

Guidelines for return to competitions

Effective 19 June 2020

Introduction

Following the latest lifting of restrictions announced by the WA Government on Saturday, 6 June and the move to Phase 3 of the COVID-19 recovery roadmap, Football West will resume its competitions from Sunday, 21 June.

The easing of restrictions relating to sport and recreation from 6 June include:

- Outdoor gatherings of up to 100 people per single undivided space, and up to 300 people in total per venue over multiple spaces (100L300 rule)
- The sporting activity can now include contact, including tackling
- Equipment can be shared but should be cleaned regularly
- Change rooms and shower facilities can now open
- 2 square metres social distancing must remain in place

For more information on the Phase 3 easing of restrictions please visit the WA Government FAQs at the link below:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/phase-3-easing-of-restrictions-frequently-asked-questions>

What activities can our Associations/ Clubs/ players undertake?

As of 6 June, 2020, football activities can be undertaken in accordance with WA Government restrictions and relevant guidelines as detailed above.

Associations, Clubs and Organisations that wish to commence activities must ensure that they are approved by their land manager to do so and to ensure that all restrictions, social distancing and hygiene guidelines are adhered to and accept all associated risks.

Associations, Clubs and Organisations are encouraged to consider their insurance provisions as part of the partial resumption of activities.

A COVID Safety Plan must be prepared and displayed at all venues. The guidelines and template for the COVID Safety Plan can be found here:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/covid-19-coronavirus-sport-and-recreation>

A reminder that with the easing of some of the restrictions, the government can still apply fines. WA remains in a State of Emergency, and various restrictions are enforceable by fines of up to \$50,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for businesses. Police officers also have the power to issue \$1,000 on-the-spot fines.

The key guidelines are as follows:

- Maintain a strict limit of a minimum of two square metres (2sqm) per person
- Ensure 100 patrons per undivided space with the 2sqm per person rule, up to a maximum of 300 patrons at the venue (referred to as the 100/300 rule)
- Maintain hygiene and frequent cleaning
- Self-complete a COVID Safety Plan prior to re-opening/recommencing activity, and display a COVID Safety Plan Certificate at relevant sporting venues
- Maintain attendance records for the purposes of contact tracing
- Manage ingress and egress to ensure physical distancing
- Carefully manage shared spaces to ensure physical distancing
- Disinfect shared equipment between use
- All venues must have staff present when open

What are practical guidelines that our Association/ Club/ players can put in place?

It is important that we all take practical steps to ensuring the physical and mental wellbeing is maintained in the current environment. We recognize that often there may be individual circumstances for Associations, Clubs and participants when considering how to apply the important regulations, guidelines and frameworks. Football West emphasises that we should all take a considered and practical approach.

Football West still recommends that the football community sign up to the COVIDSafe app.

All football participants, including people playing, organizing or attending should not present to participate in any football activity if they:

- a. have any flu-like symptoms
- b. have been in direct contact with a known case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- c. have travelled internationally or have been in direct contact with a known case of COVID-19 in the past 14 days
- d. are at a high risk from a health perspective, including the elderly and those with pre-existing medical health conditions

When conducting training or playing matches, the following conditions are to be implemented:

- No more than 100 people to attend activities per single undivided space, and 300 people in total per venue over multiple spaces (100/300 rule)
- Where possible, warm-ups and pre-activity preparation such as strapping should be completed at home prior to arriving for any football activity.
- Toilets should be made available for use where possible. Restriction on the number of people using the toilets at any one time will apply dependent upon the size of the amenities. Soap and sanitiser to be made available in the toilets at all times.
- Separate rules apply for the use of places like club rooms. Club rooms must comply with gathering restrictions.
- Football West recommends players bring their own half-time and full-time snacks.
- Each player must have their own drink bottle, bottles are not to

be shared.

- Non-essential physical contact is to be limited.

Is there Personal Accident cover for a participant contracting COVID-19?

The FFA National Insurance Program Personal Accident insurance provides cover for injuries sustained by registered players whilst participating in official and sanctioned Football West activities. The Personal Accident insurance policy does not include cover for a participant contracting illness. As such there is no cover for participants under the personal accident policy if they contract COVID-19 or any other illness whilst participating in football activities.

Is there cover for the club if a participant or other member of the public contracts COVID-19 and they take action against the Club?

The FFA National Insurance Program Public Liability policy provides cover clubs for their Legal Liability arising out of allegations of Bodily Injury (including Illness) to a third party. As such, if a participant or other third party was to contract COVID-19 and took action against Football West or the club alleging that they were negligent in causing them to contract COVID-19, then prima facie, the Public Liability policy would provide coverage subject of course to the normal policy terms and conditions .

It is a condition of the Public Liability policy that the insured parties take Reasonable Care to prevent injury (including sickness) to all persons. In order to comply with this Reasonable Care condition, Clubs would need to ensure that they conduct all activities in line with direct ions of FFA and Football West and the relevant State Government directives. Failure to comply with these directions at club level could see the club in breach of the Reasonable Care condition and jeopardise their cover under the FFA National Insurance Plan

What are some useful links to assist our Association and Club in doing the right thing e.g. good hygiene and keeping clean?

1. Information about routine environmental cleaning and disinfection in the community
<https://www.health.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/2020/03/environmental-cleaning-and-disinfection-principles-for-covid-19.pdf>
2. Good Hygiene for Coronavirus
<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others-from-coronavirus-covid-19/good-hygiene-for-coronavirus-covid-19>
3. WA Government General Information - including on good hygiene and mental health
<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-national-health-plan-resources>
4. AIS Level A- General Hygiene measures
https://ais.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0006/730374/35845_AIS-Framework-for-Rebooting-Sport-Summary.pdf

- Apply personal hygiene measures even when training away from group facilities - hand hygiene regularly during training (hand sanitisers) plus strictly pre and post training
 - Do not share drink bottles, half-time fruit or towels
 - Do not attend training if unwell (contact doctor)
 - Spitting and clearing of nasal/respiratory secretions on ovals or other sport settings must be strongly discouraged
5. Environmental cleaning in non-healthcare settings

https://ww2.health.wa.gov.au/~/_/media/Files/Corporate/general%20documents/Infectious%20diseases/PDF/Coronavirus/COVID19-Environmental-Cleaning-for-workplaces.pdf

- COVID-19 Infection Control Training

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covid-19-infection-control-training>

