

Memo



To Association Executives, Delegates, Netball NSW Board Members
From Carolyn Campbell, Chief Executive Officer Netball NSW
CC Darren Simpson, Executive General Manager Community & Pathways
Date Thursday, 24 September 2020
Re **Changes to NSW Health COVID-19 Restrictions**

The NSW Government have today announced a relaxation of COVID-19 restrictions relating to community sport. The relaxation of the current rules comes into effect on **Saturday 26 September**.

Full details can be obtained at the NSW Office of Sport website, by clicking [here](#). The most recent letter from NSW Chief Health Officer Dr Kerry Chant, addressing both school and community sport and activities is available [here](#).

This advice is timely for those Associations in the last weeks of their winter season. The key points to note from this announcement and the links above are as follows:

- The Public Health Order which came in to effect on 1 July 2020 still applies to community sporting activities.
- More than one parent may now attend community sporting activities if physical distancing of at least 1.5 metres can be maintained between people that are not from the same household.
- The requirement to adhere to the 500-person limit for community sport activities (including participants, officials and spectators) remains in place. Similarly, the limit of 500 people per zone remains for those Associations who have their venues split into multiple discrete zones in line with the Public Health Order Exemption relating to specific netball venues.
- Inter-regional community sporting competitions may recommence without restricting these activities to regions or zones, where there is a COVID-19 Safety Plan for the community sport activity in place.
- Community sports organisations and participants should continue to avoid shared travel arrangements such as car-pooling, along with minimising social gatherings before and after the event.
- All community sporting organisations must still ensure their activity is delivered in compliance with the Public Health Order and their COVID-19 Safety Plan.

With regard to the specific question on finals matches and whether more spectators can now attend, there are a few key considerations for Associations. Firstly, it is at the discretion of the Association if you wish to make changes to the way your venue has been operating. This is captured in the following excerpt from the Office of Sport website:

Some community sport organisations may choose to still limit spectator numbers at matches, subject to the protocols within their COVID-19 Safety Plans and based on factors such as the size of their venue, match scheduling or hiring requirements placed on them by venue operators. We ask that you have patience and understanding as clubs and associations interpret and implement this advice in the most practical manner for their activities.

Associations who are still conducting full schedules of matches (ie playing a 'first-past-the-post' season) may need to continue to restrict spectator numbers to remain below 500 people in attendance or per zone.

Associations who have less games scheduled due to being in finals may now be able to accommodate more than one spectator per player. To ensure that the necessary 1.5 metre physical distancing requirements are met, playing on courts that are well spaced (not side-by-side) will enable more spectators to line the perimeter of courts and ensure COVID-19 Safety Plan requirements are still met.

For any further clarification of the above, please feel free to contact:

Lauren Woods on 0424 750 330 or Melissa Achten on 0409 819 745.