



# RETURN TO PLAY

## KEEP COVID SAFE



### COVID-19 CHECKLIST FOR CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

CURRENT AS AT 5 AUGUST 2021

This checklist has been developed to support clubs and associations return to play cricket under the Government of South Australia COVID-19 restrictions. Please follow the principle of '**KEEP COVID SAFE**'.

#### A CLUB'S COVID-SAFE PLAN AND QR CODE

Businesses (including sporting clubs) that were required to close earlier this year as part of COVID-19 restrictions were required to create a COVID-Safe Plan before they commenced training or matches. Implementing your club's [COVID-Safe Plan](#) is the best way to ensure your club is compliant and COVID-Safe for your members and the wider cricket community. Protocols for changerooms, showers and other indoor amenities were required to be included.

All activities which are required to have a COVID-Safe plan will receive an updated COVID-Safe plan from the Government of SA that includes a QR code to print off and display in a prominent location at your club. It will be mandatory for all activities required to have a COVID-Safe plan (including sporting clubs) to display their QR code from Tuesday 1 December. All attendees must scan in when at these facilities for training, matches and meetings/presentations.

#### NOMINATE YOUR TEAM'S COVID MARSHAL

Each match or event must have a COVID Marshal. If there are fewer than 200 people at a match or event, the Nominated COVID Marshal may be a coach, team member or volunteer present at a training session, game or meeting of club members and is responsible to ensure COVID-Safe protocols are followed. If there are more than 200 people, you must have a Dedicated COVID Marshal who does not have other jobs or tasks. The COVID Marshal is required to:

- Complete the [COVID Marshal training](#).
- Be identifiable, present and on duty during matches and events.
- Take all reasonable action to ensure compliance with your COVID-Safe Plan including Contact Tracing Record Attendance. This log must be made available on request of SACA or an Authorised Officer.

#### MASKS

Masks are required indoors and when physical distancing cannot be achieved. We strongly recommend the use of masks for all in attendance, including participants before and after the training session. Spectators are required to wear masks.

#### COLD AND FLU SYMPTOMS

If a person is feeling unwell or experiencing [symptoms](#), or if any of their close contacts (including but not limited to family, house mates and work mates), are feeling unwell or experiencing symptoms, they must stay home.

#### SHARING OF EQUIPMENT

Players, coaches, volunteers and parents understand that it is recommended there is to be no (or limited and well managed) sharing of equipment including pads, gloves, protectors or helmets (refer FAQ's).



# RETURN TO PLAY

## KEEP COVID SAFE



### **NO SHARING OF FOOD OR DRINKS**

No sharing of cups, drinks or drinks containers. Players should bring their own water bottles. SACA recommends against any sharing of food or drink, but if a club wishes to provide food or drink for the opposition, or share in their own team, each item must be in an individually packaged portion.

### **NO PHYSICAL CONTACT**

No physical contact during matches. This includes high fives, shaking hands and other physical contact.

### **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

Where possible, all people observe physical distancing requirements of 1.5 metres.

### **MEMBERS UNDERSTAND RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS**

The club and all members have read, understood and agree to adhere to all protocols and guidelines required to return to play.

### **HYGIENE PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE**

- Ensure alcohol-based hand sanitiser is available for all training and games and players are encouraged to use it regularly
- Players are to bring their own drink bottles and there is no sharing of drink bottles
- No spitting or clearing of nasal passages
- No physical contact
- Provide bins to allow tissues and other waste to be disposed quickly
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sneeze into your elbow rather than your hands

### **PLAN FOR THE SAFE ENTRY & EXIT OF PEOPLE FROM MATCHES**

Schedule breaks of at least 15 minutes between training and games at the same venue to minimise crossover and allow for cleaning. Clubs may introduce a phased training schedule with varied start times, days or locations.

### **NO SHINING THE BALL WITH SALIVA OR SWEAT**

Ensure players understand that they are not to shine the ball with saliva or sweat at any time.

### **ALLOCATED AREAS**

Teams are to be separated on the sidelines.

### **FOLLOW DIRECTIONS**

The club and training groups understand that they must follow the direction and advice of Police, Local Government and their Association and SACA.



# RETURN TO PLAY

## KEEP COVID SAFE



### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following scenarios have been developed in response to a range of 'frequently asked questions' from SA's cricket community and are designed to assist community associations and clubs to provide a COVID safe environment for participants and spectators.

