



COVID-19 GUIDELINES FOR FARMHOUSE COUPLES

(Last Update Fall 2020)

Following are the protocols and special arrangements currently in place to comply with Government restrictions, and to ensure you and your guests, as well as our staff, are protected. We will continue to monitor Government guidelines and changes that will be in place for the 2021 wedding season, and look forward to providing updated information as soon as it becomes available.

- Face coverings are not required outdoors provided physical distancing is respected, and this is easily accommodated given the size of our property. Saying your vows during COVID does not have to change - whether you are married outdoors or indoors, you do not need to wear masks when walking down the aisle or saying your vows.
- Should the Government impose a limit to gathering sizes on your wedding day (we are expecting 50 people indoors and 100 outdoors to be back in place for at least the first half of 2021), Strathmere will reduce the size of your Contract to reflect the restrictions (but no lower than a minimum billing of 25 adults). Under current distancing requirements, The Farmhouse banquet room can accommodate 30-35 people. Staff are not counted towards these numbers and neither are the vendors, provided they are not seated at guest tables. Most commonly, vendors are served in another area of the venue, and are charged at a discounted rate.
- The number of guests seated at a table will depend on what zone we are in within the Government framework. Currently, if we are in the yellow zone, the limit will be 6 guests/table. If we are in the red zone, the limit is 4 guests/table. There was a time during COVID when a maximum of 10/table was permitted. Once this information becomes available to us, we will be pleased to work with you on the seating plan.
- Venue and bar closing times will depend on where we are within the government framework. For example, there is no change to our 1:00 am closing time if we are in the green zone. In the yellow zone, the bar must close at 11pm and the venue at midnight. In the orange or red zones, the bar must close at 9pm and the venue at 10pm.
- Guests must be seated while consuming food and drink, and masks can be removed. With the size of the Farmhouse banquet room, there is an intimacy and interaction among all of the seated guests, creating a lovely atmosphere of togetherness.
- Gala cocktails and placed or passed hors d'oeuvres are currently not permitted. If this requirement remains, we will send out the necessary changes to ensure we comply (for example, plated hors d'oeuvres and bubbly served to the guests, and set-up of additional guest tables and chairs outside so guests can sit and relax to enjoy the cocktail service in the open air, weather permitting).

- All service staff wear masks and goggles, and guests must wear masks indoors when not seated consuming food & drink (ie. when going to the washroom, ordering a drink at the bar). Masks are not necessary for speeches, provided they are distanced or remain at their tables to speak.
- Music is permitted at a reduced volume, and first dance and parents dances are permitted as per usual (no masks required). Dancing is also permitted, with restrictions, and we look forward to learning more about this so we can share it with you. Strathmere is perfectly suited with plenty of outdoor space to ensure proper distancing if this is required.

We hope the above gives you some sense of what a COVID wedding might look like. We look forward to sharing further updates as they become available, and are hopeful there will be positive changes for 2021. Please be assured that Strathmere will do everything possible to put in place as many positive improvements as possible to comply with COVID guidelines while still ensuring your day is beautiful. We do recognize it may be different than the one you imagined, but nonetheless, we are completely confident and excited to offer you a very special day that your guests will love too!