



Australian Oztag Return to Play

COVID – 19 SAFETY PLAN





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Introduction

COVID-19 is most likely spread through direct close contact with a person while they are infectious, or being in the same closed space for at least 2 hours.

The risk of infection through playing sport outdoors is minimal, and now with the rate of infection greatly reduced, sports are working towards playing again.

Oztag being a non contact sport & played outdoors would be in the minimal risk category. It's time to cautiously reintroduce Oztag, a very popular recreational sport back into the community.

The conditions set out in this document are in line with government directions & will be amended when necessary.





Australian Oztag Covid-19 Safety Coordinator

AO has appointed Bill Harrigan as its Safety Coordinator

It is his responsibility to oversee the delivery of this plan.

Continually check updated information from all relevant government & health organisations.

Continually update associations through email and social media on all aspects of Covid-19, restrictions, the safety plan and any other relevant information.



Association Covid-19 Safety Officer

Each Association will nominate a local Covid-19 Safety Coordinator each night of competition.

The coordinator will be responsible for ensuring the safety plan is adhered to each night of competition.

The coordinator will be identified by a fluro vest.



Communication/Education

AO will continually update associations through email and social media on all aspects of Covid-19, restrictions, the safety plan and any other relevant information.

It will be the responsibility of the association to pass on the information to players, staff & officials.

This needs to be done via email, texts, social media outlets & posters at competitions.





Strategy

The success of implementing this plan will come down to the diligence of associations & their staff and the educating of the players to adhere to the safety measures put in place.





Covid-19 Information Sources

- Australian Government Department of Health: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>
- World Health Organisation: <https://www.who.int/>
- Australian Institute of Sport: <https://ais.gov.au/health-wellbeing/covid-19>
- Sport Australia: <https://www.sportaus.gov.au/>

Protocols: Return to play - Registrations



We will have minimal time to hold registrations, complete draws and start the competitions. As a result, we will have to change or redefine our method of registration.

On line is the ideal method.

If associations aren't geared for on line then have the delegate pay for the team in one payment either by bank transfer or credit card over the phone.

If a rego night is organised the venue will need to be out doors or a room large enough to accommodate numerous people adhering to social distancing restrictions. (One person per 4 Sq metres). Only the delegate to attend and make a team payment. Time parameters need to be put in place for attendance. Eg. Booking times using google forms or similar or rostering times for certain divisions

Protocol: On game night – Attendance Records



Part of the return to play protocol by government is to have an attendance record including arrival & departure time of players. The Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) template with all the required information needed is not suitable for Oztag competitions, however it is required.

Oztag team registration forms with players details will satisfy the 'who' and 'contact' details of the form.

Oztag player sign on sheets will satisfy the 'arrival & departure time'. Eg. Player arriving to play in a certain time slot could be expected to arrive within 15 minutes of game start and departing within 15 minutes of game finish.

Therefore it is imperative we maintain sign-ons.

Protocol: On game night - Attendance



Competitions using 5 or less fields

Player attends ready to play

Player attends sign on area through dedicated entry point. (Sign on times allocated for each game slot.)

1.5m markings on the floor from the table/bench.

Player announces to staff their team and name & are marked present.

Players exits through dedicated exit towards the fields.

Hand sanitiser to be located in this area.

Protocol: On Game Night - Attendance



Competitions using 6 or more fields.

Player to go straight to the field.

A staff member will attend each field during the game & mark players present.

This can be done quickly by comparing number of registered players in a team and number in attendance.

The 6 field protocol can be used for competitions with 5 fields or less.

Team delegate & players must know their game time and field before arrival to prevent players congregating in one small area.



Protocol: Players

Players to arrive no sooner than 15 minutes before their game.

Arrive ready to play.

Players are encouraged to bring their own hand sanitiser and apply before they take the field, at half time and again immediately after full time.

Delegate of team encouraged to bring hand sanitiser for team use.

Players to bring their own water bottle and not share.





Protocol: Players

Players to avoid high fives, shaking hands & spitting.

Interchange players on the side line to maintain social distancing.

Players to vacate venue immediately after full time. Do not loiter in a group. Pick up any belongings and depart the venue via dedicated exit route to car park if applicable.

Players playing in another time slot later need to return to their car & wait.



