

CLUBS: RETURN TO PLAY CONDITIONS

State-wide | V7.3 26 November 2021



The Victorian Government has provided the following [Open Premises Directions](#) that determine the Conditions for all football activities in Victoria.

Breach of these conditions may void insurance policies under the Club's insurance policy provided through affiliation to Football Victoria (FV), may be dealt with under FV's Grievance, Disciplinary and Tribunal Bylaw (as applicable) and may incur substantial fines under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2018.

Areas that are not permitted to Return to Play are listed in the Victorian Government's published *Area Directions* available via <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19>

Frequently asked questions on navigating COVIDSafe Football requirements, please [click here](#).

For further questions regarding the Return to Play Conditions, please reach out to clubsupport@footballvictoria.com.au

Key changes from v7.2 of the conditions are highlighted in red text.

KEEPING VICTORIANS SAFE



Check in at every venue, every time



Wear a mask whenever required by VIC Government



If you feel unwell or are isolating, don't attend



Keep your distance - Stay 1.5m apart



Sanitise your hands frequently



Vaccination is not required for participation in community sport

WHAT IS PERMITTED?

This resource is based on outdoor Football. Futsal Centres and Clubs with indoor facilities, please review the 'Futsal Centres/Clubs with indoor facilities – Return to Play Conditions'



PARTICIPANTS

- Players may resume indoor and outdoor full-contact community sport training and competitions.



GROUPS

- No limits to group sizes.



SPECTATORS

- Are welcome to attend, with no limits on group sizes or crowds.



INDOOR SPACES

- Change rooms and showers are **open**.
- Facilities must be cleaned regularly, including at least twice a day for frequently touched surfaces. Ensure toilets are cleaned as per cleaning requirements.
- Density quotients are no longer applicable.



CANTEEN/CAFE

- Sporting clubs that operate a restaurant, café or canteen within its facility **can** open, provided it **follows the requirements** on hospitality venues.

VACCINATION STATUS

Anyone participating or facilitating community sport (e.g. players, coaches, volunteers) does not need to be [fully vaccinated](#) to access the facility.

If facilities, including club rooms, are used **exclusively** for community sport, patrons participating or facilitating community sport (e.g. players, coaches, volunteers) do not need to be vaccinated across the facility.

Key definitions:

- **Community sport** refers to competitions and training for the purpose of competition overseen by a state sporting association or equivalent governing body, such as Football Victoria or regional Associations. This includes entry level programs (for example MiniRoos), 'come and try' days run by state sporting associations or equivalent governing bodies, as well as training for coaches and umpires.
- **Physical recreation** is any other activity that is not associated with competition or training for competitions overseen by a state sporting association or equivalent governing body, including non-competitive casual sport and social play, community events and fitness and gym classes.

However, to access the facility for purposes other than community sport where all attendees are required to be fully vaccinated – such as a gym or hospitality – attendees must be fully vaccinated, be under **12** or have a valid medical exemption.

The exception to vaccination requirements for community sport does not extend to non-sporting activities associated with community sport, such as social/presentation nights, fundraising events or committee meetings. All attendees **12 years and over** must be fully vaccinated and a COVID Check-In Marshal must also be present to check the vaccination status of attendees. It is highly encouraged that you seek confirmation of the ability to use Clubrooms for purposes outside of community sport from the landowner (i.e. Council) before proceeding.

Employees

For Clubs with employees, please refer to the [Mandatory Vaccination \(Workers\) Directions](#) to confirm if they are required to be fully vaccinated to attend work.

RE-OPENING CHECKLIST

If your Club has yet to access your facility, before scheduling your first training session, Clubs must ensure that the following items are in place:

- ☐ Clubs must source written approval from the landowner (e.g. Council) before training commences. Comply with any additional requirements imposed by the landowner.
- ☐ Review your COVIDSafe Plan (see FV template on [COVID-19 Football Portal](#)).
- ☐ Set up attendance records: Must be collected of all people entering the venue using the [Service Victoria free QR code service](#). Paper based records may only be used as a backup if an individual cannot access the QR Code.

Key tips!

- Suggest to your Club Members to select your home ground as a 'favourite' to minimize gathering at entry points.
 - Activate Team Managers as COVID Check-In Marshals to ensure that their team have checked-in and complying with COVID requirements.
 - For venues with no distinct entry/exit point, place QR code on light posts and other fixed points around your home ground.
- ☐ Confirm availability and schedule shifts for COVID Check-In Marshals. FV has created a COVID Check-In Marshal [Position Description](#) and [Checklist](#) to assist Clubs with this process.