#### DO WE REQUIRE A QR CODE?

All activities which are required to have a COVID-Safe plan will receive a new COVID-Safe plan from the Government of SA that includes a QR code to print off and display in a prominent location. It will be mandatory for all activities required to have a COVID-Safe plan (including sporting clubs indoor and outdoor) to display their QR code from Tuesday 1 December 2020. When players, members, volunteers and spectators arrive at your venue, they can check in by scanning the QR code on their mobile phone. A paper recording log template is available to download as a back-up if customers don't have a mobile phone

#### WHAT DO WE DO IF A MEMBER OF OUR TEAM OR CLUB TESTS POSITIVE TO COVID-19?

If a member of your team tests positive for COVID-19, all players, coaches, officials and volunteers who have been in contact with this individual will be required to self-isolate for 14 days. If you are feeling unwell or experiencing symptoms, you should stay home and seek medical advice immediately. If a member of your club tests positive for COVID-19 the Club President is required to notify SACA immediately through your SACA club contact or <mailto:sacareception@saca.com.au?subject=Notification: COVID-19>.

Given COVID-19 is external to cricket, and often no fault can be attributed to participants who are suspected of having or have a confirmed case of COVID-19, SACA recommends that any match impacted by COVID-19 would be determined as a draw.

#### ARE SPECTATORS ALLOWED TO ATTEND TRAININGS/MATCHES?

Under current Government of SA guidelines as of 5/8/21, spectators are allowed to attend outdoor sport, however the following restrictions exist.

- Physical distancing of 1 person per 2sqm must be maintained, up to a maximum of 1000 people per venue.
- Must wear masks.
- Those in attendance are subject to all other [COVID restrictions](#) such as seated consumption, QR code check-in etc.

#### ARE WE REQUIRED TO HAVE A COVID MARSHAL AT EACH TRAINING / MATCH?

Yes, please refer to SACA's Return to Cricket Protocol which can be accessed [here](#).

#### ARE PLAYERS ALLOWED TO SHARE PLAYING EQUIPMENT?

SACA strongly recommends against the sharing of playing equipment and in particular helmets, gloves and pads as these can absorb sweat. If a player has no other option but to share equipment, the following measures must be applied:

- The club should document and implement arrangements to minimise the shared use of any equipment.
- Hands should be sanitised using hand sanitiser before and after handling equipment
- Shared equipment should be washed or wiped with antibacterial wipes or alcohol-based sanitiser prior to and after each time they are used. Shared equipment should also be rotated to minimise use. If possible, rest the equipment in the sunlight for at least 30 minutes between use.
- Participants should not share their personal playing equipment and should not leave their personal equipment on any common surfaces. Personal cricket kits should be arranged to permit physical distancing of participants (>1.5 metres).
- Participants must comply with personal hygiene protocols.



# RETURN TO PLAY

## KEEP COVID SAFE



Please refer to separate guidelines regarding the management of cricket balls.

### HOW DO WE MANAGE THE BALL IN MATCHES?

- **CLEANING OF THE BALL**

At a stoppage in play (i.e. at a drinks break or the end of a session), the ball can be cleaned with an **antimicrobial** alcohol-based wipe. This is to be completed by the bowling team captain under the supervision of the umpire or team coach or match manager for junior matches. The individual responsible for cleaning the ball should clean their hands with a suitable sanitiser following this process.

A common-sense approach to timing shall be taken as this delay is of no fault of the fielding team.

If antimicrobial alcohol-based wipes are not available it is strongly recommended that all players on the fielding team and the umpires sanitise their hands at each drinks break and scheduled stoppage in play.

- **CHECKING OF THE CONDITION OF THE BALL BY UMPIRES**

Should the umpire need to inspect the ball, the fielding captain shall be asked to present the ball to the umpire who will then visually inspect the condition of the ball. Should any repair work be required, or the umpire wishes to further inspect the shape of the ball, they may undertake this work personally. However, umpire(s) should sanitise their hands immediately after completing the work on the ball.

- **PLACING OF THE BALL AT THE TAKING OF A WICKET OR AT THE END OF A SESSION**

**At the taking of a wicket, or at the end of a session/drinks break**, the player who last fielded the ball will be responsible for placing it next to the stumps at the end of the pitch where the next ball/over will be bowled.

**At the conclusion of the session** the umpire will place the ball in its original box (that the ball was in at the commencement of the match) to maintain the integrity of the ball. Umpire(s) should sanitise their hands immediately after handling the ball.

### HOW DO WE MANAGE THE BALL AT TRAINING?

Players must clean the ball they use with an alcohol-based wipe before being used by another individual. Coaches and other players are encouraged not to handle the ball if practical and should clean their hands with a suitable sanitiser if doing so.