Protocol: Game Equipment

Ball: The ball must be supplied by the association not teams. This allows the association to control the cleanliness of the ball. The ball will be clean to start with then at half time the referee will clean the ball with a disinfectant wipe or spray.

The ball will be replaced or thoroughly washed between games.

Tags: Preferably change tags after each game however this may not be practical and with players using sanitiser before & during the game the transmission of the virus would be practically zero. Tags to be washed after each night of competition.



Protocol: Spectators

No spectators allowed.

If minors are playing then one parent/guardian may be in attendance. If practical the parent/guardian should watch from the car.

If parent/guardian is staying at the field social distancing must be maintained.

Parents that are playing and are unable to leave children at home, may have them on the sideline maintaining social distance rules.



Protocol: Game Times

Associations currently run 40 minute games with a new time slot every 45 minutes.

Small venues, where the gathering of people is below the restriction amount, taking into consideration the crossover of players at game time, may be able to maintain the 45 minute game slots.

Larger venues will have to provide a 15 minute changeover time for players to vacate and arrive to avoid breaching the gathering restriction.

In this situation associations may have to offer 30 minute games enabling them to still have the 45 minute time slots.

This will be determined by your booking times with council and the number of fields you access.





Protocol: Venue Facilities

Continually cleaning common staff areas eg. Sign on table/bench.

Staff will be required to spray disinfectant on all toilet taps at regular intervals during the night.

Hand soap/sanitiser to be placed in toilets.

Covid-19 posters to be placed in toilets re hand washing.

Covid-19 posters to be placed around venue re social distancing etc.

Disposable gloves and masks to be kept ready for use by staff & possible symptomatic players.



Protocol: Management of Symptomatic Person

If a player presents with symptoms or becomes unwell staff should immediately wear PPE.

Supply the symptomatic person with a mask.

Open a change room & isolate the person.

Notify the public health organisation in your area. E.g Hospital, GP Have numbers ready on hand.

Organise transport. Is person able to drive themselves? Relative or friend to transport?





Covid-19 Posters

The following slides include the Posters from Sport Australia

The PDF posters are attached to the email sent from AO.

Link to Sport Australia Hygiene Guidance:

[https://www.sportaus.gov.au/return-to-sport# covid-19 hygiene guidance](https://www.sportaus.gov.au/return-to-sport# covid-19_hygiene_guidance)

Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

SIMPLE STEPS TO HELP STOP THE SPREAD.

Cough or sneeze
into your arm



Use a tissue



Bin the tissue



Wash your hands



HELP
STOP
THE
SPREAD
AND STAY HEALTHY

**TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP
THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.**

For more information about **Coronavirus
(COVID-19)** visit **health.gov.au**



Australian Government

Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

GOOD HYGIENE IS IN YOUR HANDS.

Wash your hands thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds to prevent passing on germs. Dry your hands.

**TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP
THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.**

For more information about **Coronavirus
(COVID-19)** visit [health.gov.au](https://www.health.gov.au)



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Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

KEEP THAT COUGH UNDER COVER.

Always cough or sneeze into your arm or a tissue and put the tissue in the bin straight away. Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds afterwards.

**TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP
THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.**

For more information about **Coronavirus
(COVID-19)** visit [health.gov.au](https://www.health.gov.au)



Australian Government

Coronavirus
(COVID-19)

KEEPING YOUR DISTANCE.

Help stop the spread of coronavirus by keeping your distance. Remember, don't shake hands or exchange physical greetings. Wherever possible stay 1.5 metres apart and practise good hand hygiene, especially after being in public places.

**TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP
THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.**

Advice regarding **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** will change regularly. Keep up to date. Visit **health.gov.au**



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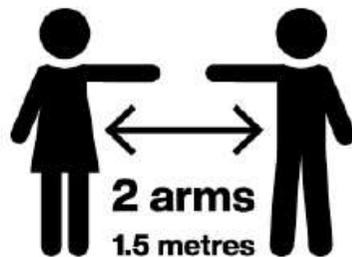


Australian Government

OFFICIAL MEDICAL ADVICE

**You must stay
2 arms lengths
from others to
stop the spread
of Coronavirus.**

And always practise
good hygiene.



Download the App
Visit australia.gov.au

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra



KEEP YOUR DISTANCE

PLEASE STAND HERE