



MANLY WARRINGAH NETBALL ASSOCIATION INC.

COVID-19 COMPETITION OPERATIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR NETBALL PARTICIPANTS

Version Number	Updated
5.1.0	21 July 2020

The priority of MWNA is to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the community and to undertake its social responsibility to do everything it can to slow down the spread of COVID-19. The key point of reference in all considerations and guidelines has been the measures recommended and implemented by both the Federal and State Governments.

COVID-19 is most likely spread through direct close contact with a person while they are infectious (usually face to face contact for at least 15 minutes; or being in the same enclosed space for at least 2 hours). With the majority of community level netball played outdoors, the risk of infection through playing sport is minimal, and now with the rate of infection greatly reduced, it is time to cautiously reintroduce the MWNA 2020 netball competition.

Our MWNA Competition Plan and the MWNA COVID-19 Safety Plan have been developed in line with the template provided by the NSW Government but may require alteration(s) as Public Health Orders change. In order to return to netball, this MWNA document serves to support the implementation of the competition structure and its associated procedures, emphasising the responsibilities of all MWNA members.

Further, NSW Health has indicated that netball facilities will be visited by officials from local Public Health Units to ensure ongoing compliance with all requirements of the exemption. It is likely that such inspections will focus on areas where congregation may occur – such as our control room, toilets, entry and exit points etc – so it is vital that these areas are well managed and all take responsibility re monitoring compliance.

Our MWNA COVID-19 Safety Plan and venue/court plan, as well as these operational guidelines we have put in place, remain as the most important documents throughout this season. Local Public Health Units in each area have copies of our plan and may or may not be in contact with us.

Facility Attendance

In preparing the MWNA competition plan, we have considered the number of participants and fixtures to minimise the number of attendees at Curl Curl courts at any one time by dividing our court area into hubs.

Court Usage and Numbers – “Arrive, Play, Leave”

Each court can be utilised for competition with half an hour allocated to allow netball participants to get in and out of the grounds via the entry/exit points on the MWNA court map. Each hub or zone has its own separate exit/entry point at the John Fisher Park open fence line along Abbott Road, North Curl Curl. Each hub is discrete and netball participants must only use the entry/exit point of their hub (court) section.

Senior Games

Proposed total numbers per court - maximum	
Players (7) and substitutes (3) x 2 teams	20
Coaches and Team Staff (2 per team) i	4
Umpires (+mentors)	2 (possibly 4)
Spectators	Nil
Average sum of people	26 (28 with mentors?)

Junior Games

Spectators are to be kept to a minimum.

Proposed total numbers per court - maximum	
Players (7) and substitutes (3) x 2 teams	20
Coaches and Team Staff (2 per team)	4
Umpires (+mentors)	2 (possibly 4)
Parent / Spectators <i>ie 1 parent/spectator per registered junior/cadet player</i>	20
Average sum of people	46 (48 with mentors?)

Before participating in any netball activity, participants and officials should not play officiate in a match:

- If you had any of the following symptoms in the last 24 hours (even mild):
Fever, cold, sore throat, difficulty breathing/shortness of breath, fatigue, loss of your sense of smell (without sinus obstruction), Diarrhoea, Headache (combined with other symptoms) Muscle aches
- If you have been in close contact with another person who has recently returned from overseas.
- If you have been in Victoria in the past 14 days according to the new Victorian border restriction order, further information can be found here

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/border-restrictions/guide>

- Persons who have been in attendance of the latest COVID-19 case locations in NSW, further information can be found here
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates>

Check the NSW Government website link advice regarding the full list of symptoms associated with COVID-19 infection:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/symptoms-and-testing>

IF IN DOUBT, OPT OUT

When participating in the MWNA Competition the following conditions are to be implemented by the MWNA designated officials:

