

## **Return to Sport in NSW**

To Our Members

As we have all witnessed there is constant change as COVID-19 restrictions begin to ease. Based on the recent update from the NSW Department of Health regarding the revised Public Health Order on May 14<sup>th</sup> 2020, Baseball NSW have updated its position from our May 15<sup>th</sup> announcement as follows;

It is acceptable for groups to gather on baseball fields and facilities as long as they adhere to the May 14<sup>th</sup> NSW Health Department Public Order guidelines;

- Do not attend any sport if you are unwell and experiencing symptoms such as a cough, sore throat, fever, fatigue or shortness of breath
- Do not attend sport if, in the last 14 days, you have been unwell or had close contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19
- Anyone who is unwell should see a doctor in accordance with NSW Public Health Authority guidelines

Once at the field;

- A total of ten (10) people may gather as per the Baseball NSW prescribed Activity Zones (attached)
- The maximum capacity in any single venue at one time is the responsibility of the venue owner or council
- Physical distancing must be maintained at all times (i.e. 1.5m apart)
- Change rooms to remain closed – toilets may be available for use. If a toilet is accessed via a change room, the toilet may be used, the change room may not
- Outdoor sport only - no indoor sport at any time which includes batting tunnels with a roof overhead
- A nominated person from each gathering must complete the 'Baseball NSW Return to Activity Checklist'
  - This can be accessed attached here as well as via our Facebook page and website
  - Facebook Link

To ensure consistency, sport related guidelines are:

- The basic rule is "arrive, play sport, leave"
- All participants should be strongly encouraged to download the Government's CovidSafe App;
- Gathering as a group before or after sport is not possible;
- No close contact or tackling is allowed as it is within 1.5m;
- An area of 4m<sup>2</sup> is required per person (i.e. a minimum of 40m<sup>2</sup> for 10 people);
- There may be more than one group of 10 people at the same time at the same outdoor venue providing that clearly defined and separated areas of more than 40m<sup>2</sup> for each group are allocated;
- No 'mixing' of people (including coaches) between separate groups of 10 people;
- Coaches, referees and spectators are included with participants in the total number attending (i.e. a maximum total of 10 people);
- Spectators or people providing transport should remain in their vehicle or leave the venue where possible.

## IMPORTANT COVID-19 UPDATE – MAY 22, 2020

It is strongly suggested that all participants:

- Prepare or dress for sport at home;
- Shower at home before and after sport;
- Bring hand wash or sanitiser to wash / sanitise your hands before and after sport;
- Bring their own drink bottle, towel etc;
- Avoid unnecessary contact (i.e. shaking hands, 'high fives' etc);
- If required, changing or putting on gear before and / or after sport should be done in, or near to, your own vehicle – or elsewhere away from the playing area;
- All equipment (particularly if touched by hands) should be wiped clean afterwards (e.g. balls, temporary goals etc);
- If there is a playing group of less than 10 and spectators are present, 1.5m distancing must be observed by spectators;
- Participants should gradually return to training to reduce the risk of injury.

Insurance cover for participants may be required by some councils / venue owners prior to opening their facilities. In most cases, a return to sanctioned / official training by an SSO / SSOD will trigger insurance coverage for registered participants. In addition, sanctioned training may incur ongoing maintenance costs from the council / venue owner.

Enjoy you return to the field!

Mark Marino  
Baseball NSW CEO

NSW Office of Sport  
<https://sport.nsw.gov.au/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>

NSW Government  
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/changes>