

PREVENTATIVE - COVID-19 BEST PRACTICE GUIDE *(Jan 7, '22)*

Clubs are required to meet/exceed current State Government direction and any requirements from the local facility owner/manager (e.g. council, school, university). Cricket Victoria has developed a range of guides, FAQs and posters to assist clubs consider their options via <https://www.cricketvictoria.com.au/clubs-support/covid-19/>

Should a COVID positive case attend a cricket event, (training, match or social activity), the Department for Health ("Dep. Health") may provide guidance regarding whether matches should be postponed as a result. This decision will be based on the general isolation rules in place at the time and the practices in place by the club at the relevant 'exposure event'.

TOP TIPS THAT CLUBS SHOULD CONSIDER TO REDUCE THEIR RISK EXPOSURE

In addition to simply meeting current requirements surrounding QR code check-in, mask use, vaccination requirements etc. the following are tips that clubs should consider. Remember: quality protocols = reduced likelihood of the virus spreading and increased chances of Dep. Health confirming that all team mates simply need to monitor for symptoms (*compared to getting tested & isolating until returning a negative test result*)

SOME TIPS	BEST PRACTICE	GOOD PRACTICE
# 1 tip: Stay outside	- Stay outdoors and stay 1.5m from others at all times (before, during & after cricket)	- Spend less than 15 minutes together indoors & stay outdoors 48 hours before matches
Vaccination	- All players, volunteers & umpires are fully vaccinated	- Strong encouragement for full vaccination
Symptoms? Stay away	- Many posters up. Regular reminders to stay away, get tested & isolate until negative test received	- Posters up and reminders conducted about requirements
Rapid tests	- Require players to have Rapid Antigen test kit available should a match day test be required	- Ensure that the club have some Rapid Antigen tests on hand
Indoor access	- Only vaccinated players / coaches allowed inside - Mask use when indoors (8 years & over) - No club/team meetings held indoors - Nobody spends more than 15 minutes at a time indoors with another person - Closed for training nights	- Unvaccinated spectators disallowed in indoor areas - Mask use when indoors (8 years & over) - Ensure that time spent indoors is under 15 minutes at training - No indoor gatherings in the period 48 hours prior to matches. This reduces chances of players awaiting test results on match day
On field	- No physical contact at all (no high fives, handshakes or team huddles)	- Physical contact minimised (elbow / fist bumps post game only)
Food / drink	- Consumed outdoors only - BYO - Vaccinated volunteers serving in the canteen	- Consumed indoors but people spend less than 15 minutes indoors - No share plates of food (i.e. people not touching the same food plate / cordial container)
QR codes	- Several check-in posters in place indoor and out - Regular reminders - Closely monitor checks-in every time - Regular spot audits of phones	- Posters in place - Reminders take place - Monitoring of check-in occurs
Match ball	- Sanitised at breaks and no sweat/saliva used at any stage	- Sanitised at breaks. No saliva to be used. Sweat allowed (other than from neck/head area)
Equipment	- No sharing of equipment	- Equipment cleaned between uses
Spectators	- Don't attend training & keep distance at matches	- Can attend but maintain distance from players

ONGOING ADVICE

Please continue to check out the [COVID-19 section of the CV website](#) regularly for updates

REACTIVE - COVID CASE FLOW CHART (Jan 7 '22)

N.B.: The below is a guide only to assist Associations and Clubs.
Official advice from the Dep. Health will take precedence over the information provided below.

Person feels unwell &/or required to get tested via COVID test.
N.B.: Must isolate until result is known.

NEGATIVE COVID TEST

Notify people who knew you were getting a test to let them know you tested negative. Continue daily Rapid Antigen tests where required to do so

POSITIVE COVID TEST RESULT

Immediately after getting result:

- 1) **Review** <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/checklist>
- 2) **Contact** family, household, cricket club, work, people you have spent time with in recent days. (If unsure what to say, a template message is on the above website)
- 3) **Seek** medical assistance if required
- 4) **Quarantine** for 7 days (no further test required)
- 5) **Report** your Rapid Antigen Test positive result to Dept. Health by phone 1800 675 398 or complete the on-line form (if Rapid Test is used) <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/node/22270>

"OTHER / SOCIAL CONTACTS"

Those who spent time with the COVID positive case and aren't household contacts i.e. 15 minutes+ in face to face contact and/or spent 2 hours in the same indoor space with a positive case

A detailed guide on actions to take, who needs to be told (& how) can be found here - <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/checklist-cases>

Follow the regularly changing advice on the website for actions to take (testing, isolation etc.)

"HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS"

Those who live with the COVID positive case plus those who spent 4+ hours with them at their residence are deemed "household / household like" contacts. Required to get tested & isolate asap. Don't leave the house unless getting tested or for medical / emergency reasons). Fines are in place.

COVID test required on day 1 & 6

7 day quarantine period - & can leave isolation on day 7 after negative day 6 result. N.B.: Rapid Antigen Test is adequate (PCR test if there is no access to a Rapid Test)

RECOMMENDED ASSOCIATION ACTIONS

- 1) Support the affected club(s) where possible with any guidance / support noting the required club actions.
- 2) Continue to monitor ever changing COVID rules.
- 3) Keep in regular contact with your local Cricket Manager about the status of cases within the Association to discuss options
- 4) Decide the impact for any upcoming matches based on Association rules e.g. impacted club to field as many teams as possible based on the number of eligible players. The lowest XI is called off before higher XI matches are called off. Matches that can't be re-scheduled are deemed a draw.

N.B.: The Association can investigate to confirm the bonafides of the need to cancel matches including seeking proof of COVID-19 positive result & timing.

RECOMMENDED CLUB ACTIONS

- 1) **Review** the checklist here - <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/checklist-cases>
- 2) **Inform** those who have been in contact with the COVID person – including the Association.
- 3) **Abide** by Association decisions
- 4) **Keep** in contact with any club person isolating to check on their health and isolation compliance
- 5) **Reconsider** the need for any training sessions (or club held function) in the next 24-48 hours
- 6) **Increase** vigilance on COVID compliance

MATCH DAY GUIDANCE – POSITIVE COVID CASES *(Jan 7 '22)*

When in doubt check with Dept. Health (1800 675 398).
Dept. Health advice will take precedence over the CV guidance below:

WHEN IS A RAPID ANTIGEN TEST SUITABLE?

Full PCR test are to be used:

- if required by Dept. Health; and
- when a Rapid Antigen Test is not available.

In all other situations a Rapid Antigen Test is suitable.

Those undertaking a Rapid Antigen Test still need to isolate away from others until they receive a result. A negative result will allow the person taking the test to participate in the match however they must monitor for symptoms and strongly adhere to heightened COVID protocols before, during and after the match (e.g. avoid indoor time spent with others, avoid physical contact, always maintain 1.5m distance, avoid sharing equipment, mask recommended when outdoors & off-field).

A list of approved [Rapid Antigen Tests](#) is available here and can be purchased in-store or on-line from places such as [Chemist Warehouse](#) for \$10-\$15 per test (packs of 2 or 5) – when stocks are available.

CAN A MATCH BE DELAYED WHILST PLAYERS ARE AWAITING A NEGATIVE TEST RESULT?

Home & Away

Association rules will dictate whether matches can be delayed and for how long whilst players are awaiting negative test results. Associations should ideally prioritise matches proceeding (even if delayed) as opposed to cancelling matches and provide clear instructions to clubs to address the impact of match day tests.

Finals

The same rules that apply for Home & Away matches should apply to finals, however Associations may consider using Reserve Days if a team cannot field a team due to the impact of COVID.

SHOULD A MATCH CONTINUE IF ONE OR MORE PLAYERS BECOME AWARE THEY MAY BE SOCIAL CONTACTS DURING THE MATCH?

- 1) If required, Dept. Health advice (1800 675 398) can be gained & their advice followed – explaining the situation e.g. *players trained up to 3 hours outdoors (& spent no more than 15 minutes indoors) with a COVID positive case. Explain COVID protocols in place on match day & ask whether players / officials should monitor for symptoms or for the game be called off immediately and people asked to get tested.*
- 2) Pass on the DHHS advice to the Association asap & check for their rules about continuation.

N.B.: If Associations require guidance from Cricket Victoria, the following can be used:

If not required to immediately cease by Dept. Health or the Association, the match may continue however all attendees strongly adhere to heightened COVID protocols during and after the match (e.g. avoid indoor time spent with others, avoid physical contact, always maintain 1.5m distance, avoid sharing equipment, mask recommended when outdoors & off-field). Anyone who shows any signs of COVID symptoms during the match must get a COVID test, isolate immediately and not return to the game until a negative test is received.