

ACC SPORT & EVENTS COVID-SAFE PLAN



The Associated Catholic Colleges is committed to providing a COVID-safe environment for our member schools as they participate in the various sporting, cultural and leadership activities of the Association throughout 2022. Whilst each school will implement its own COVID-safe plan, it is expected that all students, staff, officials, coaches and spectators will abide by the safety guidelines in place within this Plan to help support the safety of all participants.

ORGANISATION DETAILS:

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This plan is based on the most up to date information provided by the Victorian Government (DHHS), Catholic Education Melbourne, Sport & Recreation Victoria and School Sport Victoria. For further information, please refer to the relevant websites. Guidelines are provided on each of the key COVID-safe principles for Victorian schools:

COVID-SAFE BEHAVIOURS, SPACES, ACTIVITIES, RISKS & RECORD KEEPING

VERSION CONTROL
January 31st, 2022

1. REINFORCE COVID-19 SAFE BEHAVIOURS

RESPONSIBILITIES:

ACC STAFF

HOST SCHOOL

VISITING SCHOOL

VENUE OPERATOR

Practice Good Hygiene

- Reinforce hand hygiene before, during and after activity. Wash hands or sanitise on arrival.
- Arrive ready to play, i.e. already in sports uniform to reduce need for changing rooms.
- Students to provide own drink bottles, food, towels and personal equipment.
- No sharing of food (such as oranges at sport). No sharing of personal items and personal equipment.
- Schools that bring sports kits e.g. bats, gloves, helmets, positional bibs etc. are responsible for maintaining the hygiene of this equipment throughout the event.
- No sharing of sporting equipment between schools (other than what is required on field).
- Schools to provide own first aid kit including hand sanitiser with at least 60 per cent alcohol.

Ensure Physical Distancing

- Ensure seating areas are set up to enable physical distancing – this may mean blocking off sections of fixed seating or removing non-fixed seating.
- Teams are seated at least 1.5m away from each other, ideally on opposing sides of a field/court (if available).
- Avoid unnecessary contact between students when not on the field of play.

Wear Appropriate PPE (facemask)

- Current directions from the Victorian Government state that face masks must be worn indoors unless you have a lawful exemption.
- All people attending an ACC event must wear a face mask if directed to do so by the Chief Health Officer (unless on the field of play or due to a lawful exemption) - see DHHS advice and CEM guidance on Face masks in schools.

Avoid Interactions in Enclosed Spaces

- Adhere to local sports/facility provider requirements e.g. using lanes/walkaways to move traffic through venues/entries and exits.
- Enforce the current restrictions limiting the number of players, teachers and parents that can attend an event.

Stay Home if Unwell

- The COVID-Safe Sport Poster should be displayed at ACC events.
- Clear communication messages provided to students, staff and others prior to attending ACC events about staying home when unwell.
- Any staff, students, parents, officials etc. who are unwell must not attend the venue, and should return home if they become unwell with COVID-19 symptoms (loss or change in sense of smell or taste, fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose).

2. CREATE COVID SAFE SPACES

RESPONSIBILITIES:

ACC STAFF

HOST SCHOOL

VISITING SCHOOL

VENUE OPERATOR

Make Hand Hygiene Easy

- Schools must supply their own hand sanitiser (with at least 60 per cent alcohol) for their team bench/areas.
- Host schools must supply hand sanitiser at the entrance to all venues and key movement points within venues.
- External Venue Operators must supply hand sanitiser at the entrance to all venues and key movement points within venues.

Keep Surfaces Clean and Implement Enhanced Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection

- Aligned with the required cleaning standards in a school facility, please ensure that the necessary cleaning arrangements are made. Schools should provide their onsite facility manager with the Enhanced School Cleaning Guideline so that the necessary cleaning arrangements can be made.
- At external venues where there is an onsite facility manager, the Host School Director of Sport (or nominated staff member) or the AC Convener (for ACC managed events) will liaise with the Venue Operator to ensure facilities are undertaking their regular hygiene practices throughout the day.
- At external venues where there is no onsite facility manager, the Host School Director of Sport (or nominated staff member) must ensure that the cleaning and disinfecting activities listed in the Enhanced School Cleaning Guideline are delivered accordingly.