Balls that are shared at training (ie group fielding sessions) should be cleaned with alcohol-based wipes at the end of the fielding session. The person responsible for cleaning the balls should clean their hands with a suitable sanitiser following this process.

### HOW DO WE HANDLE A PLAYER INTENTIONALLY OR UNINTENTIONALLY PLACING SWEAT OR SALIVA ON THE BALL DURING A MATCH?

Cricket Australia and SACA has provided all cricket associations with suggested playing conditions relating to (a) intentional and (b) unintentional placing of sweat or saliva on the ball. These suggested playing conditions [here](#) also include suggested enforcement options.

SACA recommends that you refer to your association playing conditions.

### SHOULD UMPIRES HOLD THE BOWLERS CAP, SUNGLASSES AND VEST?

No, this shall be managed as follows:





# RETURN TO PLAY

## KEEP COVID SAFE



- **Bowler fielding on the boundary** At the conclusion of the previous over, the new bowler shall place their equipment, that would normally be provided to the umpire (hat, sunglasses, vest etc.), over the nearest boundary point to where they are currently fielding. The equipment can be collected by the individual at the completion of the over. The process can be repeated until the end of the bowler's spell.
- **Bowler fielding in the infield** At the conclusion of the previous over, the new bowler, currently fielding in the infield, can undertake either of the following actions (whichever is the quickest option);
  - Place their equipment, that would normally be provided to the umpire (hat, sunglasses, vest etc), on the ground directly behind the wicketkeeper (like a fielder's helmet). The bowler is responsible for the storage and collection of the material from this area. Should the ball strike this equipment during play, the ball shall be called dead, as normally this equipment would not be stored in this area; or
  - Place their equipment, that would normally be provided to the umpire (hat, sunglasses, vest etc), over the nearest boundary point to the end they are bowling from.

At no stage should the Umpire be required to hold/handle the players' equipment during the match.

### WHAT ABOUT THE WICKETKEEPER / FIELDERS HELMET?

There is no change from the normal playing conditions and laws of cricket around the storage of this equipment on the field. Should the ball strike this equipment during play, normal penalties shall apply.

It is to be noted that players are responsible for the carrying of their own equipment to and from the storage position.

### WHO LOOKS AFTER THE STUMPS BEFORE AND DURING PLAY?

Each umpire is responsible for the maintenance (setting up and re-making) of the set of stumps at their end of the pitch prior and during the match. Where only one (1) umpire is appointed they will be responsible for both sets of stumps. In matches without appointed umpires, team captains are responsible for ensuring the person/s volunteering to umpire follow COVID-19 hygiene protocols when handing the stumps.

The umpire/s (or in the case of matches with no appointed umpires, the volunteer) should clean their hands with a suitable sanitiser following the process of setting up the stumps prior to play.

At the conclusion of play the umpire (or the last person to umpire in matches without appointed officials) will be responsible for wiping down the stumps and bails with an antimicrobial wipe.

### WHAT DO THE SCORERS NEED TO CONSIDER?

- **E-scoring** It is recommended that scoring is completed by e-scoring via an individual tablet wherever possible. The designated scorer should ideally be the only user of that device and will be responsible for uploading the data, either live or at the conclusion of the match. Should another user be required to score, the device must be sanitised prior to the next user operating the device.
- **Paper scorebook** To minimise additional contact there should ideally be only one-person utilising the book throughout the duration of the match. Should someone else be required to score, that person should either supply their own pen or the original pen must be sanitised prior to the next scorer using it.

Umpires will not be required to physically handle the book but will verify the details visually.

Scorers shall adhere to physical distancing requirements (1.5m apart) at all times when undertaking their duties.



# RETURN TO PLAY

## KEEP COVID SAFE



To facilitate this requirement, two separate tables should be made available.

### **HOW DO WE MANAGE THE COIN TOSS?**

At the coin toss, each Umpire and both Captains must maintain physical distancing requirements (1.5m) with the Umpire to supply their own coin and be responsible for the toss of the coin.

As another parameter to minimise risk, if possible, team sheets should be uploaded into the MyCricket system with the umpires and opposing captains to sight the digital copy of the team sheet.

It is recommended that umpires and team captains refrain from shaking hands.

### **DOES OUR INSURANCE STILL APPLY?**

Yes. Players will be covered by the Personal Accident Policy and clubs and associations will be covered under their Public Liability and Club Management Liability policies that make up the National Club Risk Protection Program. Cover under these policies remains under their current terms, conditions and exclusions. For more information click [here](#).

Please review the [Government of South Australia's COVID-19 website](#) for further information.