- All participants are encouraged through various forms of communication to download the COVIDSafe App.
- Liaise and work with NB Council and Facilities Co-Ordinator to comply with any specific requirements to provide a COVID safe environment to play, that there must be a physical barrier, separating discrete groups/hubs. NB council has undertaken to put out the night before bunting to distinguish discrete playing hubs.
- Identify person/s who are engaged by the association/committee volunteers/paid personnel who provide services associated with the management of netball. Those identified by the association should be given a lanyard allowing them to cross the physical barriers between hubs. This is specifically referring to volunteers who must be in different zones at various times of the day in order to ensure the day runs as it should. While it should be limited wherever possible, it is permitted under the exemption.
- Determine physical distancing protocols to be used within shared facility spaces (e.g. toilets, spectator viewing step area, entrance foyers, corridors, and club house physio room), and where necessary, clearly demonstrate these protocols through marking tape and/or signage.
- Encourage individuals to be respectful of shared space, minimise time spent in these areas and observe physical distancing measures.
- Implement queuing requirements to maintain physical distancing at score sheet pick up/drop off points, physio room.
- Ensure appropriate sale of whistles and credit handling arrangements.
- Implement essential hygiene measures including hand sanitiser provided at 12 venue points. Netball participants should sanitise at entry/exit points.
- Provide a COVID safe tent with equipment for the COVID-19 MWNA Safety Coordinator. This will include equipment/clothing/signage that supports infection control measures.
- Provide on-going communication on how 'return to play' measures will be managed. This includes website, Facebook, Whatsapp groups (such as MWNA Club Secretaries, MWNA COVID -19 Coordinator, MWNA Coaching). Utilise repeat messaging to emphasise effective hygiene protocols.
 'A' frame displays at appropriate spots around John Fisher Park will also support messaging.
- Ensure any handling of equipment is to be kept to a minimum by employees/volunteers.
- MWNA Toilets are open for use and participants are encouraged to use their bathroom at home rather than the public facility. Clear signage indicating the restrictions of the number of people (dependent on the number) entering/exiting the toilet facility at one time should be displayed.

- Use of MWNA and public toilets, wet or inside areas should be limited to players, umpires and team personnel and thorough cleaning is conducted between timeslots.
- Soap and sanitiser will be available in the toilets, upstairs kitchen, and physio room always.
- Bibs/balls are not to be shared or loaned between teams or clubs. Guide teams to have two sets of bibs for player rotation. After use, encourage a requirement that the sets of bibs be taken home and washed.
- Announcements are made before, during and at the end of the game that team personnel are encouraged to rehydrate, and hand sanitise.
- Discourage social activity once games have concluded i.e. teams should avoid team handshakes, team huddles or high fives or various other team celebrations that breach physical distancing. Team celebrations should be limited to essential outdoor gatherings and within government guidelines.
- Repeat physical distancing protocols, support, and observe adults (in particular) prior to, during and after the game and set expectations.
- Repeat messaging on “No Dogs at Netball”.

Wellbeing of Staff and Visitors (as per MWNA Covid Safety Plan)

Wellbeing of staff and visitors	
Requirements	Actions
<p>Ensure processes are in place to exclude participants (including spectators and officials) if they have visited Victoria in the 14 days prior.</p>	<p>We will regularly (weekly) communicate - and require clubs attending our venue to communicate to their members - that any players, team officials, parents/careers and other Association or Club members must not attend training or matches, if they have visited Victoria in the past 14 days.</p> <p>This will be done through a combination of emails, direct communication (ie Team App etc), PA announcements, social media, and signage.</p>
<p>Ensure processes are in place to exclude participants (including spectators and officials) if they have attended any of the reported case locations listed on the NSW Health website (nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates).</p>	<p>We will regularly (weekly) communicate - and require clubs attending our venue to communicate to their members - that any players, team officials, parents/careers and other Association or Club members must not attend training or matches, if they have attended a reported case location.</p> <p>We will encourage everyone attending the venue to view the NSW Health website prior to attending to double-check the latest case locations at: https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-news-and-updates</p> <p>This will be done through a combination of emails, direct communication (ie Team App etc), PA announcements, social media, and signage.</p>

