



What's New

Saba Meeting | Release 8.5.16 (Update 51) | Nov 2021

saba[®]
now part of **cornerstone**

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Contents

- Limitations on Warranties and Liability.....v**
- Change log.....vii**
- New features at a glance.....viii**
 - New features at a glance.....viii
- Chapter 1: What's New in Saba Meeting 8.5.16.....9**
 - Third-party support changes.....10
 - AppShare hosts can now share device audio while sharing an application.....10
 - Breakout room enhancements.....11
 - New Breakout Timer.....11
 - Ability to save the breakout room setup.....12
 - Ability to expand and collapse all rooms.....13
 - Enhanced sorting order of users in the Breakout Rooms panel.....15
 - New drop-down action menu for main and breakout rooms and users in it.....17
 - New view-only access of Breakout Rooms panel for co-presenters.....19
 - Simultaneously move multiple participants from one room to another.....20
 - Display a raised hand icon for users.....21
 - Maintain the last microphone status in the main room.....22
 - Saba Meeting now shows a halo around the video of the current speaker.....22
 - 4:3 aspect ratio videos are now resized to fit the wider 16:9 frame size.....23
 - IE 11 - End of Support.....23
 - End of Support for Saba Meeting Browser Client.....24

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Change log

The following table summarizes the list of changes introduced in a particular version of this document.

Table 1: Summary of changes






Version	Date	Change description	Functional area	Feature
1.0	11-10-2021	Initial version	N/A	N/A
2.0	19-11-2021	Updated a topic	AppShare	AppShare hosts can now share device audio while sharing an application

New features at a glance

The following table summarizes the list of features introduced in the November 2021 release and their potential impact on your environment.

- **On by default** does not necessarily imply that the feature is immediately available to your users. It may require a user with an appropriate administrator role to turn on applicable functionality, settings, and so on.
- **NEW** indicates a new feature introduced in this update. Others are enhancements or changes to the existing functionality.

New features at a glance

Feature	On by default?	Admin setup required	Support ticket required	Affected audience
Third party support changes				All
AppShare hosts can now share device audio while sharing an application NEW				Leader Co-presenter
Breakout room enhancements				Leader Co-presenter Participants
Saba Meeting now shows a halo around the video of the current speaker				Leader Co-presenter Participants
4:3 aspect ratio videos are now resized to fit the wider 16:9 frame size				Leader Co-presenter Participants
IE 11 - End of Support				All

Chapter

1

What's New in Saba Meeting 8.5.16

Topics:

- [Third-party support changes](#)
- [AppShare hosts can now share device audio while sharing an application](#)
- [Breakout room enhancements](#)
- [Saba Meeting now shows a halo around the video of the current speaker](#)
- [4:3 aspect ratio videos are now resized to fit the wider 16:9 frame size](#)
- [IE 11 - End of Support](#)

This release for Saba Meeting contains the following new features, enhancements, and changes.



Attention: To view and use any new or enhanced client-side features, it is mandatory to upgrade your Saba Meeting client.

Saba Cloud also includes additional new features and enhancements for Meeting Administrators in a Saba Cloud - Saba Meeting integrated environment. For details, refer to the Saba Cloud *What's new* in [online community](#).

Third-party support changes

In this update, the following third-party software is now supported for Saba Meeting clients:

Table 2: Third-party support changes

Type of Software	Previously supported version	New version
Java (App client)	AdoptOpenJDK 11.0.11 (bundled with Saba Meeting App)	AdoptOpenJDK 11.0.12_7 (bundled with Saba Meeting App)

AppShare hosts can now share device audio while sharing an application

Prior to this update, when a presenter used AppShare to share a video or other media with sound, the audio from that media was not broadcasted in the event and so users in the session could not hear the audio.

This update enhances AppShare. Now, when the AppShare host shares a video or other media with sound, their device audio can also be shared with all participants in the session. The audio from the media playing on the AppShare host's device is now audible in the session. Video can be a local file, a URL, or an embedded video file in a Web page or a PowerPoint presentation.

The AppShare host can enable or disable sharing of device audio by clicking the **Share audio** check box under the **Share** menu. Clear the check box to disable audio sharing. When the host stops AppShare, the shared device audio also stops. The **Share audio** check box is displayed only after starting AppShare.

