

COVID Safe NETBALL ACTIVITIES

GUIDANCE FOR NETBALL ASSOCIATIONS RUNNING TOURNAMENTS

The following information is provided to assist and support netball associations to prepare a safe environment for netball activities, including tournaments. The following information is intended to offer guidance only, it is not mandated that the information is adhered to.

Netball Associations and event organisers must ensure that planned netball activities do not compromise the health of individuals or the community.

Netball Victoria's Return to Community Netball guidelines and all related resources and information can be found at <https://vic.netball.com.au/covid-19-information> Additional support can be requested via email participation@netballvic.com.au

COVID SAFE PRINCIPLES:

The Victorian Government has released six COVIDSafe principles.

1. Ensure physical distancing
2. Wear a face mask
3. Practice good hygiene
4. Keep records and act quickly if participants, volunteers or organisers become unwell
5. Avoid interactions in enclosed spaces
6. Create workforce/activity bubbles

COVIDSAFE PLANS AND COVIDSAFE EVENT PLANS

All Netball Associations must develop a COVIDSafe Plan. Where the maximum capacity for a venue is 500 or more, a COVIDSafe Plan must be published on the Association's website. A COVIDSafe Plan template is available on Netball Victoria's website <https://vic.netball.com.au/resources-1>

The COVIDSafe Plan should be reviewed and updated along with any changes to public health advice, Victorian Chief Health Officer directions or the easing or tightening of restrictions.

Local Council and/or venue managers should be contacted prior to the event. Request any specific information and advice relevant to running an event at the venue.

Depending on the expected attendance, a netball tournament or other netball event may be classified as a Public Event. Associations planning a public event have a legal responsibility to ensure the event is planned in accordance with current public health advice.

Events anticipating between 1000 to 5000 attendees, are required to submit a COVIDSafe Event Plan to the Victorian Government for public health approval. This process may take between 4-6 weeks. All information regarding Public Events can be found here <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/public-events-information-for-organisers#what-is-a-public-event>

CAPACITY LIMITS AND DENSITY REQUIREMENTS

Where possible, hold the event at an outdoor venue.

- The current venue capacity limit of outdoor venues is 1,000 people.
- This density quotient for outdoor venues is one person per two square metres if using a QR code or electronic record keeping system, or one person per four square meters if using manual record keeping system.
- The venue capacity limit of indoor venues is subject to the density quotient of one person per four square metres.

1. ENSURE PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Ensure participants remain 1.5metres apart, except when engaging in physical activity.
- Mark entry and exit points at the venue to manage the flow of pedestrian traffic.
- Measure all indoor spaces to determine the capacity limit.
- All indoor spaces are subject to the density quotient of one person per four square meters.
- Provide physical barriers and/or floor markings to ensure physical distancing can be maintained.
- Display signage to indicate the maximum number of people permitted in any indoor space. The Return to Community Netball – Capacity Limit Sign can be found at <https://vic.netball.com.au/resources-1>
- If available, use the Public Address system to remind patrons of the key messages; record your attendance, maintain 1.5 metre physical distance, etc.
- Regularly wipe down microphones with disinfectant.

2. WEAR A FACE MASK.

- You must ensure all participants, volunteers and organisers attending the venue are aware of the requirements to wear or carry a face mask.
- Public health advice on masks changes regularly. For the latest directions go to <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/face-masks-when-wear-face-mask> or look for Netball Victoria's Face Mask resource at <https://vic.netball.com.au/resources-1>

3. PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE AND IMPLEMENT THOROUGH CLEANING PROTOCOLS.

- Provide hand sanitising dispensers at entry and exit points and throughout the venue.

EQUIPMENT

- Minimise the use of shared equipment.
- Players within the team may exchange bibs, but do not share bibs between teams.
- Equipment must be cleaned and sanitised between each session.
- Team benches, scorers' benches, public seating areas must be cleaned and sanitised between each session.

FIRST AID

- Ensure all participants are registered Netball Victoria members.
- Each team should provide their own first aid kit.
- Do not reuse ice packs.
- First aid officers should wear disposable gloves and should wear a face mask when administering treatment.
- All first aid equipment must be sanitised between each use.
- Any treatment equipment, including treatment tables, must be sanitised after each use.
- First Aid rooms must be measured and comply with density quotients.
- Display signage at the door to indicate the maximum number of people permitted in the first aid area.
- Where possible strapping and taping should be completed by the individual.

CLEANING

- Manage and monitor the movement of patrons through communal areas and ensure they can maintain 1.5 metre physical distancing.
- Provide physical barriers or floor markings to ensure physical distancing can be maintained.
- Regularly clean change rooms, toilets, and other communal areas with disinfectant.

