



RETURN TO PLAY FRAMEWORK

COVID SAFE SENIOR FINALS EVENT

PLAN - ACT

Prepared for ACT Senior Final Teams ONLY Updated September 28



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BACKGROUND

Delivering a finals event in a safe, hygienic and controlled manner is paramount to the AFL. The safety and wellbeing of our participants and community is our number one priority.

Following the recently announced COVID Safe Event Protocol in the ACT, AFL NSW/ACT has been provided an exemption for spectators allowed at all Senior Grand Finals from 100 to 200 on Saturday the 3rd of October at Gungahlin Enclosed Oval. The contents of this document will be provided to and delivered by all event hosts.

All clubs, participants, officials and spectators must follow the relevant Government guidelines and ensure that the AFL NSW/ACT's COVIS Safe Senior Finals Event Plan – ACT Protocols are implemented.

In advance of finals competitions, we encourage Leagues, clubs, volunteers and spectators to review the following Protocols to prepare for a the delivery of the 2020 finals series safely.

Our primary focus is to ensure our clubs, volunteers and spectators prepare for finals competitions in a safe environment that is a carefully managed. In order for this to be successful, it is essential that clubs and individuals work within the protocols and government restrictions and do not move ahead of the current restrictions.

MATCH SCHEDULES

The below games will be provided an exemption for up to 200 spectators per game.

Saturday 3rd October, Gungahlin Enclosed Oval

Division	Home Team	Away Team	Venue	Time Start	Time Finish	Max Crowd
Under 18s Mens	Marist	Eastlake	GEO	9:00am	10:40am	200
2 nd Grade Mens	Belconnen	Eastlake	GEO	11:25am	1:00pm	200
1 st Grade Mens	Queanbeyan	Belconnen	GEO	1:50pm	3:45pm	200
1 st Grade Womens	Belconnen	Eastlake	GEO	4:30pm	6:30pm	200



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AFL SENIOR FINALS EVENT HOSTS & PARTICIPATING CLUB CAN INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SPECTATORS ALLOWED AT SENIOR FINALS MATCHES FROM 100 TO 200 IF THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS ARE MET:

1. Each Club must nominate one COVID Safety Officer and as a minimum this person must undertake the free Australian Government [online COVID-19 Infection Control Training](#) prior to the event. It is also strongly recommended that other club officials also undertake this training. The certificate of completion needs to be emailed to your League Administrator prior to the recommencement of activity. Where possible, we encourage Clubs to have multiple people to take ownership of this role and share the responsibility.
2. A log, or register, using the approved AFL NSW/ACT template, SportsTG team sheets, or an online app or similar, which clearly identifies all participants, officials, umpires and volunteers in attendance at each. This register MUST be maintained for a period of at least 28 days following each club activity and available upon request by either AFL NSW/ACT or health authorities.
3. Ensure the number of people in a facility, including communal facilities such as showers and change rooms, does not exceed one person per four square metres (including participants, officials, umpires volunteers & spectators). This includes the placement of clearly identifiable signage at the entrance of any such area.
4. Ensure any spectators are seated where possible (and participants before and after competition play) and comply with social distancing requirement of 1.5m at all times.
5. Ensure any Senior Finals Event involves no more than 200 spectators (excluding players & officials).
6. Ensure that all spectators attending a Senior Finals venue be provided a ticket and allocated an area of viewing.
7. Ensure that any spectator consuming alcohol be seated. This will be monitored by roaming security and Covid Safety Officers with dry areas allocated where no seating can occur.
8. The conditions of entry for each venue are clearly visible at all main entry points of a venue, along with major gathering areas i.e. canteen / bars and have been promoted through websites and social media.
9. Ensure a copy of these protocols can be immediately accessed for inspection by an authorised officer as requested.
10. All Clubs and participants must follow any order from the ACT Government. For example, as per the ACT Government restrictions any person who has been in Victoria during the previous 14 days must not enter the ACT unless the person is authorised to enter the ACT and complies with conditions specified.
11. The COVID Safe Finals Event – ACT hygiene protocols outlined in this document are to be strictly adhered to with no exceptions.

ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO PROMOTE A COVID SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND NOT EXCEED THE SENIOR FINALS 200 SPECTATOR LIMIT

- Minimise co-mingling of participants and spectators from different matches.
- Minimise use of change rooms and strongly encourage participants to shower / change at home where possible.
- Reduce crowding wherever possible and promote physical distancing with markers on the floor where applicable.
- Clubs to regularly remind all in attendance of COVID Safety requirements through ground PA system or messages on electronic scoreboards utilising [AFL NSW/ACT recommended scripts / wording](#).
- At the conclusion of each match, the Home Clubs COVID Safety Officer, with the assistance of the Ground Manager and other Club personnel, should do a sweep of the venue and request they follow the 'Get In, Play, Get Out' philosophy and leave the venue if they can.
- Implement strategies to reduce potential gatherings immediately outside the facility such as drop off / pick up zones in carparks the AFL will adjust timing of competition matches to provide adequate timing between games.
- Where possible promote live streamed footage. The AFL will film all Senior Finals at Gungahlin Enclosed Oval on Saturday 3rd of October
- Encourage contactless payment options for canteens and registration fees.
- Reduce the sharing of equipment where practical and ensure any equipment used, including footballs is cleaned with detergent and disinfectant after each use
- No spectators allowed on the field during any break whether between games or quarter/half/three quarter time. No spectators will be permitted to enter the venue during post game celebrations.
- Track spectator numbers via entry gate counting. All spectators must register their contact tracing details via the AFL NSW/ACT QR code provided.



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HYGIENE PROTOCOLS FOR COVID SAFE SENIOR FINALS EVENTS - ACT

- Alcohol based hand sanitisers must be available at the venue entry and throughout the facility for all matches, with all spectators encouraged to use prior, during and following the event.
- Ensure bathrooms are well stocked with hand soap and paper towels and are cleaned between each match.
- Provide visual aids above hand wash basins to support effective hand washing.
- There is strictly to be no sharing of personal items such as water bottles, food or towels. Personal items need to be easily distinguishable, labelled and kept separate.
- Players and coaches must avoid spitting or clearing nasal passages.
- Avoid high fives and handshakes.
- Ensure processes are in place to launder shared uniform items such as guernseys or bibs after use
- Change rooms and club rooms can be utilised however the number of people cannot exceed one person per four square metres (including participants, officials, volunteers and spectators)
- Club provided footballs and equipment to be wiped with antibacterial wipes or alcohol-based sanitiser prior to and after each training session or competition match.
- Clean frequently used hard surface areas, including communal facilities, several times per day with detergent and disinfectant. Clean rooms between each game. This is the duty of the team utilising the change rooms followed by the hosting club. This must happen within 15 minutes of the end of the previous game.
- If you, or people you have been in contact with are sick, please DO NOT attend and advise your football coach who is responsible for informing the COVID Safety Officer.

General Hygiene Practices

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds - if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home and seek medical treatment when you are sick.
- Cover your mouth to cough or sneeze.
- Any player or club member that has underlying health conditions or is considered a vulnerable person should consult with a healthcare professional prior to finals competitions.

COVID SAFETY OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ensuring all players, coaches, officials, spectators etc are aware of the COVID Safe Senior Finals Event Plan ACT Protocols.
- Ensuring adherence to these protocols and taking immediate steps to correct any identified breaches of the protocols.
- Developing any processes or initiatives that will aid a club's adherence to the COVID Safe Finals Senior Event Plan - ACT Protocols.
- Implementing and maintaining logs / registers
- Keeping up to date with any changes to the protocols implemented by the AFL and communicating these to all within the club.
- Contact point for any questions from club members (players, coaches, officials, spectators etc) relating to the COVID Safe Senior Finals Event Plan - ACT Protocols.



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EDUCATION PROTOCOLS - REQUIREMENTS

- AFL NSW/ACT strongly recommends that community clubs, spectators and umpire Groups implement the necessary time for preparation and education phase to ensure they undertake the necessary preparations prior to the Finals. Clubs are not able to host Finals under the new protocols until all items on the Checklist have been completed.
- Each team and umpire group must nominate one COVID Safety Officer and as a minimum this person must undertake the free Australian Government [online COVID-19 Infection Control Training](#) prior to hosting Senior Finals. It is strongly recommended that other club officials also undertake this training. The certificate of completion needs to be emailed to your League Administrator prior to the hosting of Senior Finals. Where possible, we encourage Clubs to have multiple people to take ownership of this role and share the responsibility.
- All players, umpires, spectators and officials are encouraged to download the [Government's COVID-19 tracing app](#).
- Protocol Briefings (as outlined below) must be held in advance of return to contact training and competition play for players, coaches, umpires and officials.
- The AFL Community must lead and promote a strong culture of COVID-19 safety for the health and wellbeing of participants and the broader community.