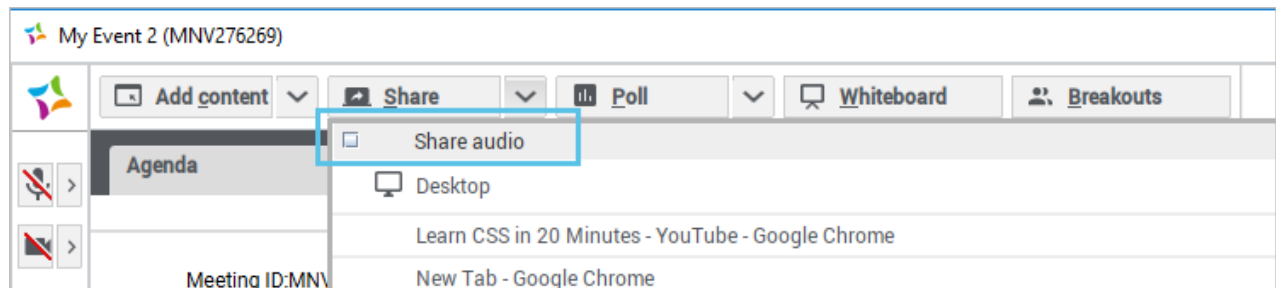


Figure 1: Share audio option during AppShare - Disabled

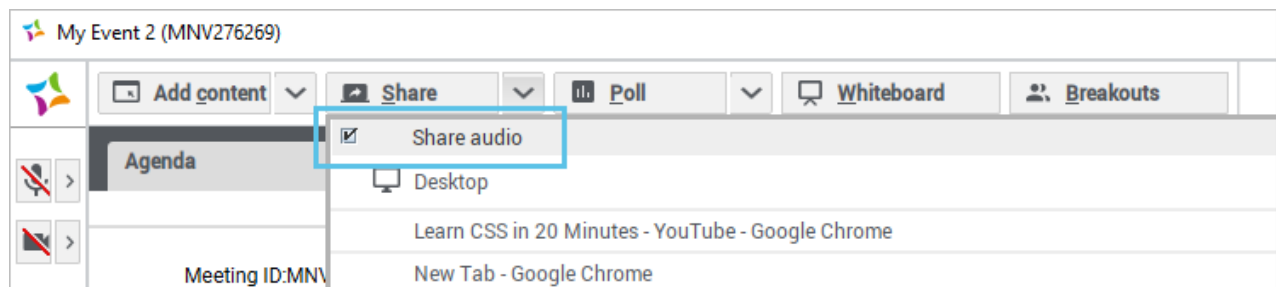


Figure 2: Share audio option during AppShare - Enabled

Notes:

- Sharing of device audio is only available for Saba Meeting App client on Windows 10.
- While sharing the device audio, the 'Voice Activity Detection' feature is disabled. So, the microphone will always stay 'active' while you share device audio.
- Windows can automatically adjust the system audio output volume when a 'Communications' audio device is in use. This can affect the level of your shared device audio. Therefore, while sharing the device audio, check the sound setting in Windows as follows: Go to the Windows 'Control Panel' and click **Sound**. In the 'Sound' panel, click the **Communications** tab, and select the 'Do nothing' option.

Breakout room enhancements

This update improves breakout rooms in the Saba Meeting App client by introducing the following enhancements:

New Breakout Timer

This update introduces the new timer functionality for breakout rooms, which allows the breakout room manager to set a predefined time in minutes after which the breakout room ends automatically.

Presenters can set the timer in the new **Breakout Timer** field in the Breakout Rooms panel. When the breakout room is started the timer starts, and when the set time ends, the breakout room stops automatically.

The values supported by the timer field are between 0 and 60 minutes, both included.

If no timer is defined in the field or if the field is set to 0 (zero) minutes, then it means that the timer is disabled and the breakout rooms do not end automatically.

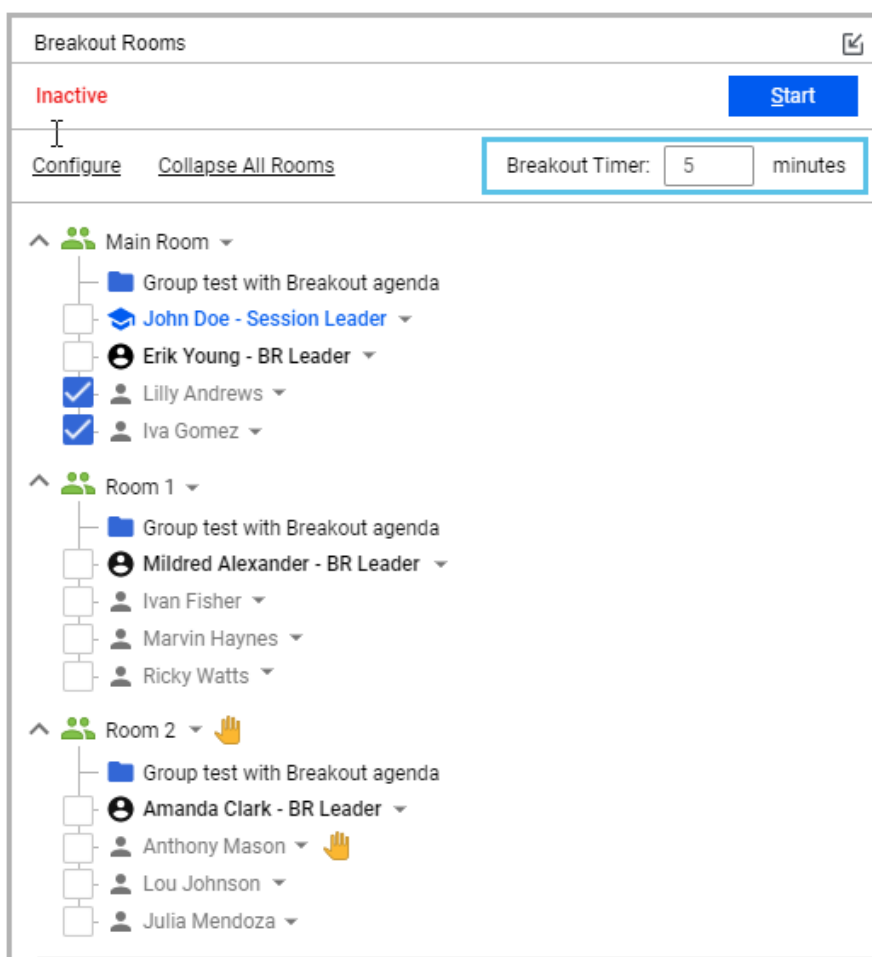


Figure 3: New Breakout Timer

The breakout room timers are displayed in the leader and participant clients while the room is running and are removed when the breakout room ends. The timer is displayed only in the breakout rooms, and not in the main room.