Promote Outdoor Air Ventilation and Do Not have Air Conditioners on Recirculate

- Where possible promote outdoor airflow into bathrooms and changerooms.

3. PROMOTE COVID SAFE ACTIVITIES

RESPONSIBILITIES:

ACC STAFF

HOST SCHOOL

VISITING SCHOOL

VENUE OPERATOR

Limit Access to Outside Visitors Where Possible

- The ACC will provide information to schools pertaining to competing at ACC interschool sport and the ACC COVID Safe Plan.
- Schools will communicate the necessary restrictions to parents, including that additional spectators are not permitted at specific events.
- Reiterate and maintain physical distancing between students at events when not participating.
- Reiterate and maintain physical distancing between adults at events, physical distancing of 1.5m between each person and the density ratio of one person per four square meters is enforced.
- Ensure numbers of people permitted in a space are adhered to e.g. for outdoor sport you can play sport with the number of people required to play plus necessary coaches and umpires. Spectators are allowed if they are needed as support persons for persons with additional needs. You should keep at least 1.5 metres from others while supervising children.

Adapt, Modify or Defer Higher Risk Activities

- Reinforce hand hygiene before, during and after activity.
- No shaking hands (use alternatives instead salute, bump elbow etc.) during competition.
- Additional spectators may not permitted to attend.
- Ensure numbers of people permitted in a space are adhered to.

4. RESPOND TO COVID SAFE RISKS

RESPONSIBILITIES:

ACC STAFF

HOST SCHOOL

VISITING SCHOOL

VENUE OPERATOR

- See guidance on 'Management of an unwell student or staff member' from the Operations Guide that applies to interschool sport.
- An appropriate isolation space should be designated ahead of the event, in the event a student or staff member experiences compatible symptoms with coronavirus (COVID-19), such as fever, cough or sore throat. In which case they need to be isolated with supervision and students should be collected by a parent or carer as soon as possible.
- The teacher responsible for the student or the student themselves should take immediate action to report concerns to the Convener of the event or the designated COVID Safe Officer.
- The ACC COVID Safe Officer should advise the teacher responsible for the student that the student should seek medical advice and/or obtain a COVID-19 tested by contacting the 24-hour Department of Health and Human Services coronavirus hotline 1800 675 398. Also see: Managing illness in schools and early childhood services during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic
- Every precaution should be taken to ensure that distance and hygiene measures are adhered to when communicating with and taking care of someone presenting with COVID-19 symptoms.
- All schools, officials, coaches and spectators must adhere to the return to play conditions of the ACC. They must also comply with any additional entry requirements requested by facilities/venues.
- If you are unwell, do not enter the venue or attend the event.

5. PREPARE AND MAINTAIN COVID SAFE RECORD KEEPING

RESPONSIBILITIES:

ACC STAFF

HOST SCHOOL

VISITING SCHOOL

VENUE OPERATOR

Keep Records and Act Quickly if Someone Becomes Unwell

- Each participating school must retain responsibility for managing the attendance list of students and staff at any ACC event, whether it takes place on-site within a school owned setting, off-site at a Local Council managed venue, or within a sporting facility operated by an independent Venue Operator.
- Student and staff attendance lists must be able to be made available to DHHS in a digital format if required directly after the conclusion of an event where a COVID risk arises. This can be in the form of a photograph of the team sheet, or an electronic download from the school's LMS or relevant student management software.
- Officials that are appointed by either the Home School or the ACC (referees, umpires, sports trainers, first aid medics, etc) must have their contact details recorded for each visit they make to the school or sporting venue. If the sporting event takes place on-site at the Home School or at an external venue booked by the Home School, it is the Home School's responsibility to keep record of all officials. For all events booked and managed by the ACC, the recording of officials' details will be the responsibility of the ACC Staff.
- Where external venues require attendance lists for COVID Safe record keeping, details will be provided in advance.
- All officials, parents, spectators and any others attending ACC events that are managed by the ACC will be required to register their attendance via a QR code supplied by the ACC to support contact tracing.
- All attendees must adhere to the return to play conditions of the ACC.