

Wagga Wagga Combined Hockey Association



I hope everyone has coped well with the vigour's of isolation over the last few weeks. Now that we can see some light at the end of the tunnel, the Board thought it appropriate that we start a formal COVID-19 communication medium to help with our pathway to a competition start on the 18th July 2020. As restrictions begin to lift many of us are itching to get back to hockey, open the doors, welcome members, and guests back to our facilities and to the sport we all enjoy. It is unlikely it will be that simple! Anyone who is not planning measures to re-open with a new way of operating will be left exposed to unnecessary risks, potential damage to the brand (think sponsors and recruiting efforts) and open to criticism.

Questions designed to prompt WWCHA member clubs to get prepared are listed to the right under "what's happening".
Clubs must be able to demonstrate that measures are in place to allow re-opening safely before their members and guests will feel secure and come flooding back.

Newsletter #1

WHAT'S HAPPENING - COVID 19

Hi All, we hope that you and your loved ones are safe during this time. We would like to introduce this newsletter to keep our members up to date on the COVID-19 protocols and considerations. These suggestions are intended as a guide only and to prompt discussions among WWCHA member club's administrators and their members. As health authority measures and guidelines for clubs, organised sport and the wider community come to light, WWCHA will share them as soon as practicable and in alignment with our governing bodies Hockey Australia and Hockey NSW.

Hygiene

- Have you provided clear guidance, education or information on COVID-19 hygiene protocols and practices to your volunteers, members, and participants?
- Do you have adequate supplies of cleaning and sanitiser products?
- Can your volunteers, members, participants, and customers wash or sanitise their hands regularly?
- Can you list the measures you will use to manage hygiene among your players and supporters and how will you promote these?
- How will people within the club environment be consistently reminded about the protocols in place? Is there suitable signage for example?

Players, volunteers, officials, and supporters

- Have you directed your players, volunteers, officials, and supporters not to attend hockey if experiencing even the slightest known symptoms - tickle in throat, runny nose, lethargy, minor cough?
- Have you advised your players, volunteers, officials, and supporters to seek medical advice if they have any symptoms of COVID-19?

Movement

- Have you established separate entry and exit points, including handwashing and sanitising stations?
- Can you provide separate areas for training, limited team talks and gatherings, drop-off and set-down points, and club meetings?
- Have you adjusted activity timings to allow players, parents, participants to arrive and depart separately?
- Can you list the measures you will use to ensure physical distancing of people and how will you promote these?



Click on the image for more information

COVID 19 - Cont'd

Equipment

- Are participants encouraged to bring their own water bottles and not rely on the facilities provided by your organisation?
- Have you established protocols to limit or reduce the sharing of equipment; goal keeping gear, face masks, training aids etc?
- Have you established protocols for sanitising shared equipment?
- Have you established protocols for laundering team uniforms?
- Do you have protocols in place for sports medical staff and appropriate use of first aid equipment?
- Have you increased regular cleaning schedules of common use items and / or common use areas?

Activities

- Are changes required to participant behaviour during activities (for example no shaking hands, high fives, team huddles)?
- Have training conditions or activity rules been modified to support physical distancing?
- Can you list any measures or other considerations your club has made to ensure compliance is being maintained to manage participation and training activities and how will you promote these?

Activities Cont'd

- Have you considered the use of technology to assist with physical distancing where possible, eg zoom meetings or increased email activity?
- Do your constitutions and / or policies allow for electronic management of your clubs?

Communication

- Do you have communication protocols established to advise player, volunteers, officials, and supporters, and parents/carers not to attend if they are feeling unwell?
- Have your club administrators been given direction on how to appropriately intervene when returning members and participants are not meeting Covid-19 protocols?
- Does your club have protocols for notifying health authorities of issues or suspected COVID-19 cases?
- Which of the following will you use to communicate with players, volunteers, officials, participants, parents, and caregivers?
 - o Social media?
 - Newsletters or emails?
 - o Signage at venues and facilities?

Have you been keeping up with the who's who of hockey with the Where Are They Now challenge?

Check it out on our Facebook Page!