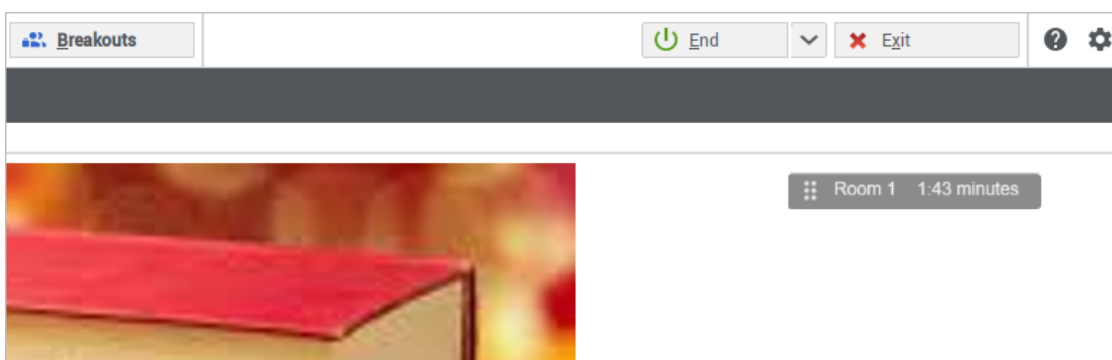


Figure 4: Breakout Timer in the client

Ability to save the breakout room setup

Now, the breakout room manager who has the breakout tool lock can save the breakout room setup like breakout groups, members list, agenda contents, and so on, using the new **Save** button on the Breakout Rooms

panel. This allows leader and co-presenters to prepare the breakout rooms setup and learners assignments in Pre-session or In-session and save for later use in the session.

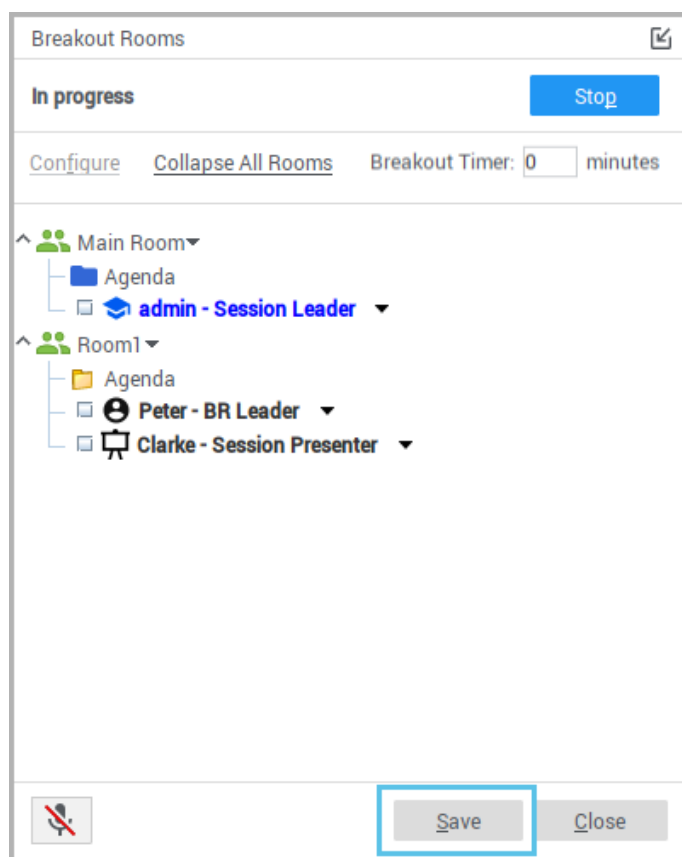


Figure 5: Save breakout room setup

For example, while a leader is conducting a session, a co-presenter can open the Breakout tool and configure the breakout rooms with content and assign learners and save the setup. Later, when the leader wants to start a breakout room, they open the tool and access the breakout room setup that was saved by the co-presenter. They can make any changes if needed or start breakouts immediately.

Users assigned to rooms are not displayed again in the rooms if they left the session or were disconnected from the session between the time the breakout room manager saved the configuration and opened it up again.

The saved breakout room setup is lost when the event ends either due to all users leaving the session or the leader terminating the session.

Note: The **Save** button is not available in the view-only mode.

Ability to expand and collapse all rooms

The Breakout Rooms panel now allows breakout room manager and co-presenters to expand and collapse all rooms simultaneously using the new **Expand All Rooms** and **Collapse All Rooms** links. When the rooms are collapsed, the panel displays the **Expand All Rooms** link. When the rooms are expanded, the same link changes to **Collapse All Rooms**.

