

REFEREES RETURN TO PLAY

State-wide | V7.1 26 November 2021



The Victorian Government has provided new [Open Premises Directions](#) that determine the Conditions for all football activities in Victoria.

Breach of these conditions may void insurance policies under the Club's insurance policy provided through affiliation to Football Victoria (FV), may be dealt with under FV's Grievance, Disciplinary and Tribunal Bylaw (as applicable) and may incur substantial fines under the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2018.

Areas that are not permitted to Return to Play are listed in the Victorian Government's published *Area Directions* available via <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19>

Frequently asked questions on navigating COVIDSafe Football requirements, please [click here](#).

For further questions regarding the Return to Play Conditions, please reach out to clubsupport@footballvictoria.com.au

KEEPING VICTORIANS SAFE



Check in at every venue, every time



Wear a mask whenever required by VIC Government



If you feel unwell or are isolating, don't attend



Keep your distance - Stay 1.5m apart



Sanitise your hands frequently



Vaccination is not required for participation in community sport

WHAT IS PERMITTED?



PARTICIPANTS

- Players may resume indoor and outdoor full-contact community sport training and competitions.



GROUPS

- No limits to group sizes.



SPECTATORS

- Are welcome to attend, with no limits on group sizes or crowds.



INDOOR SPACES

- Change rooms and showers are **open**.
- Facilities must be cleaned regularly, including at least twice a day for frequently touched surfaces. Ensure toilets are cleaned as per cleaning requirements.
- Density quotients are no longer applicable.



CANTEEN/CAFE

- Sporting clubs that operate a restaurant, café or canteen within its facility can open, provided it follows the requirements on hospitality venues.

VACCINATION STATUS

Anyone participating or facilitating community sport (e.g. referees, players, coaches, volunteers) does not need to be [fully vaccinated](#) to access the facility.

If facilities, including club rooms, are used exclusively for community sport patrons participating or facilitating community sport (e.g. players, coaches, volunteers) do not need to be vaccinated across the facility.

Key definitions:

- **Community sport** refers to competitions and training for the purpose of competition overseen by a state sporting association or equivalent governing body, such as Football Victoria or regional Associations. This includes entry level programs (for example MiniRoos), 'come and try' days run by state sporting associations or equivalent governing bodies, as well as training for coaches and umpires.
- **Physical recreation** is any other activity that is not associated with competition or training for competitions overseen by a state sporting association or equivalent governing body, including non-competitive casual sport and social play, community events and fitness and gym classes.

However, to access the facility for purposes other than community sport where all attendees are required to be fully vaccinated – such as a gym or hospitality – attendees must be fully vaccinated, be under **12** or have a valid medical exemption.

SPECTATORS

Are welcome to attend!

FEELING UNWELL

You **must not attend any football activity** if in the past 10 days you:

- Have tested positive to COVID-19;
- Have been unwell or had any flu-like or respiratory symptoms (even if mild);
- Are living with a diagnosed person;
- Have been in contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19; or
- Are at a high risk from a health perspective, including the elderly and those with pre-existing medical health conditions, further information can be found [here](#).

Those with even mild symptoms are strongly encouraged to get tested. For more information, [click here](#).

Anyone who has been in isolation/quarantine may return to training only if they have met all DHHS requirements. [Click here](#) for further information.

TRAINING SESSIONS & MATCH DAY

Clubs are responsible for ensuring the facility is ready for training and competition. These conditions are the direct responsibility of the Referee and includes match days and referee training.

Note that a COVID Check-In Marshal is required to be present to ensure that the Conditions are followed.

The following conditions must be implemented by Referees.

- Check-In using the QR Code.
- Follow the instructions of the designated COVID Check-In Marshal.
- Any person who attends a training session must wear a face mask where required by the State Government and/or where physical distancing is not possible (unless an exemption applies). Players and match officials are not required to wear masks while participating. Coaches and non-

playing players aged 12 and over must wear masks outdoors and indoors wherever required by the State Government and/or when physical distancing of 1.5m cannot be maintained.

- Handshakes, high fives or similar unnecessary contact is to be avoided.
- Sharing of equipment must be minimised.
- No use of shared equipment that touches the head or face or cannot be effectively cleaned i.e. soft materials or clothing.
- Shared equipment must be cleaned between use.
 - Wear gloves when cleaning and disinfecting. Gloves should be discarded after each clean. If it is necessary to use reusable gloves, gloves should only be used for COVID-19 related cleaning and disinfection and should not be used for other purposes. Wash reusable gloves with soap and water after use and leave to dry. Clean hands immediately after removing gloves.
 - Thoroughly clean surfaces using detergent (soap) and water.
 - Apply disinfectant to surfaces using disposable paper towel or a disposable cloth. If non-disposable cloths are used, ensure they are laundered and dried before reusing.
 - Ensure surfaces remain wet for the period of time required to kill the virus (contact time) as specified by the manufacturer. If no time is specified, leave for 10 minutes.

A one-step detergent/disinfectant product may be used as long as the manufacturer's instructions are followed regarding dilution, use and contact times for disinfection (that is, how long the product must remain on the surface to ensure disinfection takes place).

For more information on cleaning and disinfecting to reduce COVID-19 transmission [click here](#).

- Adherence to the hygiene protocols – frequent hand sanitising
- Regular breaks are to be provided for the purpose of rehydrating and hand sanitising.
- Any access to equipment storage areas limited to one person.
- All normal safety protocols apply – including Child Safety requirements (WWCC).