



Associated
Catholic
Colleges

*"Excellence,
Honour and
Fairness in
Student Activities"*

INFECTION CONTROL PROCEDURES FOR ACC SPORT: COVID 19

Version control: Version 1

Implementation Date: June 12th, 2020

PART A: PARTICIPANTS (STUDENTS)

PART B: COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

PART C: SPORTING OFFICIALS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

PART D: SPECTATORS

PART E: SPORT SPECIFIC INFORMATION

PREAMBLE

The Associated Catholic Colleges (ACC) is responsible for the organisation and administration of interschool sport and activities for its member schools. The ACC has established safety protocols and guidelines for participation in these activities to ensure the safe involvement of players (students), staff members, coaches, officials and spectators. These guidelines have been developed in conjunction with current information available from the following authorities:

- Department of Health & Human Services (Victorian Health Department);
- Department of Education & Training (Victorian Education Department);
- Catholic Education Melbourne;
- Australian Institute of Sport;
- Sports Medicine Australia;
- Relevant State Sport Organisations (peak body for each sport in Australia).

These guidelines will be updated as further information becomes available. They should also be read in conjunction with the current ACC guidelines on "bleeding and blood borne infections" which is available in the Handbook (p.35, Section 11:

<https://www.accmelb.com.au/handbook/>).

GENERAL HEALTH SCREENING

Each school will have its own health screening procedures in place which should help in protecting the health of the wider school community. As a general rule, the following questionnaire should be adhered to. If students and staff members are permitted to attend school, then there should be no further health restrictions preventing them from participating in ACC sport or activities.

1. *Do you have any symptoms of respiratory infection; fever, cough, sore throat, runny nose, difficulty breathing?*
2. *Have you travelled overseas or interstate within the last 14 days?*
3. *Have you had direct contact in the last 14 days with any COVID19 patient(s)?*

If you answered YES to any of the above questions then you will not be permitted to enter the school and therefore not involved in ACC sport in any capacity.

In addition to the screening questions above, all participants, teaching staff, coaching and support staff, officials and spectators involved with ACC sport should be provided with further safety information around infection control guidelines and specific sport safety requirements. It is imperative for the health of all involved with ACC sport that all participants understand and follow the practical constraints imposed within the COVID 19 infection control guidelines.

If participants are not willing or able to meet the infection control guidelines, they will not be permitted to be involved in ACC sport in any capacity.

PART A: PARTICIPANTS (STUDENTS)

INFECTION CONTROL GUIDELINES

(dependent on COVID19 restrictions at the time/date of the activity)

- Hand hygiene – alcohol based hand sanitisers to be used on arrival at the venue and/or before the start of play, during the main break and after the game.
- Practise cough etiquette.
- Where possible, maintain separation of 1.5m at all times between people.
- Ensure any sport specific COVID19 restrictions are enforced i.e. no body contact
- There is to be no hand shaking, hugging or high fives between players and coaches.
- No physical contact between officials, staff or students is permitted at any time, except in cases of emergency and medical/injury management.
- Students should not need to touch any external equipment other than the match ball or game implements i.e. bat.
- Stay in the allocated game area. Do not go to other areas or public change rooms, with the exception of the toilet.
- Bring your own water bottle and drinks. Do not share water bottles and drinking containers. Do not use public water fountains.

PART B: COACHES AND SUPPORT STAFF

INFECTION CONTROL GUIDELINES

(dependent on COVID19 restrictions at the time/date of the activity)

- Hand hygiene – alcohol based hand sanitisers to be used on arrival at the venue and/or before the start of play, during the main break and after the game.
- Personal protective equipment – When dealing with first aid situations, gloves and surgical masks are to be worn.
- Practise cough etiquette.
- Check that equipment cleaning routines are in place for match balls and other game equipment that may be touched; before, during main breaks and after games.
- Where possible, maintain separation of 1.5m at all times between people. During breaks in play, do not have the participants grouped closely together in the traditional team huddle.
- Do not allow hand shaking, hugging and high fives between players and coaches.
- Ensure any sport specific COVID19 restrictions are enforced i.e. no body contact
- No physical contact between officials, staff or students is permitted at any time, expect in cases of emergency and medical/injury management.
- Students should not need to touch any external equipment other than the match ball or game implements i.e. bat.
- Stay in the allocated game area. Do not go to other areas or public change rooms, with the exception of the toilet.
- Bring your own water bottle and drinks. Do not allow sharing of water bottles and drinking containers. Do not use public water fountains.

Note: some sports have traditionally held post-match gatherings, including the provision of food and drinks. With the current restrictions, these post-match activities will **not** be held. All teams should follow health guidelines to limit the interaction between all involved.

PART C: SPORTING OFFICIALS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

External providers at ACC school sport (officials, external coaches, first aid providers) coming into the school or venue must be cleared by the school to assist with the conduct of any sporting activities and agree to comply with the following COVID 19 infection control procedures.

INFECTION CONTROL GUIDELINES – dependent on COVID19 restrictions at the time/date of the activity

- Personal protective equipment. First Aid: gloves and surgical masks to be worn.
- Hand hygiene – alcohol based hand sanitisers to be used on arrival at the venue and/or before the start of play, during the main break and after the game.
- Practise cough etiquette.
- Check with the coaches that equipment cleaning routines are in place for match balls and other game equipment that may be touched; before, during main breaks and after games.
- Where possible, maintain separation of 1.5m at all times between people.
- Do not allow hand shaking, hugging and high fives between players and coaches.
- Ensure COVID19 group sizes are implemented (i.e. 10 or 20 people only per activity) and that other groups and matches are adequately separated.
- Ensure any sport specific COVID19 restrictions are enforced i.e. no body contact
- No physical contact between officials, staff or students is permitted at any time, expect in cases of emergency and medical/injury management.
- Students should not need to touch any external equipment other than the match ball or game implements i.e. bat.
- Work autonomously as much as possible without the need to have close contact with staff or students.
- Stay in the allocated game area. Do not go to other areas or public change rooms, with the exception of the toilet.
- First Aid Officers to work in a designated and marked off work space; vehicle (van or ambulance), marquee and roped off treatment area.
- Bring your own water bottle and drinks. Do not share water bottles and drinking containers. Do not use public water fountains.
- Keep your school visit as brief as possible and do not extend your visit unnecessarily.

PART D: SPECTATORS

As per restrictions in place for all schools under Department of Education regulations (Reference: <https://education.vic.gov.au/school/Pages/coronavirus-advice-schools.aspx>), parents are only permitted to enter school grounds when essential, minimising their time onsite and practicing social distancing.

Until restrictions are eased further, spectators will not be permitted to attend ACC sport or activities. These restrictions apply to activities undertaken on school grounds as well as those undertaken in external venues (local council grounds, sporting venues, etc).

PART E: SPORT SPECIFIC INFORMATION

To be communicated directly with schools based on the most current advice available for each sporting season.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

<https://education.vic.gov.au/school/Pages/coronavirus-advice-schools.aspx>

https://ais.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/730376/35845_AIS-Framework-for-rebooting-sport_FA.pdf