

10 June 2020

A Return to Sport for All from 1 July 2020

The Acting Minister for Sport, Dr Geoff Lee, announced this morning on Ben Fordham's 2GB radio program, that "adult (over 18 years old) community sport can recommence at the same time as 18 years and under from the start of next month, as the NSW Government lifts more COVID-19 restrictions."

The Media Release is shown below.

It should be noted that, until advised otherwise, all sports are still subject to the current NSW Public Health Orders until 1 July 2020, including:

- Gatherings (training) are still restricted to groups of no more than 10 people;
- Physical distancing rules still apply;
- No training involving contact allowed;
- 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.

To minimise the risk of contracting or transmitting COVID-19, at all times:

- 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.

To ensure consistency across all sports:

- The basic rule is "arrive, play sport, leave"
- All participants should be strongly encouraged to download the Government's CovidSafe app;
- No gathering as a group before or after sport;
- No close contact or tackling is allowed as it is within 1.5m;
- An area of 4m² is required per person (i.e. a minimum of 40m² for 10 people);

- There may be more than one group of 10 people at the same time at the same venue providing that clearly defined and separated areas of more than 40m² 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.

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.

Further information will be sent out as soon as possible.

Steve Loader
Chief Executive Officer

For information and updates, please refer to:

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>



Geoff Lee

Minister for Skills and Tertiary Education
Acting Minister for Sport, Multiculturalism, Seniors and Veterans

Brad Hazzard

Minister for Health and Medical Research

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 10 June 2020

READY, SET, GO – ADULT SPORT RECOMMENCES JULY 1

Adult community sport can recommence at the same time as 18 years and under from the start of next month, as the NSW Government lifts more COVID-19 restrictions.

Acting Minister for Sport Geoff Lee thanked the community for their patience during the pause on local sports and welcomed its return on July 1.

“Sport is the lifeblood of our community and it gives me great pleasure to say adult sports can return to their competitions at the same time as 18 years and under,” Mr Lee said.

“We have reduced the spread of COVID-19 to the point where further restrictions can be lifted. It is only because communities have followed the strict social distancing guidelines that this announcement is possible.”

Food and drink premises in stadiums can open subject to the same requirements that apply in other food and drink premises and pubs and registered clubs.

Minister for Health Brad Hazzard said, on the basis of health advice, crowds could not at this point gather in the stands.

“Today’s announcement is about a staged re-opening of the sports economy in a way that minimises the risk to the public. This makes a level playing field for sports stadiums, in line with the clubs and pubs re-opening to patrons,” Mr Hazzard said.

“With no vaccine and no treatment for COVID-19 there is an obligation on all of us to continue to maintain physical distancing and good hand hygiene. The virus has not gone away.”

Stadium operators will be required to:

- Develop and comply with a COVID-19 safety management plan;
- Operate with restricted numbers (One person per four square metres and up to 50 people in each of the existing seated food and drinks areas, whichever is the lesser excluding staff members, on the premises.); and
- Keep contact details of persons entering the premises.

MEDIA: Leigh van den Broeke | 0417 268 209