



COVID-19 COMPLIANCE –

NSW 80 PER CENT DOUBLE DOSE VACCINATION

From 18 October, 80 per cent of NSW's population aged 16 and over had received two doses of vaccination to counter COVID-19.

As a result, the NSW Government eased some restrictions and published a revised [Public Health \(COVID-19 General\) Order 2021](#) which allows for a return to outdoor community sport under certain conditions.

Below are guidelines and FAQs to assist community football clubs in managing a return to training and play under the latest Public Health Orders.

Health advice and government regulations are regularly updated on www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/ and www.sport.nsw.gov.au/covid-19-information.

OVERVIEW OF RETURN TO OUTDOOR COMMUNITY SPORT ACTIVITIES

The following are key Public Health Order requirements for clubs to implement / adhere to for any outdoor community sport activities.

Vaccination Requirement	<p>The revised Public Health Order (PHO) now allows for a fully vaccinated adult (a person 16 years and over) to attend and participate in outdoor community sport.</p> <p>A fully vaccinated person is defined by the PHO as a person who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• has had 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, or• has a medical contraindication certificate issued to the person, or• has a medical contraindication recorded on the Australian Immunisation Register that prevents the person from receiving a COVID-19 vaccine. <p>Unvaccinated children 15 years and under may also attend and participate in an outdoor community sport activity. They count towards the total number of people. Any adult accompanying a child must be fully vaccinated.</p> <p>A COVID-19 Safety Plan requires a club to demonstrate it has taken reasonable steps to ensure that all people aged 16 and over at the venue meet the above 'fully vaccinated person' requirement. See FAQs for examples of how to do this.</p>
Maximum Capacity	<p>The PHO establishes the maximum number of people for a COVID-19 safe outdoor gathering for community sport (including training and matches) is the lesser of 1,000 people or 1 person per 2 square metres. This includes participants and spectators.</p> <p>Any other outdoor gathering is permitted to have up to 50 people. A COVID-19 Safety Plan is not required for this type of gathering.</p>
COVID-19 Safety Plan	<p>The PHO requires that the 'activity organiser' of a community sport activity (i.e. training and matches) must have a 'community sport' COVID-19 Safety Plan in place, which can be found here. All clubs must update their COVID-19 Safety Plan with this new 'community sport' plan, which was created on 20 October.</p> <p>A copy of the COVID-19 Safety Plan must be readily available at the venue for inspection by an authorised public health officer or a police officer.</p> <p>After completing the COVID-19 Safety Plan, clubs must register as COVID Safe Business to receive a Service NSW QR code.</p>
Contact Tracing	<p>The PHO requires all attendees at a community sport activity to check-in to the venue using the Service NSW QR code system, or to provide their details to the activity organiser where they are unable to use a phone to comply with this.</p> <p>A club must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• have a Service NSW QR code readily available at the venue for check-in by all attendees• have an alternative mechanism available for check-in by any person unable to do this via the Service NSW app, e.g. a paper register• take reasonable steps to ensure those attendees comply with check-in requirements. <p>A QR code will be generated after the club has completed its COVID-19 Safety Plan.</p>



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INDOOR ACTIVITIES OVERVIEW

A club's key requirements for 'indoor activities' may vary depending on the nature of the activity being undertaken. In a community football setting, indoor activities may include: committee meetings, presentation events, social gatherings, canteen service, use of change rooms, use of a gym, registration days etc. Please review the Public Health Order or NSW Government sources for advice unclear in this document.

Vaccination Requirement	Same as requirements under 'outdoor activities'.
Maximum Capacity	The maximum number of people for an indoor activity is, in most circumstances, based on 1 person per 4 square metres . Group gym and dance classes are limited to 20 persons.
COVID-19 Safety Plan	If the indoor activity is directly related to an outdoor community sport activity (e.g. use of change rooms, canteen service for attendees), those activities would be treated as part of the outdoor event and would need to be covered under the Club's COVID-19 Safety Plan.
Contact Tracing	Same as requirements as detailed in 'outdoor activities'
Masks	Masks must still be worn when not participating in exercise (unless the person has an exemption).

