

## CRICKET VICTORIA COVID-19 UPDATE #20 (Feb 15)

Further to the two COVID-19 updates provided by Cricket Victoria ("CV") on Friday February 12<sup>th</sup>, please note the following update for today (Monday Feb 15):

### Last weekend

Congratulations to Associations and their member clubs for acting quickly on hearing the State Government announcement of the 'circuit-breaker' style lockdown to be enforced across Victoria. Whilst the new restrictions technically came into effect from 11.59pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup>, many Associations made the judgement call to also cancel cricket activity for the Friday as well. As per our note on Friday, CV strongly encouraged Associations to consider this option, but certainly noted that matches could proceed under the State Government rules.

### Re-scheduling of planned matches from Fri 12<sup>th</sup> to Wed 17<sup>th</sup>?

Associations no doubt will have already considered (or will soon consider) whether matches that did not proceed during the lockdown period should be cancelled or postponed. Ultimately Associations will be guided by what their rules currently allow. CV supports Associations applying their existing rules to decide whether matches are considered a draw or are postponed to a set date.

Where Associations do not have rules to cover the matter and are looking for guidance from CV, our recommendation would be to treat the weekend like a weather affected round. If you had a future pre-set 'make-up' date already set in the calendar for re-scheduling a round, this could be used. If not already locked in the calendar, one-day games that were due to be played would be considered a draw. If last weekend was the first day of a two-day game, then those would revert to one day games this weekend under normal rules. Where a future date that was not already set in the calendar is now planned, this could cause issues for other cricket users of the same ground, players who have other commitments on that date, may lead to increased chances of injury with additional matches added in and become problematic with finals due to commence soon. Ultimately Associations will be guided by their rules and/or wishes of their member clubs – however this guidance is offered should it be required.

### Curators ability to prepare wickets?

CV has sought clarity from the State Government to ascertain whether curators could commence turf wicket preparation before the end of the current stage 4 lockdown period (Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> at 11.59pm) to maximise the chances of matches on turf wickets commencing this weekend. The State Government are reviewing this and will respond to CV asap.

### Hot spots

Please ensure that your network continues to monitor the list of identified COVID-19 hot spots and adhere to the requirements around the hot spots. <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/case-locations-and-outbreaks-covid-19> Similarly everyone must get tested if they develop any COVID-19 like symptoms.

### Return of cricket?

During the lockdown, someone can exercise outdoors with members of their household (or one person they don't live with) for up to 2 hours per day within 5km from home. [Link here for full details.](#)

We currently expect that the State Government position regarding when cricket can return will be made in line with wider commentary about the post lockdown period on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup>. When cricket does return (hopefully from Thursday 18<sup>th</sup>), it remains imperative that all cricket training sessions, matches, functions and meetings strictly adhere to the protocols that have been in place all season. This will help to reduce the chances of spreading the virus at the club / within the local community and also may allow cricket to return quicker should another lockdown be announced by the State Government. With cricket finals around the corner, now is not the time to be complacent.

*Prepared by Paul Milo (CV Head of Member Services) – 15/2/2021*