you!

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Chair, Squash Canada Doubles Committee

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