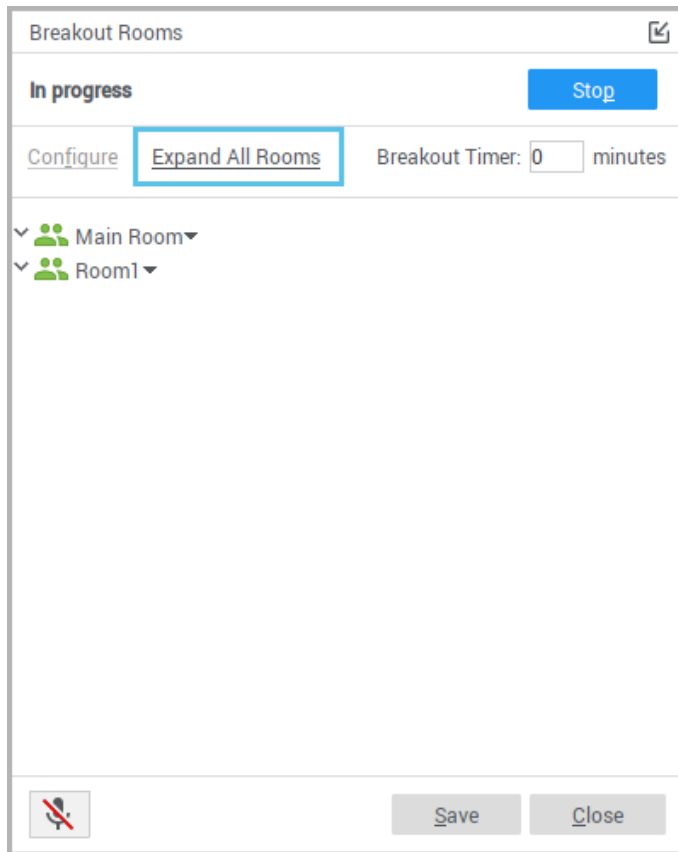


Figure 6: Expand All Rooms

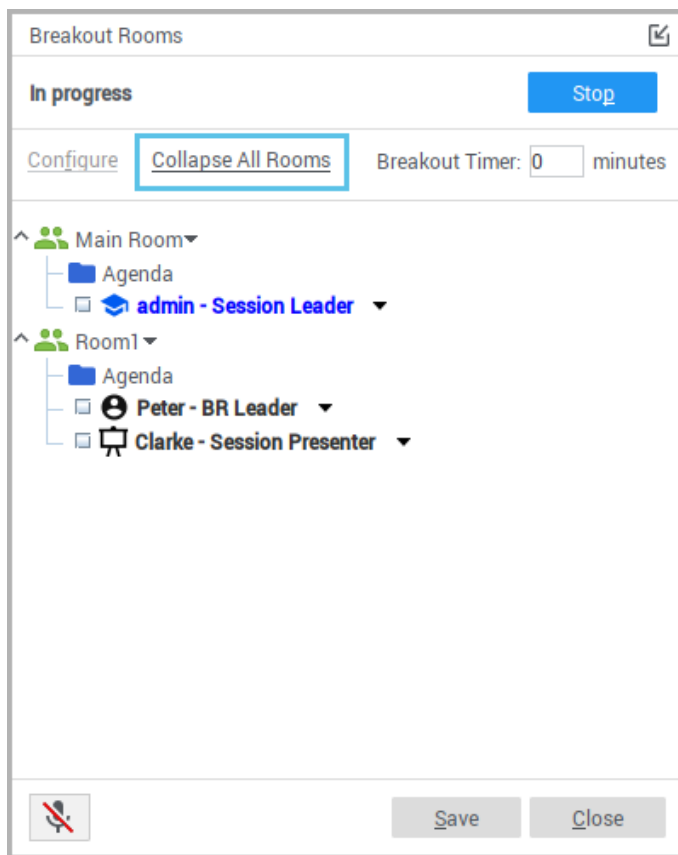


Figure 7: Collapse All Rooms

Enhanced sorting order of users in the Breakout Rooms panel

Users in the main room are displayed in the following order:

1. Session Leader
2. Session Presenters (sorted in ascending order of display name)
3. Participants (sorted in ascending order of display name)