PARTICIPANT BRIEFING	COACHES BRIEFING
<p>Prior to the commencement of the Finals, clubs to provide a briefing to all participants, coaches, coordinators, umpires, & volunteers that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intended competition match dates, times and procedures established to limit team cross-over on ovals.• Hygiene practices that have been implemented by the club, including hygiene procedures around the venue and equipment.• Hygiene expectations of all participants.• What to do if you are feeling unwell or have been into contact with people who are sick.• Opt-out options for individuals who may not yet feel comfortable returning to contact training or competition play.• Restrictions that are in place on club rooms, changerooms, club gyms, etc.• Restrictions on people attending the competition venue – i.e. spectators, parents, etc.• If required, ticketing process and viewing allocation	<p>Clubs should also brief all coaches on the required expectations as leaders within the club environment, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Importance of the required hygiene protocols and practices.• Preventing crossover of different teams.• Limited use of changerooms, club rooms and club gym facilities.• Acceptable skills and drills.• Requirement for players to 'get in / get out'• Responsibility as Leaders to influence behaviour change.

ALL FOOTBALL CLUBS & UMPIRE GROUPS PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN:

- Reducing the spread of COVID-19;
- Promoting good hygiene practices amongst participants;
- Adhering to and promoting the ACT Government requirements around social distancing and gatherings;
- Following the clear protocols and requirements around Return to Contact Training, Competition and NAB AFL Auskick.



COVID SAFE SENIOR FINALS EVENT PLAN – ACT CHECKLIST

TICKETING REQUIREMENTS

Ticketing will be required for all venues that are hosting Senior Finals. All spectators must obtain a ticket prior to the event and present this prior to entering the venue. The hosting club must count all participants that enter the venue to track and manager spectator numbers.

Each spectator, depending on their team of support will be provided an allocated viewing area as part of their ticketing purchase, all spectators must adhere to the social distancing requirements as outlined in this document. Spectators will be provided with a wrist band to match their spectator viewing area. Spectating viewing areas can be found on the maps below. There will be allocated areas within the grandstand for spectators of the competing teams, these must be vacated within 15 minutes of the match completion and not be occupied any earlier than 15 minutes between match times. Giving the host club 15 minutes to scan and clean the seated areas.

Please contact your club representative if you wish to purchase a ticket.

SPECTATOR MOVEMENT PROTOCOLS

Pre-post game

All hosts must communicate and provide clear maps outlining each entry and exit point for their venue. Participants & officials must arrive within 60 minutes of their match time and **not** any earlier. Spectators must arrive within 15 minutes of their teams match and **not** any earlier, this will be monitored by ticketing staff at the gates.

Within 15 minutes of the completion of each match all participants, officials and spectators must vacate the venue through to allocated exit points. This will be the responsibility of the host and competing teams Covid Safety Officer with assistance of the security staff if required. Any player who wishes to remain for later games must purchase and scan their ticket.



COVID SAFE SENIOR FINALS EVENT PLAN – ACT CHECKLIST

This checklist has been established to support clubs hosting finals under the current ACT Government COVID-19 restrictions. The Football Club and Teams have an obligation to strictly adhere to these protocols at every Club activity. The key principle for matches must be 'Get in, Train/Play, Get out'

AT LEAST ONE NOMINATED COVID SAFETY OFFICER

At least one nominated host official has undertaken the Australian Government online [COVID-19 Infection Control Training](#) and submitted a certificate of completion to their League Administrator prior to commencement of Club activity.

A REGISTER & COUNT OF PARTICIPANTS, OFFICIALS, SPECTATORS & VOLUNTEERS

The host has implemented a register & count to keep a track of which participants, officials, spectators and volunteers are in attendance at all matches, and this is available upon request by AFL NSW/ACT or health authorities.

1.5M SOCIAL DISTANCING

The host has advised its participants, coaches, volunteers and spectators that, apart from during competition play, social distancing requirements of 1.5m must be strictly observed along with adhering to the requirement of no more than 1 person per 4sqm.

COMMUNITY SPORTING ACTIVITIES MUST NOT EXCEED 200 SPECTATORS

The host understands that no more than 200 spectators (excluding players & officials) can gather at a Final at any one time. Hosts are to ensure that measures are put in place to comply with this requirement.