FAQs

Can we play and train outside?	Yes. Provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> all attendees 16 years and over meet the definition of a 'fully vaccinated person'; and the 'Activity Organiser' (e.g. club) has a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place. <p>All attendees are to ensure they adhere to the club's COVID-19 Safety Plan requirements including checking-in when undertaking any community sport activity and carrying proof they are a 'fully vaccinated person'.</p>
What is the definition of a 'fully vaccinated person'?	A fully vaccinated person is defined by the PHO as a person who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> has had two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, or has a medical contraindication certificate issued to the person, or has a medical contraindication recorded on the Australian Immunisation Register that prevents the person from receiving a COVID-19 vaccine.
Does everyone involved in training and matches need to be double vaccinated?	Yes. Unless the person is 15 years or younger or has a 'medical contraindication certificate'. Under the terms of a COVID-19 Safety Plan, a club must take reasonable steps to ensure each person aged 16 years or over on the premises is a fully vaccinated person (including staff, volunteers, attendees and contractors). Examples of "reasonable steps" could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display posters outlining vaccination requirements around the club or venue. Remind players, officials, volunteers and spectators of vaccination requirements in marketing and communications materials. Check vaccination status upon arrival. Train staff and volunteers on ways to check proof of COVID-19 vaccination status. Further guidance is available here.
What is a 'medical contraindication certificate'?	This is a certificate issued by a medical practitioner that indicates a person 'cannot have a COVID-19 vaccine'. The certificate must be on a <u>prescribed form</u> that has been put in place by the NSW Government (i.e. it cannot be a standard GP certificate or note from a doctor).

<p>What is COVID-19 Safety Plan?</p>	<p>This is Plan that businesses and organisations must, in certain circumstances, have in place to address a checklist of matters prescribed by the NSW Government. The ‘activity organiser’ of any community sport activity must ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a COVID-19 Safety Plan in place • A copy of the Plan is readily available at the venue for inspection by any authorised health officer or police office. <p>The COVID-19 Safety Plan template for community sport has been updated on 20 October 2021 and can be completed by Clubs online here.</p>
<p>Do those involved in training or matches have to prove vaccination status?</p>	<p>It is a requirement of the PHO for a person to carry vaccination evidence and to produce this if required to a police officer or an authorised health officer. An effective option for carrying this is by downloading the certificate into the Service NSW app.</p> <p>Under the terms of a COVID-19 Safety Plan, a club must take reasonable steps to ensure all people aged 16 years and over on the premises are fully vaccinated or have a medical exemption (including staff, volunteers, attendees and contractors).</p> <p>Examples of “reasonable steps” could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display posters outlining vaccination requirements around the club or venue. • Remind players, officials, volunteers and spectators of vaccination requirements in marketing and communications materials. • Check vaccination status upon arrival. • Train staff and volunteers on ways to check proof of COVID-19 vaccination status. <p>Further guidance is available here.</p>
<p>Do those involved in training or matches have to check-in?</p>	<p>Yes. It is requirement of the PHO for all attendees to check-in using the Service NSW app. A Service NSW QR Code will be provided by the NSW Government to the club once it has completed a COVID-19 Safety Plan and registered as a COVID Safe business. This is to be displayed prominently around the venue to ensure everyone is able to comply with check-in requirements</p> <p>NOTE: Community sport COVID-19 Safety Plans are new as of 20 October 2021 (see “What is a COVID-19 Safety Plan” for more information).</p>
<p>Up to 1,000 people can gather at a COVID-19 safe outdoor gathering, what is that?</p>	<p>Matches and training are classified as a ‘controlled outdoor public gathering’. which means a club must have a community sport COVID-19 Safety Plan and accompanying QR code. Once the plan is in place, the event will then be considered to be a ‘COVID-19 safe outdoor gathering’.</p>
<p>What is an outdoor gathering?</p>	<p>An outdoor gathering could be a club barbecue or presentation afternoon with fewer than 50 people attending. A COVID-19 Safety Plan is not required for this type of gathering.</p> <p>Unvaccinated children 15 years and younger may attend. They count towards the 50-person limit.</p>
<p>Are the rules different for different regions in NSW?</p>	<p>From 1 November, there will be no travel restrictions within NSW. COVID safe settings are the same throughout the state.</p>
<p>Can the club open for social gatherings (such as presentation or registration days)?</p>	<p>Hospitality venues (including clubs with indoor function areas) can open with a maximum 1 person per 4 square metres of space indoors and 1 per 2 square metres outdoors.</p> <p>Please ensure there is the appropriate COVID-19 Safety Plan in place.</p>
<p>Can we access change rooms?</p>	<p>Yes. Provided no more than one person per four square metres are using them at any time and everyone wears a face mask.</p>
<p>Can we still sing the club song in the rooms after a win?</p>	<p>No. At the moment, you cannot sing indoors. There is no restriction on singing outdoors.</p>