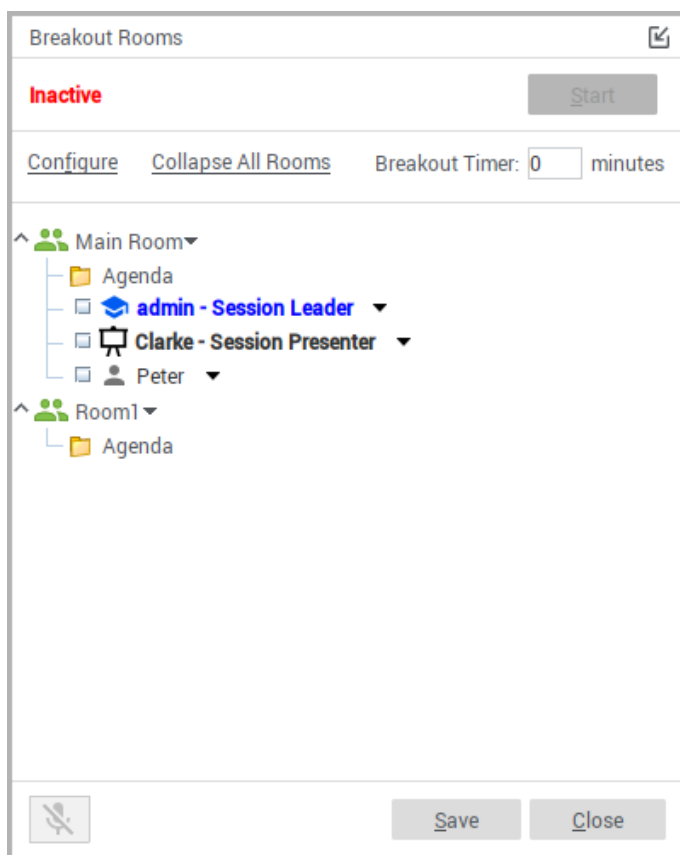


Figure 8: Sorting order of users in the main room

Users in the breakout rooms are displayed in the following order:

1. Session Leader
2. Breakout Room Leader
3. Session Presenters (sorted in ascending order of display name)
4. Participants (sorted in ascending order of display name)

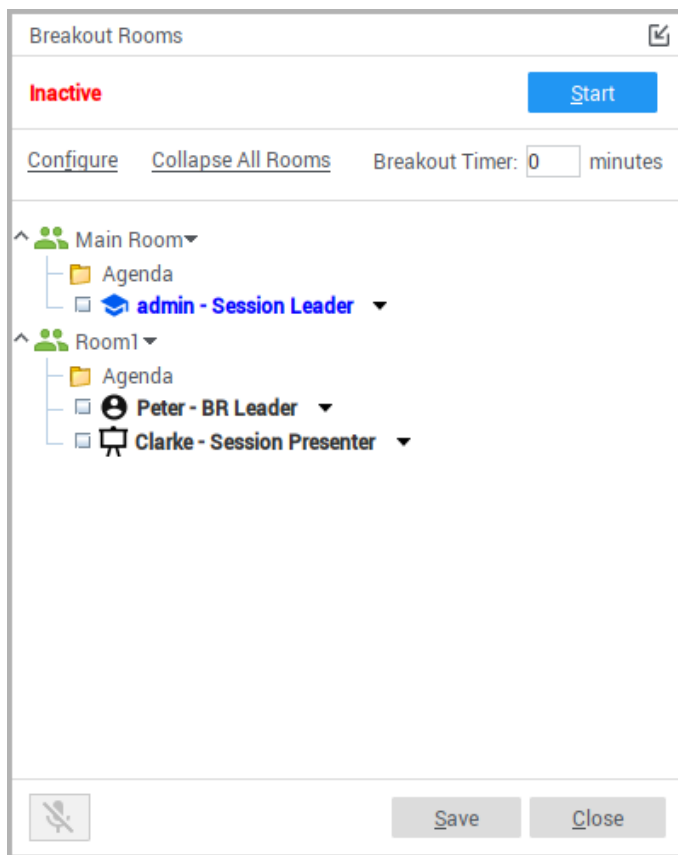


Figure 9: Sorting order of users in the breakout rooms

In both the rooms, the roles names of people are displayed besides their display names for easy identification.

New drop-down action menu for main and breakout rooms and users in it

The Breakout Rooms panel now displays a drop-down arrow icon for the main room, breakout rooms, and users in the room if any actions are available for them. For example, to move a participant from one room to another, the breakout room leader can click the drop-down arrow besides the user's name, then click **Move Participant to**, and select the room name.

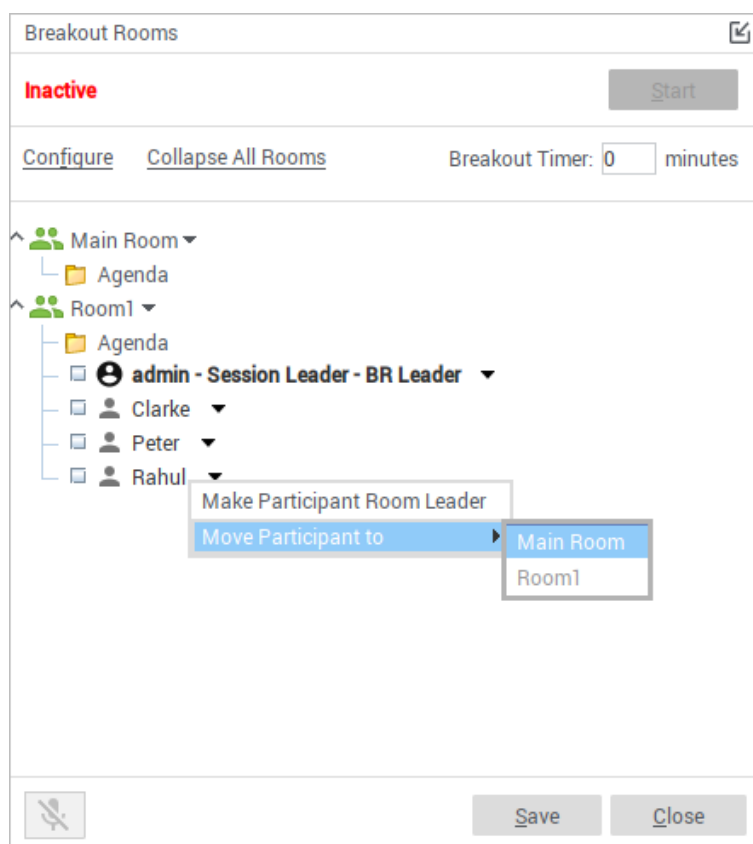


Figure 10: Move a participant to a room

If a user wants to move to another room, they can click the drop-down arrow beside the destination room and click **Go to room** and select the room name.

