

Good practice for sports clubs and venues during COVID-19

The following provides some practical tips and actions that sports clubs and venues can take to reduce the risk of COVID-19 for their staff and players.

It is strongly recommended that employers always check with their local authority for the latest COVID-19 public health measures and requirements. For sports which involve close contact between players, it is likely that these will *not* be allowed if there are active cases of COVID-19 in the community.



Clean your hands

Perform hand hygiene by washing your hands with soap and water, or using hand sanitizer.

- Make hand hygiene stations, with running water and soap or hand sanitizer widely available, especially at entrances and other suitable locations across the event facility and accommodation.
- Ensure good hygiene signage across all venues, changing rooms, training facilities.
- Advise athletes to avoid:
 - touching their nose, eyes or mouth;
 - shaking hands, high fiving or other physical contact; and
 - using the steam room or sauna.

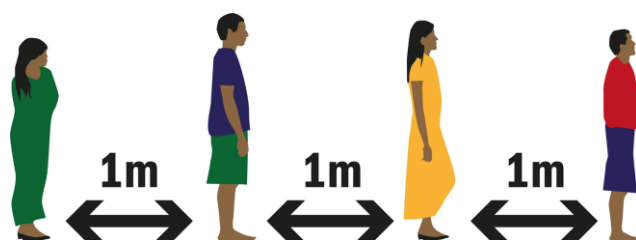
Keep at least 1 metre between people

- Encourage all spectators and players, where possible, to keep 1 metre distance from others at all times.
- Organize the sporting venue to avoid crowding, including:
 - marking the floor/ground to indicate where people should stand when queuing;
 - organizing seats to physically distance between people who are aren't already a group; and
 - numbering seats for contact tracing - and ensuring people sit in their allocated seats.
- When physical distance is not possible use a screen between staff and clients.



Cover your cough and sneeze

- Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue or elbow when coughing or sneezing, and clean your hands after. Provide a disposal bin for tissues.
- Create a culture of players and staff reminding each other.
- If local authorities recommend wearing a mask, individuals should:
 - Not touch the mask when it is on, and clean their hands after removing it.
 - Clean their hands if they accidentally touch their mask.
 - If wearing a cloth face mask - wash it every day with detergent and hot water.
 - If wearing a disposable mask - change it daily or when moist or dirty.



Check symptoms and remind staff and players to stay alert



- Anyone participating in an event or attending a sporting venue (players, volunteers, officials, food handlers etc.) should carefully monitor their health. They should monitor their temperature and be alert to other symptoms.
- Anybody with a temperature of 37.5° C or more, or who seems unwell should not enter the venue.
- Team staff should brief their players on COVID-19 protocols, including on infection prevention and control measures and reporting routinely on their health status.

Clean and disinfect surfaces

- Clean and disinfect all floors, surfaces and restrooms several times a day, especially high-touch surfaces like door handles, toilet handles, bathroom faucets, sporting equipment.
 - Use detergent and disinfect with 0.1% bleach solution.
 - For small surfaces, use 70% alcohol.
 - Do not spray disinfectant.
- Ensure availability of rubber gloves for team staff and volunteers handling laundry.
- Recommend that towels are for single use - and not for sharing.
- Provide each participant with a clean water bottle.



For sporting teams and clubs: plan and manage operations, monitor staff and players



- Team leaders or coordinators should monitor their players symptoms. Anybody with a temperature of 37.5° C or more, or who seems unwell should not engage with other players and self-isolate for 14 days or until a test confirms they do not have COVID-19.
- All teams should be equipped with an infrared thermometer and keep a record of athletes' temperatures.
- Keep abreast of COVID-19 updates issued by authorities to see whether or not it will impact operations.
- Have a protocol in place on how to respond if a player or team member is suspected of having COVID-19, including confirming the emergency contacts with local health authorities.
- Medical masks should be ready for use by medical staff and sick individuals

Consider providing athletes with individual prevention packages, containing:



small personal packages of disposable tissues and plastic bags for tissue disposal



small laminated prevention card with key reporting information



medical mask to wear if they are ill (any symptoms, including fever, cough, shortness of breath)



small packages of alcohol-based hand wipes



small package of disposable plastic drinking cups



hand sanitizer and thermometer