



UPDATE: 29 MAY 2020

AFL NSW/ACT COVID-19 RESPONSE

Dear AFL Community Clubs and local stakeholders

AFL NSW/ACT has received **ACT Government** approval to extend training to groups of up-to 20 players plus a coach for Australian Rules Football from 11:59PM Friday, 29 May 2020 within the ACT, after having previously been allowed groups of 10 from 11:59PM Friday, 15 May 2020.

Returning to training in a safe, hygienic and controlled manner is paramount to the AFL. The safety and wellbeing of our participants is our number one priority.

Accordingly, the **AFL Return to Play Framework** (Framework) has been developed to ensure we have the clear endorsement of State Government and public health officials at every phase of return to play.

The Framework has been informed by the National Principles for the Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities and the AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport in a Post COVID-19 Environment, in consultation with health professionals and leaders in the football industry.

This first phase of the resumption of community sport in the ACT requires all participants to comply with this Framework to ensure social distancing and hygiene protocols are followed by each Community Club participating in small group training of up-to 20 persons.

Key documents have been updated/included for your information and compliance

- AFL NSW/ACT Return to Small Group Training up-to 20 People Protocols
- AFL NSW/ACT Return to Small Group Training up-to 20 People Club Checklist
- AFL NSW/ACT Return to Small Group Training up-to 20 People FAQ's

AFL NSW/ACT strongly recommends that Community Clubs undertake the necessary preparations to support small group training of up-to 20 persons in a COVID-safe environment. This will allow Community Clubs to plan for, implement and communicate the required protocols to their members prior to commencing any activity.

In addition, an important part of this return to play process is the requirement of each Club to appoint a COVID Safety Officer that is responsible for ensuring these protocols are adhered to and participants can return to a prepared and safe environment.

We also strongly recommend all participants immediately download the **COVID-SAFE App**, to ensure we can quickly trace and manage any outbreaks in the community.

We understand this announcement will raise many questions for Club officials, players, parents and volunteers. As such we have prepared a set of **FAQs** that hopefully address most of these for you at this time. We will continue to update these as the situation progresses. There are a number of great resources and templates available at www.aflnswact.com.au/return-to-play to assist Community Clubs.

We are excited that more Canberrans can return to their footy fields in the weeks ahead and ask that the AFL community act in a COVID-safe and compliant manner when doing so.

AFL NSW/ACT will continue to work closely with the ACT Government and provide further details regarding the resumption of contact training and competition play in due course.

Tiffany Robertson
Acting Chief Executive Officer – AFL NSW/ACT