<p>Take all reasonable steps to minimise the number of spectators attending community sport events.</p>	<p>Minimal spectators are allowed at the courts. Wherever possible we are limiting entry to one spectator (Parent or guardian) per participant for Junior sport. We understand this is not always possible, but we will endeavor to educate our members to be sensible in these exceptional times. For our senior timeslot where possible we will request that no spectators attend the matches.</p> <p>Spectators not from the same household will be reminded to social distance on the sidelines of all games and in the congregation areas throughout the day. This will be done through PA announcements, social media, direct communication and signage.</p>
<p>If sufficient numbers to field teams cannot be achieved, prioritise delaying the event rather than substituting with people from other teams or from the community.</p>	<p>We will promote and communicate the importance of the wellbeing of our members and have amended our competition rules to suit this situation, such as deeming affected matches a 'draw' rather than a 'forfeit'.</p> <p>Wherever possible we will not allow players to substitute into another team and will not punish teams who are unable to play due to COVID-19 restrictions.</p> <p>We will ensure that players only participate in One (1) competition game per day ie</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If a player has played in a game on a day, that player should not play in a second game on an ad hoc basis (ie as a 'borrowed' player) on the same day. 2. If a player has a bye in their normal team, on that day they could play as a 'borrowed' player given they will still only be playing in one game on the day.

Club Responsibilities

- Clubs are required to (weekly) communicate to their members that any players, team officials, parents/careers and other Association or Club members **must not attend** training or matches if they have visited Victoria in the past 14 days.
- Clubs are required to communicate to their members that any players, team officials, parents/careers and other Association or Club members **must not attend** training or matches if they have attended a reported case location.
- Clubs to encourage minimal spectators are allowed at the courts. We understand this is not always possible, but we will endeavor to educate our members to be sensible in these exceptional times. For our senior timeslot where possible we will request that no spectators attend the matches.
- Clubs will promote and communicate the importance of the wellbeing of all MWNA members and support widely the amendments that have been made

to our competition rules to suit this situation, **such as deeming affected matches a 'draw' rather than a 'forfeit'. We will ensure that teams do not borrow players from other teams to be able to compete in matches.**

- Wherever possible clubs will not allow players to substitute into another team and will not sanction teams who are unable to play due to COVID-19 restrictions.
- Club parent/Spectators not from the same household will be reminded to social distance on the sidelines of all games throughout the day. This will be social media, direct communication by the Club Covid Safety CoOrdinator and signage.
- Educate club members they must only use the discrete entry/exit point of their hub (court) section where their game is played. Emphasise each hub or zone has its own separate exit/entry point at the John Fisher Park open fence line along Abbott Road, North Curl Curl. Monitor your club members and ensure there is no unnecessary movement between court hubs (refer COVID Safety Court Map).
- Clubs should monitor compliance of the MWNA Covid 19 safety Plan.
- Identify person/s who are engaged by the club who provide services associated with the management of netball. Those identified by the club should be given a lanyard allowing them to cross the physical barriers between hubs. This is specifically referring to volunteers who must be in different zones at various times of the day in order to ensure the day runs as it should. While it should be limited wherever possible, it is permitted under the exemption.
- Sanitise at the hand stations upon the hub entry/exit into hubs.
- Encourage all club members to download the COVIDSafe App.
- Where possible, appoint a Club COVID -19 Safety Coordinator and support them in training about infection control measures. Liaise with the MWNA Covid-19 Safety Coordinator.
- Repeat messaging and expect physical distancing protocols (1.5 metres) are supported and observed by club members/adults prior to, during and after competition games.
- Provide on-going communication guidelines on how 'return to play' measures will be managed by the club. This includes website, facebook, whats app (be an active and supportive participant in the MWNA Club Secretaries, MWNA COVID-19 Coordinator, MWNA Coaching groups). Utilise repeat messaging to emphasise effective hygiene protocols amongst club members. Refer to MWNA webpage COVID-19 resources.
- Display 'A' frames and infographics at appropriate venues to support essential hygiene messaging.
- Implement arrangements to minimise the shared use of club equipment where possible.