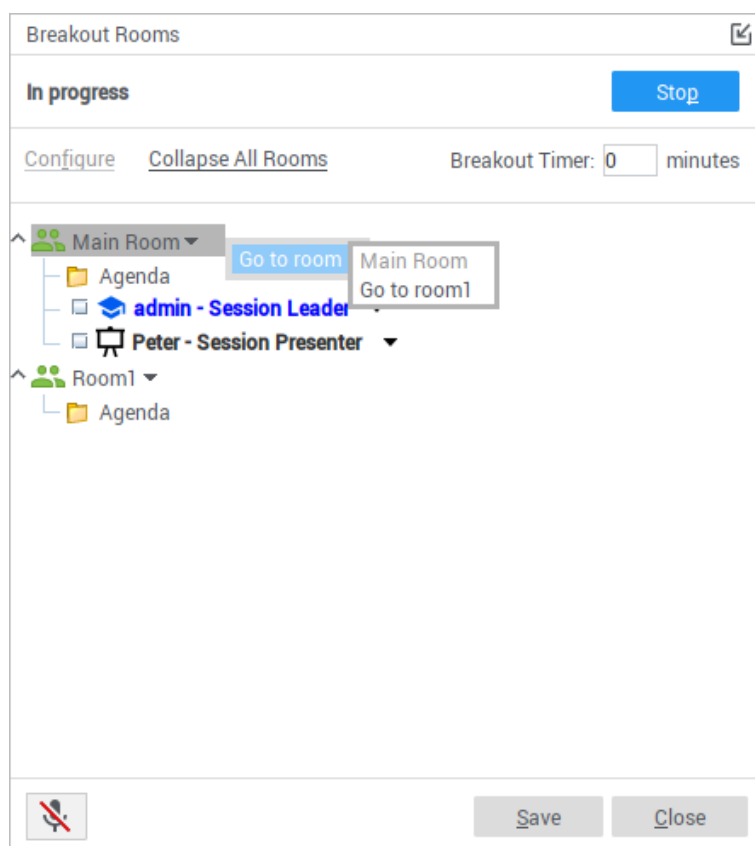


Figure 11: Go to room action

New view-only access of Breakout Rooms panel for co-presenters

Prior to this update, the Breakout Rooms panel was locked for co-presenters when the event leader had it open or a breakout room was already started.

In this update, co-presenters can now open the Breakout Room panel even when panel is already opened by the event leader and the room is started. However, co-presenters can only view the rooms and its members; they cannot perform other actions.

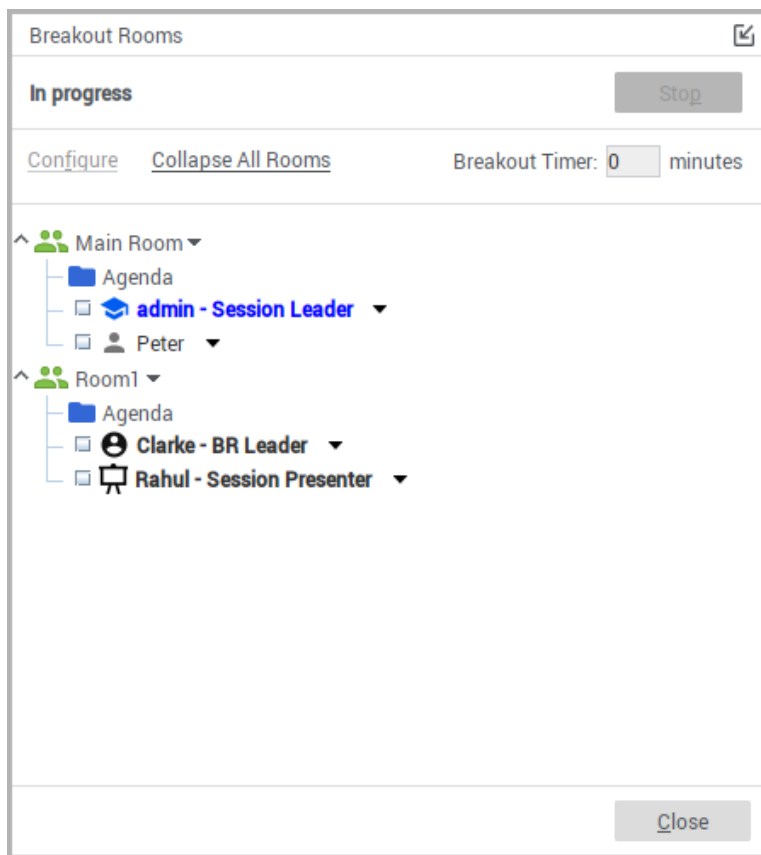


Figure 12: Co-presenter view of the Breakout Room panel

Co-presenters can only access the read-only console when breakout rooms are active. If a co-presenter clicks the **Breakouts** button while another presenter is working on setting up the breakout room but has not started the breakout, the other presenters receive an alert that the Breakout Tool is locked.

