

Hockey CoVid-19 Safe Plan V5

Note that paragraphs altered from version 4 to version 5 are in blue.

Hockey Albury Wodonga (HAW) recognises that the threat of CoVid-19 is serious and a structure to recommence sport participation is required. The reboot of Hockey will be staged as recommended by the State Governments, AIS and peak sporting organisations.

The return of sport is in three steps and this plan is for 10 August, until the next version is issued. Because of the NSW/Victorian border this plan is not for a particular Step or Stage due to State differences but is covering information for both states.

As we move forward, the three most important things to remember for all Steps are:

- **physical distancing (except for approved games and training),**
- **personal hygiene and**
- **sanitisation.**

Facilities

This plan applies to the HAW grounds at Albury and Wodonga. The plan can also be extrapolated for grounds that HAW does not lease including grounds used by Corowa Rutherglen United Hockey Club and Wangaratta Hockey Club.

Stakeholders

HAW is a lessee under leases by the Albury and Wodonga Councils. The councils will be notified of ground use dates (subject to club bookings to ensure toilets are cleaned daily).

From Wednesday August 5 all Victorians are on Stage 3 Stay at Home restrictions. The grounds will not be open.

For NSW, the change rooms will be open for players to change clothes/privacy. Teams and players are not to congregate in changerooms for any reason.

The canteen and clubhouse will not be open in Albury.

Participants

From Wednesday August 5 all Victorians are on Stage 3 Stay at Home restrictions. There is no training or playing for any age group in Victoria.

From 1 July all persons in NSW are on competitive games and training.

Members who are unwell or have been unwell in the past 14 days should not attend.

Members with families who are vulnerable (caring for aged persons, those with breathing difficulties eg asthma) to the Covid-19 effects should not attend.

Members that have been to a known CoVid-19 hot spot or outside the "border bubble" must not attend until they have isolated for 14 days.

Members that are unwell are to be advised to leave. Refusal will result in an investigation and possible game penalties. If symptoms of CoVid-19 are present the member should attend a clinic. In the event of a positive test their Club and HAW are to be notified.

Bookings

All HAW fields can be sighted by the public, so we are in a fishbowl. Compliance is in our hands.

Clubs must make bookings [to use the Albury ground](#). [The Wodonga ground cannot be booked](#).

In NSW there is no requirement for an arrival or departure window. If the venue allows, entry and exit gates will be in place and these must be used.

Oversight of the rules is a club [or appointed CoVid marshal's](#) responsibility. It is recommended a CoVid Marshal is not involved in the [activity so they can](#) monitor compliance. Instructions will be supplied by HAW for this job.

In the event of breaches, clubs will be warned. Following 3 breaches by an individual, further [attendance](#) will not be permitted at HAW facilities until [restrictions ease](#).

Security

HAW will ensure grounds are open 30 minutes prior to first use and closed 30 minutes after last use.

Signs

Each club has been sent 3 Covid-19 signs - recommended safe hygiene safe practise notices and a safe training protocol. These will also be posted on notice boards at each ground and in each dugout to ensure members are informed.

Sanitise Common Areas

Sanitiser will be provided in each dugout for use before, during and after training.

Council will clean toilets as is normal practise. The Covid-19 life in external outdoor open areas is reported as relatively short and cleaning of outdoor areas will not be completed overnight.

At weekends if there are morning and afternoon sessions HAW will spray outdoor areas and toilets.

Play protocols as outlined by the AIS and Hockey peak sporting bodies are to be followed.

It is each Clubs [or appointed CoVid marshal's](#) responsibility to ensure all members have read and understood this protocol.

Training sessions and Games

Clubs [or appointed CoVid marshals](#) are responsible for keeping a list of all persons (including coaches, any officials and any spectators) who enter the facility for either training or games. [A QR code is available to scan or members can use the supplied form](#). [Details must include:](#)

- The date,
- The field,
- Contact details.

This list is to be:

- Put in the results box after each session OR
- Emailed to admin@haw.net.au within 24 hours.

Coaches and [appointed CoVid marshals](#) are to reiterate social distancing and hygiene rules at the beginning of each session.

In Victoria

- There is currently no training or games.

In New South Wales

- Members can resume non-contact and full contact training and competition.
- It is recommended that members come dressed for training/games. Stick bags are allowed.

Physical distancing is the clubs, [appointed CoVid marshal's](#), the coach's, **and** the player's responsibility.

All spectators must ensure that they physical distance at all times.

Equipment

Goalkeepers are permitted to bring their GK bags in and kit up in the ground. Their gear is to stay neat and tidy and be at least 1.5m from other's belongings.

Shin pads are to remain on from before entry to after exit [or to be in a stick bag](#).

Mouthguards are to be in their container or on your person only.

All must bring their own full water bottles (clearly named) to reduce their reliance on club facilities. Taps are available to fill drink bottles, but use is discouraged unless essential. Bubblers have been removed from the Albury and Wodonga grounds

Sharing of equipment is not allowed – including sticks, shin pads, masks, whistles or mouthguards.

Bibs are [only](#) to be used [for a single use and then must be washed](#).

Shared equipment:

- Hockey balls. It is recommended that each training group has their own set of balls and hats so there is no handling by more than one group,
- Face masks are not to be shared
- Whistles are not to be shared. It is suggested that teams have a spare whistle in case the umpire does not.
- Shared GK equipment is to be cleaned after each use and
- No sharing of uniforms/jumpers.

Cleaning of any equipment is to be done off the field so cleaning products do not damage the synthetic surface.

Sanitising and hand washing facilities are available for participants, officials, parents/carers and spectators. All person entering the field are to sanitise their hands as they enter the field.

Player habits

The HAW Board recognises these are challenging times and the following should be complied with.

This requires changes to participant behaviour during activities (i.e. no shaking hands, high fives, or spitting etc). Spitting on the field is a cardable offence.

There may be barriers to participation when supporting physical distancing. We urge sympathy and understanding for participants who require support.

Communications

HAW will not notify health authorities of issues or suspected COVID-19 cases and rely on clubs and individuals to manage this.

HAW will make use of social media, newsletters, emails and signage at venues and any other measures to communicate and provide guidance to participants

Your observations, advice and sharing of any other measures to improve the return to Hockey in managing this transition is most welcome.

The following information will be made up into a sign that will be on entry gates.

BE COVID SAFE!

Physical distancing is the everyone's responsibility. All People must stay 1.5m apart when not on the field of play.

Members who are unwell or with families who are vulnerable should not attend.

Members that are unwell are not to enter the grounds.

If you enter the grounds you are agreeing to abide by the following rules:

- Recommended that all players must come dressed for training and games.
- Shin pads are to remain on from before entry to after exit, [or to be in a stick bag](#)
- Mouthguards are to be in their container or on your person only,
- All must bring their own full water bottles (clearly named) to reduce their reliance on club facilities,
- Sharing of equipment is not allowed – including sticks, shin pads, whistles masks or mouthguards,
- Bibs are [only](#) to be used [for a single use and then must be washed](#).

Sanitiser is in the dugouts.

Sanitise your hands before entering the field and as necessary