- Maintain a cleaning log to ensure this is completed regularly.
- Events with high patronage will require more frequent cleaning throughout the day.
- If the event is run across two separate sessions, all communal areas, including change rooms and toilets must be thoroughly cleaned between each session.
- Display health and hygiene posters around your venue.

4. RECORD KEEPING

- Recording attendance is an important responsibility and must be implemented at all community netball events.
- The use of technology and QR codes is strongly encouraged.
- Netball Victoria recommends the use of the State Government Service Victoria QR Code. For more information click here <https://vic.netball.com.au/resources-1>
- Everyone attending your venue must record their attendance including first name, phone number, date and time of attendance.
- All staff and volunteers must record their attendance.
- To minimise the build-up of people waiting to enter the venue, place multiple copies of the QR code in various areas throughout the venue.

5. AVOID INTERACTIONS IN ENCLOSED SPACES

ADMINISTRATION

- Restrict the number of people entering the administration office to only those necessary.
- Reduce the amount of time staff or volunteers are spending in enclosed spaces
- Enhance airflow by opening windows and doors in indoor spaces.

CANTEEN

- Restrict the number of people entering the canteen to only those necessary.
- Roster people in groups in shifts and avoid groups crossing over or mingling.
- Avoid groups of people gathering at the canteen.
- Reduce or remove the offer of food options that take time to prepare.
- Use 'grab and go' options.
- Where possible, provide an entry and exit point for the canteen.
- Provide floor markings to indicate 1.5 metre physical distance.
- Where possible, provide multiple food and beverage outlets across the venue to avoid groups congregating.
- If you chose to separate age groups based on court location, consider offering multiple food and beverage outlets to avoid groups mingling.

CHANGE AREAS AND TOILETS

- Groups of no more than 50 people should gather in any indoor space, and subject to the density quotient of one person per four square metres.
- Manage and monitor change rooms and ensure the density quotient of one person per four square metres is adhered to.
- Manage lines for toilets and ensure people can maintain 1.5 metre physical distance.
- Use floor markings in areas where people may need to line up or wait.
- Display signage to indicate the maximum number of people permitted in an indoor space.

SPECTATORS

- Spectators are permitted, subject to gathering restrictions.
- If you decide to impose further restrictions on spectators, communicate the conditions very clearly to all participants and attendees.
- Spectators must record their attendance including first name, phone number, date and time of attendance.

- Groups of no more than 100 people should gather in any space, and subject to the density quotient of one person per two square metres at outdoor venues, and one person per four square metres at indoor venues.
- Ensure spectators can maintain 1.5metres physical distance.
- Encourage patrons to avoid car-pooling or travelling together.

6. CREATE ACTIVITY BUBBLES

MANAGING GROUPS

- For regular competition, we recommend allowing 10-minutes between matches to limit groups crossing over or mingling. This may not be practical during a tournament format.
- Instead, consider one or more of the following:
 - Separate age groups by time; for example, run 13/U in a morning session and 15/U and 17/U in an afternoon session.
 - Allow time in between the morning and afternoon sessions to avoid groups crossing over and mingling.
 - Separate age groups by court location; for example, run 13/U on courts 1, 2, and 3 and 15/U on courts 4, 5 and 6.
 - Hold the event over two-days and spread team entries across two separate dates.
- Do not allow participants to play across multiple teams.
- Do not allow participants to carry out multiple roles; for example, play in the morning session and umpire in the afternoon session.
- Recommend that coaches are not coaching multiple teams or across multiple sessions.
- Mark out areas for team marquees and allow space in between each area.

UMPIRES

- Limit the number of umpires gathering or congregating together.
- Consider providing multiple umpire break areas.
- Consider providing umpire break areas in an outdoor space, such as a marquee.
- Separate umpires by time or by court location; for example, roster umpires across a morning session and an afternoon session.
- Separate umpires by court location; for example, group one on courts 1, 2, and 3 and group two on courts 4, 5 and 6.
- Provide an electronic copy of the umpire roster to avoid umpires gathering in one area.

TEAM CHECK-IN

- Offer multiple check in points to avoid large groups of people congregating.
- Provide check in points in outdoor areas.
- Consider offering an electronic check-in option for teams. Create a separate QR code which team managers can use to check-in and gather any relevant information.

COMPETITION MANAGEMENT

- Create and publish fixtures on MyNetball.
- Make full use of the MyNetball App.
- Avoid printing or publishing ladders and placing them in a communal area. Use the MyNetball App

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Review the need for other entertainment activities such as sponsor activations, face painters, jumping castles etc and assess the additional risks.