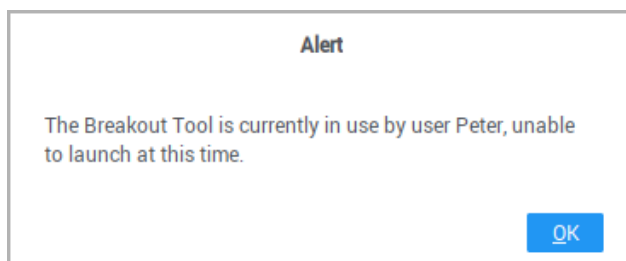


Figure 13: Breakout Tool locked alert

Simultaneously move multiple participants from one room to another

Breakout room leaders can now simultaneously move multiple participants between two breakout rooms or between a breakout room and the main room.

Select the check boxes for the required participants and then simply drag-and-drop them to the destination room.

Note: The drop operation is allowed only where a blue line appears.

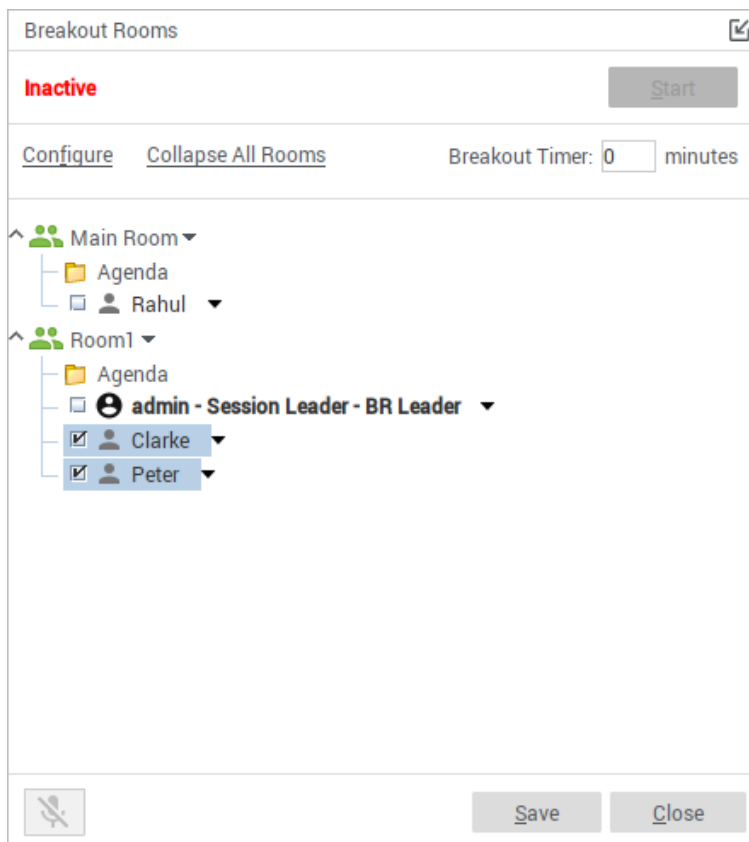


Figure 14: Move multiple participants using drag-and-drop

Display a raised hand icon for users

The Breakout Rooms panel now displays raised hand icons besides a participant and room name when the participant in the room has clicked the raise hand option in the People panel of their Saba Meeting App client. This indicates other users in the room that the user needs some help or has a query.

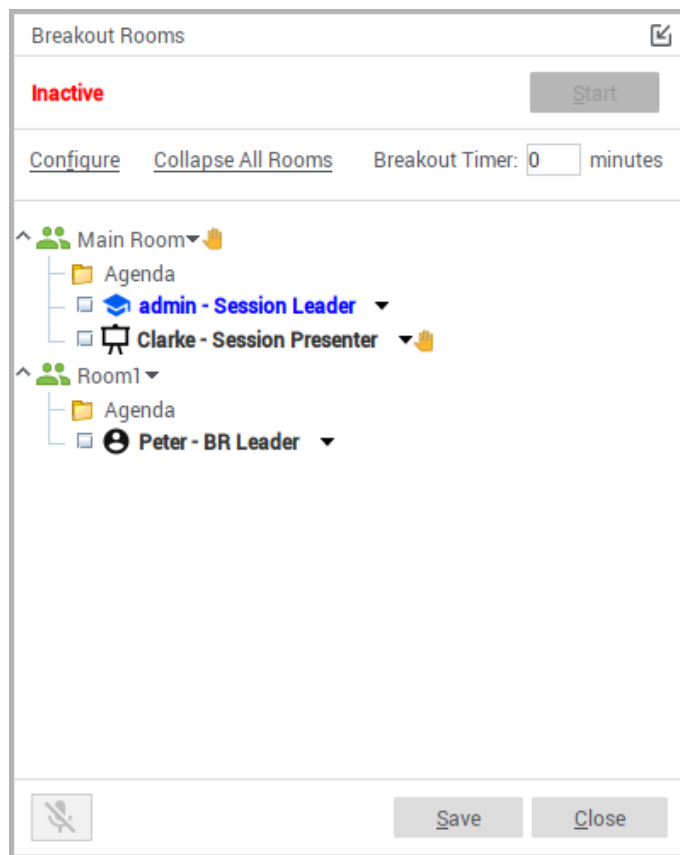


Figure 15: Display a raised hand icon

Maintain the last microphone status in the main room

When an event participant moves between the main room and the breakout room, the last microphone status in the main room is maintained. That is, if a participant's microphone is enabled in the main room and that participant is moved to a breakout room, then when the participant moves back to the main room, the microphone remains enabled for them, irrespective of the microphone status in the breakout room they were in.