- ☐ Communicate with members aged 18 and under (and their parents/guardians) about the Return to Play Conditions included in this document:
 - Provide a copy of the *Players, Parents and Guardians Return to Play Conditions*.
- ☐ Communicate with all club officials, coaches and anyone coordinating training sessions to ensure they have read and are familiar with the Club's obligations. Refer Club Coaches to the *Coaches Return to Play Conditions*.
- ☐ Facilities must be cleaned regularly, including at least twice a day for frequently touched surfaces. Ensure toilets are cleaned as per cleaning requirements. For further information on the latest infection prevention control, please visit [DHHS's Cleaning Guidelines](#).
- ☐ If the Club intends to open a Food and Drink Facility, comply with applicable requirements (Refer to 'Food and Drink Facilities' section below).
- ☐ Ensure tight controls on access/keys – this includes keeping a record of the person responsible for access/keys on the list of attendees.
- ☐ Ensure the venue meets all conditions in this document.
- ☐ Ensure that all players and coaches are appropriately registered on PlayFootball.
- ☐ Order hand sanitiser and cleaning equipment.

DURING TRAINING & COMPETITION:

- ☐ Have a COVID Check-In Marshal stationed at all entrances/**around the venue**.
- ☐ Facilities are cleaned at least twice daily when in use, with communal facilities and contact surfaces disinfected – advice on cleaning is found at the [DHHS website](#).
- ☐ All equipment including balls must be cleaned **and** disinfected before each session.
 - **Wear gloves when cleaning and disinfecting. Gloves should be discarded after each clean. If it is necessary to use reusable gloves, gloves should only be used for COVID-19 related cleaning and disinfection and should not be used for other purposes. Wash reusable gloves with soap and water after use and leave to dry. Clean hands immediately after removing gloves.**
 - **Thoroughly clean surfaces using detergent (soap) and water.**
 - **Apply disinfectant to surfaces using disposable paper towel or a disposable cloth. If non-disposable cloths are used, ensure they are laundered and dried before reusing.**
 - **Ensure surfaces remain wet for the period of time required to kill the virus (contact time) as specified by the manufacturer. If no time is specified, leave for 10 minutes.**

A one-step detergent/disinfectant product may be used as long as the manufacturer's instructions are followed regarding dilution, use and contact times for disinfection (that is, how long the product must remain on the surface to ensure disinfection takes place).

For more information on cleaning and disinfecting to reduce COVID-19 transmission [click here](#).

- ☐ Regular and thorough hand washing is promoted via prominent signage (including at entry and exit points – to be marked as such) around the venue. Signage is available to download via our [Return to Football portal](#) and via the [Victorian Government](#).

- ☐ Prominent signage (including at entry and exit points to be marked as such) around the venue instructing people when not to attend training/match day.
- ☐ Hand sanitiser dispensers are provided in prominent places around the venue (including entry and exit points) and are regularly refilled.
- ☐ Soap dispensers in toilets are regularly refilled.
- ☐ Bins are provided around the venue and regularly emptied.

WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE WHO HAS ATTENDED YOUR VENUE TESTS POSITIVE TO COVID-19?

As per the sector guidance for [Sport, Exercise and Physical Recreation businesses](#) within Victoria, workplaces include facilities used predominantly for outdoor sport or physical recreation, including Football Clubs. Information and advice for businesses who have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the workplace should be adhered to.

For the detailed steps of what to do next, please [click here](#).

Please note Football Victoria are here to support Clubs and Associations throughout this process, however we are not able to provide advice or direction.

FOOD AND DRINK FACILITIES:

Sporting clubs that operate a café, restaurant, fast-food store, cafeteria, canteen or licensed premises within its facility may reopen, provided it strictly adheres to the [requirements on hospitality venues](#) (including vaccination requirements).

In advance of opening a food and drink facility, clubs must consult the [Industry Restart Guidelines - Hospitality \(including electronic gaming\)](#) and carry out the actions required included but not limited to the following:

- ☐ Create a plan for their business that takes into account these guidelines as well as guidance from WorkSafe Victoria
- ☐ Display hygiene, physical distancing and wayfinding signage to emphasise to staff and patrons the expectation on all of us to stay safe
- ☐ Encourage all staff and managers to complete the Victorian Government online COVID-19 training, including ensuring at least one staff member at the venue has completed the training
- ☐ Register for the Victorian Government [free QR code service](#) in order to comply with the contact tracing requirements.
- ☐ Workers and patrons must wear a face mask where required by the State Government and/or where physical distancing is not possible (unless an exemption applies).
- ☐ Food and drink facilities opening for takeaway only do not require patrons to be vaccinated **and do not require a designated COVID Check-In Marshal**.
- ☐ **Vaccination status must be checked upon entry – all patrons must be fully vaccinated.**