

PROVINCIAL COMPETITIVE STRUCTURE RESTART FAQ

2020 CARRYFORWARD ALLOWANCE

Does a province have to wait until the majority of provinces in their group are open for competition before they can play any of the 2020 carryforward events?

No, any remaining 2020 carryforward events can be hosted as soon as competition has been approved by their respective provincial authorities.

Does a province have to complete all 2020 carryforward events before they can play any 2021 high level events?

No. Each province has until 31 Dec 2021 to play the lost high-level opportunities from 2020. These can be held at any time and they do not have to be completed before 2021 events start. For example, a province could play a 2021 4 star event then a 2020 4 star and then a 2020 5 star event.

Can I use 2020 carry forward for selections for the 2021 Outdoor Nationals?

No, the 2020 carryforward events cannot be used for selection for the 2021 Outdoor Nationals. The 2021 allocation of higher level events should be used for 2021 National selections.

Our province does not have time to play all of the 2020 carry forward events by the end of 2021.

By reducing the number of high-level events allocated for 2021 this should provide at least some additional room to catch up the 2020 events whilst keeping all provinces on an even footing for 2021. It is anticipated that with the additional court time that usually becomes available in the summer or outdoor season, and giving provinces until the end of 2021 to play these events that the majority of these events will be able to be played.

How will we know what each province has played from their 2020 carryforward allocation of events?

Approximately every 4-6 weeks, Tennis Canada will publish an updated Appendix A along with the current *Return to Competition Stage* of each group.



2021 MOVING BETWEEN STAGES

We are the only province in our group that is allowed competitive play. What can we play?

You may play tournaments at the level specified in Stage 1/1A of your group and any of your 2020 carryforward events. If you complete all of your 2020 events and the majority of provinces playing in your group are still not playing, then you can only play events corresponding to your first stage.

We are in Group 1. How many weeks will it take us to reach Stage 3?

Assuming that the majority of the provinces in the group remain able to host competition then it should take 8 weeks of consecutive play to reach a full Return to Competition Stage.

2 weeks in Stage 1A followed by 2 weeks in Stage 1B followed by 4 weeks in Stage 2.

If our group has met the requirements to move to Stage 3 and one of our provinces is subsequently placed back into more restrictive measures and is unable to run competition, and we no longer meet the majority requirement, what happens next?

As soon as the majority requirements are not met the whole group must move back to Stage 1/1A. The group would then remain in this stage until such time as the group meets the criteria to move up through the stages again.

Our group has recently met the requirements for Stage 3. It is Thursday and we have our 2021 Provincial Championships scheduled to start tomorrow (Friday). We have just been advised by one of the other provinces that they are in lockdown again with immediate effect. What happens to our tournament starting tomorrow?

In order to provide some stability for players, PTA's and tournament hosts and to mitigate the impact of last minute changes in other provinces affecting the group, Return to Competition Stages will be considered by ranking week. Each week will start on a Monday and end on a Sunday. Therefore, if a province is ordered into lockdown on a Thursday effective immediately, (meaning the group no longer has a majority of provinces playing) the affected province will not be able to play their event, but the other provinces in the group are able to play anything scheduled up until the Sunday of that same week. After that time, the whole group moves back to Stage 1/1A.

The possibility that this may happen during the restart plan should be clearly communicated to all players entering events during this time.

Having previously worked our way up to Return to Competition Stage 3, we are now back in Stage 1/1A. Does our group need to start again and progress through each stage one at a time or can we collectively agree to move back to Stage 3 once we reach a majority of provinces playing again?

The primary objective is to ensure that the majority of provinces in a group move together. In the initial Return to Competition, groups must progress through each stage in turn. If a group is later forced to return back to Stage 1/1A and restart, it is possible to move directly up to a stage that has been reached previously if the majority agree and meet the criteria for moving again.

How will all the members of each group know that one of their provinces has moved into a lockdown or a restriction of play? What is the protocol for this?

As soon as a province knows that they are required to restrict or stop competitive play they should advise Tennis Canada at tournaments@tenniscanada.com. Tennis Canada will immediately inform all members of the group and confirm the protocols for any upcoming events that have been scheduled.