- Also, avoid sharing of articles of clothing such as volunteer high visibility vests (jacketed ground marshalls should take their own vest home to wash).
- Clubs Administrators should support all netball participants in implementing effective 'Return to Play' guidelines.
- Should an administrator be approached regarding a suspected COVID-19 participant refer to the MWNA COVID-19 Safety Coordinator who is located at the COVID-19 tent adjacent to the building.
- Repeat messaging on "No Dogs at Netball"

Team Personnel Responsibility at Competition Games

- Only use the discrete entry/exit point of your team's hub (court) ie the hub where the game is played. Each hub or zone has its own separate exit/entry point at the John Fisher Park open fence line along Abbott Road, North Curl Curl. Each hub and team personnel must avoid unnecessary movement between court hubs (refer COVID Safety Court Map).
- If you are involved in more than one time slot as a club volunteer, wear a club lanyard which will allow you to cross the physical barriers between hubs. Do not share your lanyard with any other netball participant/volunteer.
- Sanitise at the hand stations upon entry and exit
- Download the COVIDSafe App and all members of your team to also download the app.
- Discourage sharing of personal equipment including playing equipment, spare playing 'blood' uniforms, drink bottles and towels and should not leave personal equipment on surfaces such as a table or bench.
- Repeat messaging and expect physical distancing protocols are supported and observed by team members including spectators prior to, during and after competition games.
- Avoid sharing of stationery (pens, clip boards etc.), other personal IT equipment (laptops, iPads, etc); and team officials should not share whistles or other equipment such as cones, ladders, hurdles etc.
- Where possible, use anti-bacterial wipes, spray or sanitiser. If shared equipment (particularly balls and bibs) this should be rotated, washed, or wiped with antibacterial wipes or alcohol-based sanitise/sprays prior to and after each use and at each break. In the case of bibs, there should be at a minimum 2 set of bibs per team.
- Emphasise personal equipment bags should be arranged to permit physical distancing of participants (1.5 metres) before, during and after games.
- Repeat messaging on "No Dogs at Netball"

Player and Umpire Responsibilities at Competition Games

- Only use the discrete entry/exit point of your team's hub (court) ie the hub where the game is played. Each hub or zone has its own separate exit/entry point at the John Fisher Park open fence line along Abbott Road, North Curl Curl. Each

hub and team personnel must avoid unnecessary movement between court hubs (refer COVID Safety Court Map).

- If player/umpire is involved in more than one time slot as an official, wear a club lanyard which will allow you to cross the physical barriers between hubs. Do not share your lanyard with any other netball participant/volunteer.
- Avoid unnecessary movement between other court hubs
- Download the COVIDSafe App.
- Ideally come to the game already prepared to compete/officiate. This may include strapping and stretching. Encourage use of the home bathroom before attending the game.
- Bring your own clearly labelled drink bottle. No sharing of drink bottles is permitted. Bring your own recovery food. This is **not** to be supplied by the team.
- Hand sanitise before, at intervals and after the game.
- Leave the venue as swiftly as possible once your game has concluded.
- Be responsible for the cleaning of their own uniform.
- Uniforms should be washed between games.
- No sharing of whistles
- No sharing of Trainee umpires' bibs or white t-shirts
- Should an umpire be approached regarding a suspected COVID-19 participant, refer to the MWNA COVID-19 Safety CoOrdinator who is located at the COVID-19 marquee.

Parents/Spectator Responsibilities at Competition Games

One Parent/spectator may attend games upon full resumption of competitive netball activities provided the parent/spectator follows MWNA precautions to minimise transmission risk. There can only be one parent/spectator per registered member. Parents/spectators will:

- Only use the discrete entry/exit point of your team's hub (court) ie the hub where the game is played. Each hub or zone has its own separate exit/entry point at the John Fisher Park open fence line along Abbott Road, North Curl Curl.
- Avoid unnecessary movement. Parent/spectators are only able to observe one player. Parent/spectator cannot move from one hub to the other.
- Sanitise at the hand stations upon entry and exit of the hub.
- Download the COVIDSafe App.
- Spread along the sidelines and follow the designated use of specific areas that meet physical distancing requirements ie 1.5 metres apart (members of the same household are not required to distance however the registered player cannot add to the team limit of registered players) (See map at end of document)

- Be prepared to register their name with team personnel.
- Spectators from different games and timeslots should not co-mingle.
- Arrive using the hub entry points no more than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled timeslot of the competition game. At all times avoid congestion at entry/exit points. Wait patiently for congestion to clear.
- Leave the venue as swiftly as possible once the game has concluded using the hub exits.
- Do not bring your dogs to Netball