Saba Meeting now shows a halo around the video of the current speaker

This update further enhances the video capabilities of the Saba Meeting client by improving the focus on the video of the current speaker.

Now, when a video user is active in the Saba Meeting client, that is, when the speaker has an active audio channel, a halo along with a yellow border is displayed around the video panel of the active user in all views. The halo is displayed to both the active user as well as all other event participants.

The halo is displayed for both HD and non-HD resolution videos.

Note: The halo is only displayed in domains that have the **Voice Activity Detection** feature enabled.

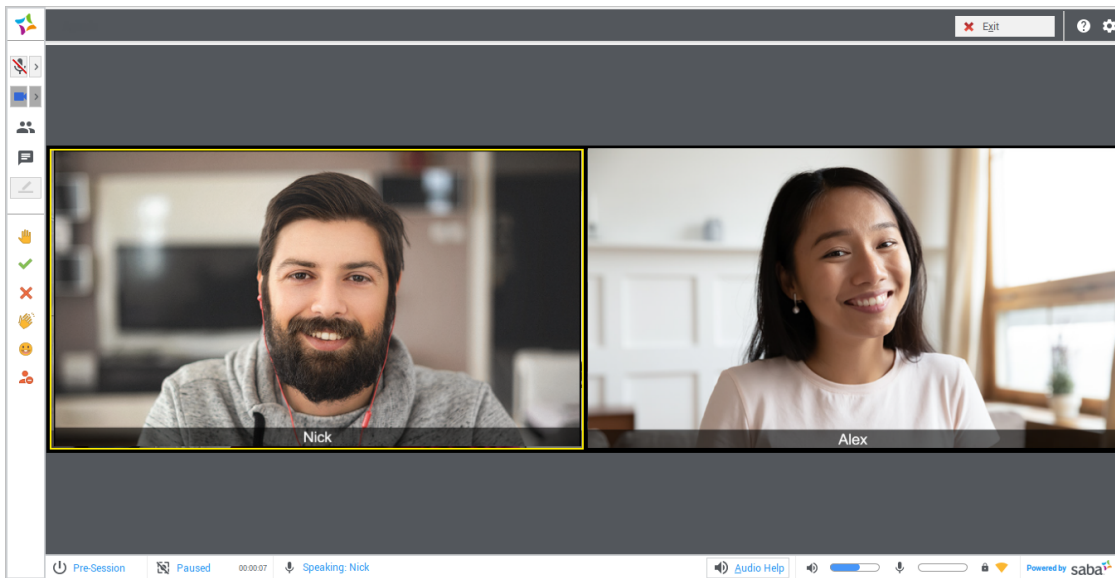


Figure 16: Halo around the video of the current speaker

When the user releases the audio, the halo is no longer displayed.

4:3 aspect ratio videos are now resized to fit the wider 16:9 frame size

Prior to this update, videos with an aspect ratio of 4:3 were adjusted to fit the 16:9 aspect ratio of video panels by including a black padding on both the sides.

This update enhances the video capability of Saba Meeting App client such that videos with an aspect ratio of 4:3 now occupy the entire 16:9 aspect ratio area of the video panels. This is accomplished by trimming the top and bottom portion of such videos so that they appear correctly in the 16:9 video frame size.

Note: This change applies to both Windows and Mac systems.

IE 11 - End of Support

As we announced in the last release, in order to keep up with browser security requirements and the latest software enhancements and to continue our focus on bringing you the most innovative technology, we will not continue to develop or test for Microsoft applications beyond their own support commitment. With the December 2021 release, we will withdraw support and compatibility testing of IE11.

Our support retirement will follow the schedule below:

- Between now and Saba Meeting 8.5.16 (Saba Cloud Update 51), we will fix critical bugs with the use of IE11 browsers.
- Beginning with Saba Meeting 8.5.17 (Saba Cloud Update 52), we will no longer be testing IE11.

- Support will completely end after Saba Meeting 8.5.16 (Saba Cloud Update 51) is available in production (General Availability: December 6th, 2021). After that time, use of Saba Meeting with IE11 may not provide a seamless user experience.

We strongly recommend that you partner with your IT teams to review your browser usage and encourage your team to upgrade to supported browsers. Microsoft recommends the use of Microsoft Edge.

End of Support for Saba Meeting Browser Client

Since the Saba Meeting Browser Client is only supported on IE 11, it will follow the same support retirement schedule as noted above for IE11. Support for the Browser Client will completely end after Saba Meeting 8.5.16 (Saba Cloud Update 51).