

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

Sydney Polo Club



SYDNEY POLO CLUB

Association/Club	Sydney Polo Club
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Club Facility Location	100 Ridges Lane Richmond NSW Australia
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Georgia Higgins is responsible for this document	

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1. Introduction

The purpose of this COVID-19 Safety Plan (Plan) is to provide an overarching plan for the implementation and management of procedures by Sydney Polo Club to support Sydney Polo Club and its members and participants in the staged resumption of community sport and club activities.

The arrangements set out in this Plan are intended to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 among members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, visitors, families and the broader community. The Plan provides the framework to govern the general operation of the Sydney Polo Club, any facilities it controls, the playing/training behaviour of all members and participants and the monitoring and reporting of the health of attendees at Sydney Polo Club facilities. This Plan includes, but is not limited to, the conduct of:

- a. staged training and competition activities (sport operations); and
- b. facility management and supporting operations (facility operations).

At all times the Plan is subject to all regulations, guidelines and directions of government and public health authorities.

2. Key Principles

This Plan is based on, and accepts, the AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport in a COVID-19 Environment (AIS Framework) and the National Principles for the Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities (National Principles).

The Plan also accepts as key principles that:

- The health and safety of members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, visitors, families and the broader community is the number one priority;
- Members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, families and the broader community need to be engaged and briefed on Sydney Polo Club's return to sport plans;
- Facilities are assessed and appropriate plans are developed to accommodate upgraded hygiene protocols, physical distancing and other measures to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19;
- Training cannot resume until the arrangements for sport operations and facility operations are finalised and approved, if necessary; and
- At every stage of the return to sport process Sydney Polo Club must consider and apply all applicable State and Territory Government and local restrictions and regulations. Sydney Polo Club needs to be prepared for any localised outbreak at our facilities, within our competitions or in the local community.

3. Responsibilities under this Plan

Sydney Polo Club retains the overall responsibility for the effective management and implementation of the return to sport activities and operations outlined in this Plan.

The Committee of Sydney Polo Club is responsible for:

- Approving the Plan and overseeing the implementation of the arrangements in the Plan; and
- Revising the Plan as required, ensuring it reflects up to date information from government and public health officials.

The following person has volunteered as the Sydney Polo Club COVID-19 Safety Coordinator to execute the delivery of the Plan and to act as a point of contact for information relating to this Plan:

Name	Georgia Higgins
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Sydney Polo Club expects all members, participants, coaches, officials, administrative staff and volunteers to:

- Comply with the health directions of government and public health authorities as issued from time to time;
- Understand and act in accordance with this Plan as amended from time to time;
- Comply with any testing and precautionary measures implemented by Sydney Polo Club;
- Act with honesty and integrity in regard to the state of their personal health and any potential symptoms; and
- Monitor their health and take a cautious approach to self-isolation and reporting of potential symptoms.

4. Return to Sport Arrangements

The Plan outlines specific sport requirements that Sydney Polo Club will implement for Level B and Level C of the AIS Framework.

Sydney Polo Club will transition to the training activity and facility use as outlined in Level B of the AIS Framework and the training/competition activities and facility use outlined in Level C of the AIS Framework when permitted under local restrictions and regulations. or

In line with NSW Health Sport and Recreation Sector amendments.

- a) COVID-19 safe outdoor public gathering for a community sporting activity to be the lesser of 1,000 persons or 1 person per 2 square metres.

4.1 Vaccination

Until 1 December 2021, Members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, families and the broader community are required to be fully vaccinated in order to attend/return to the sport.

A fully vaccinated person means a person who

- a) has had 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine, or
- b) has a medical contraindication certificate issued to the person, or
- c) under 16 years of age

4.2 AIS Framework Arrangements

The protocols for conducting sport operations and facility operations under Level B and Level C of the AIS Framework are set out in the Appendix.

4.3 Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Australia

Sydney Polo Club will also comply with the Australian government's [Roadmap to a COVIDSafe Australia](#), which places limits on the type of activity that can be conducted and the number of people who can gather at facilities, notwithstanding the activities permitted by the AIS Framework (see below).

AIS Activities	Level A: Training in no more than pairs. Physical distancing required.	Level B: Indoor/outdoor activity. Training in small groups up to 10. Physical distancing required.		Level C: Full sporting activity (training and competition) allowed. No restriction on numbers. Contact allowed.	
Roadmap Activities	N/A	Step 1: No indoor activity. Outdoor sport (up to 10 people) consistent with AIS Framework.	Step 2: Indoor/outdoor sport up to 20 people. Physical distancing (density 4m ²).	Step 3: Venues allowed to operate with up to 100 people with physical distancing. Community sport expansion to be considered consistent with AIS Framework.	Further steps TBC

5. Recovery

When public health officials determine that the outbreak has ended in the local community, Sydney Polo Club will consult with relevant authorities to identify criteria for scaling back its COVID-19 prevention actions. Sydney Polo Club will also consider which protocols can remain to optimise good public and participant health.

At this time the Committee of Sydney Polo Club will consult with key stakeholders to review the delivery of its return to sport arrangements and use feedback to improve organisational plans and systems.