CONDITIONS OF VENUE ENTRY

The conditions of entry for each venue are clearly visible at all main entry points of a venue, along with major gathering areas i.e. canteen / bars and have been promoted through websites and social media

SIGNAGE AT ENTRY OF ANY COMMUNAL AREAS

Clearly identifiable signage will be placed at the entry of any communal facilities such as change rooms and club rooms, to ensure all areas do not exceed one person per four square metres (including participants, officials, volunteers & spectators).

MAP PROVIDED OUTLINING VIEWING AREAS

Clearly identifiable map provided to all spectators outlining their required viewing/seating areas, parking allocation, entry & exit points and any other amenities.

HOST UNDERSTANDS BOTH OF THE CONTACT TRAINING & COMPETITION & COVID SAFE SENIOR FINALS EVENT PLAN – ACT PROTOCOLS

The host and all participating teams have read, understood and agree to adhere to the Return to Contact Training, Competition & NAB AFL Auskick and the COVID Safe Senior Finals Event Plan – ACT Protocols, including hygiene protocols provided by AFL NSW/ACT

HYGIENE PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE

The host has implemented the hygiene protocols as outlined in the COVID Safe Senior Finals Event Plan - ACT Protocols document.

COVIDSafe APP

The Club has encouraged all players, volunteers and spectators to download the COVIDSafe App to help in tracing the spread of COVID-19.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL

The Club has received approval from the Local Government to access the oval for Contact Training & Competition matches.

FOLLOW DIRECTIONS

The Club and training groups understand that they must follow the direction and advice of local and state authorities at all times.

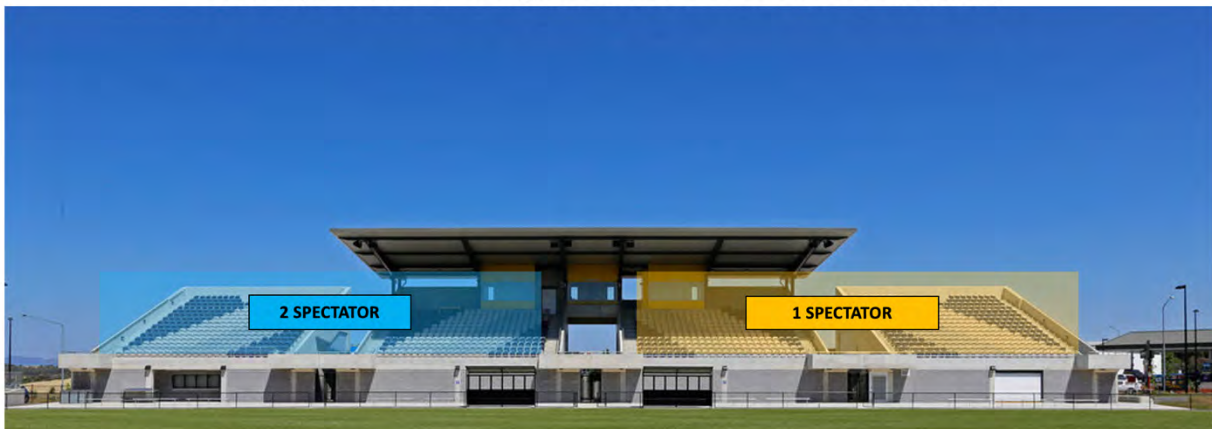
MAPS & TIMETABLES

Saturday 3rd October - Gungahlin Enclosed Oval Non-Seated Patrons Map

Time	Division	Home	Away
9:00am	Under 18s Mens	Marist (1)	Eastlake (2)
11:25am	2 nd Grade Mens	Belconnen (1)	Eastlake (2)
1:50pm	1 st Grade Mens	Queanbeyan (2)	Belconnen (1)
4:30pm	1 st Grade Womens	Belconnen (1)	Eastlake(2)



Saturday 3rd October - Gungahlin Enclosed Oval - Seated Patrons Map



All seating spaced with 1 seat between each patron layered on 45-degree angles per row.

Time	Division	Home	Away
9:00am	Under 18s Mens	Marist (1)	Eastlake (2)
11:25am	2 nd Grade Mens	Belconnen (1)	Eastlake (2)
1:50pm	1 st Grade Mens	Queanbeyan (2)	Belconnen (1)
4:30pm	1 st Grade Womens	Belconnen (1)	Eastlake(2)