Appendix: Outline of Return to Sport Arrangements

Part 1 – Sport Operations

Area	Plan Requirements (for activities under AIS Framework Level B)	Plan Requirements (for activities under AIS Framework Level C)
Approvals	<p>The club must obtain the following approvals to allow a return to training at Level B:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State/Territory Government approval of the resumption of community sport. • Relaxation of public gathering restrictions to enable training to occur. • Local government/venue owner approval to training at venue, if required. • National/state sporting body/local association approval of return to training for community sport. • Club committee has approved return to training for club. • Insurance arrangements confirmed to cover training. 	<p>The club must obtain the following approvals to allow a return to training/competition at Level C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relaxation of public gathering restrictions to enable training to occur. • Local government/venue owner approval to training/competition at venue, if required. • National/state sporting body/local association approval to return to training/competition for community sport. • Club committee has approved return to competition for club. • Insurance arrangements confirmed to cover competition.
Training Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sydney Polo Club is open only to Members, Players, Grooms and tournament/game officials. Spectators are not able to attend. • The following activities are permitted: chukkas, stick and balling, sets, hit pit training, coaching and fitness. • Visitors on site are encouraged to adhere to AIS Framework principle of “Get in, train, get out” – arrive ready to train. • Training and fitness schedules for humans and animals are scheduled to reduce overlap. • No contact in training including high fives/hand shaking, riding off or shaking hands, • Equipment should not be shared between people or animals outside household groups • Prior to play check whether any player, groom or anyone attending your club has visited any of hotspots. • Training attendance register is kept for each session with sign in via the COVID Safe Check-in App. • Density requirements adhered to per NSW Health directives. 	<p>Training Processes continue from level B with the addition of essential non-players in attendance (not including grooms, and tournament/game officials).</p>

Personal health	<p>SPC specifics of personal health protocols:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graded return to sport to avoid injury. • Any players, coaches, volunteers or grooms to not attend if unwell (including any signs/symptoms of cold, flu, COVID-19 or other illness). • Washing of hands prior to, during and after training and use of hand sanitiser where available. • Avoid physical greetings (i.e. hand shaking, high fives etc.). • Avoid coughing, clearing nose, spitting etc. • All household groups to launder own training uniform and wash personal equipment. • Umpires to supply own equipment to limit sharing. 	Personal health protocols continue from Level B.
Hygiene	<p>SPC specifics of hygiene protocols to support training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to directives from APF or NSWPA regarding rule changes for safety and/or hygiene. • Hand and equipment sanitiser supplied. • Commonly touched surfaces and facilities to be sanitised regularly. • Provide suitable rubbish bins with regular waste disposal 	Hygiene and cleaning measures to continue from Level B.
Communications	<p>SPC specifics of communications plan to be adopted by the Club in communicating to players, coaches, members, volunteers and families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Club have briefed players, coaches, grooms and volunteers on return to training protocols including hygiene protocols via social media and email and reinforcement of hand washing and general hygiene etiquette. • Endorsement of government COVIDSafe app and encouragement to players, coaches, members, volunteers and families to download and use app. • SPC will put additional signage around facility to encourage good personal hygiene and COVID protocol • All attendees to checkin with the COVID Safe Check-in App. • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPC will brief players, coaches, members, volunteers and families on Level C protocols including hygiene protocols and reinforcement of hand washing and general hygiene etiquette via membership group chats on Whatsapp, general communication to community via email, facebook and Instagram. • Continued endorsement of government COVIDSafe app and encouragement to players, coaches, members, volunteers and families to download and use app. • SPC will put additional signage around facility to encourage good personal hygiene and COVID protocol

Part 2 – Facility Operations

Area	Plan Requirements (for activities under AIS Framework Level B)	Plan Requirements (for activities under AIS Framework Level C)
Approvals	<p>The club must obtain the following approvals to allow use of club facilities at Level B:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State/Territory Government approval of the resumption of facility operations. • Local government/venue owner approval to use of facility, if required. • Club committee has approved plan for use of club facilities. • Insurance arrangements confirmed to cover facility usage. 	<p>The club must obtain the following approvals to allow use of club facilities at Level C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State/Territory Government approval of the resumption of facility operations. • Local government has given approval to use of facility, if required. • Club committee has approved plan for use of club facilities. • Insurance arrangements confirmed to cover facility usage.
Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parts of facilities that are available during Level B restrictions; limited to toilets and medical facilities and accessible by SPC members only. • Hygiene and cleaning protocols. • Provision of appropriate health and safety equipment, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and personal hygiene cleaning solutions. • The clubhouse, hitpit and toilet facilities are only available to club members. • Hitpit to be sanitised by user before and after use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return to full use of Club facilities. • Hygiene and cleaning protocols measures as per Level B.
Facility access	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As described under training processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue Level B protocols as appropriate. • Non-essential personnel to be discouraged from entering facilities.
Hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As described under Part 1 Hygiene processes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As described under Part 1 Hygiene processes.
Management of unwell participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any person with symptoms should not attend Sydney Polo Club. • Any person who starts to experience symptoms while at the club should make this known to the COVID officer via phone. • Training of volunteers/club management on treatment of symptomatic participants and disinfecting of facilities used by such participants. • In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 defer to NSW Health to assess the risk to people the case may have been in contact with while infectious. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures as per Level B.

Club responsibilities	<p>The club will oversee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provision and conduct of hygiene protocols as per the Plan.• The capture of a record of attendance at all training and club activities and maintaining an up-to-date log of attendance.• Coordination of Level B field and training operations.• Operation of the club's facilities in support of all Level B training activities in accordance with this Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As per Level B.
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