

COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

January 2022



Bowls Tasmania COVID Safety Plan

Bowls Tasmania has updated its Return to Play document dated June 2020 and incorporated it and any subsequent information into this COVID-19 Safety Plan. The plan may be used by its Regions as their own COVID-19 Safety Plan.

It is a mandatory requirement that all Clubs have their own COVID Safety Plan in place. The Bowls Tasmania COVID-Safety Plan may be used by Clubs and amended as required to reflect Club requirements.

Stay Home if Unwell

If you are feeling unwell or showing any cold or flu like symptoms, then please stay home until tested for COVID-19. Non-essential social gatherings should be avoided.

Signs should be placed at Club entrances telling customers not to enter if they are unwell or if they have COVID-19 symptoms.

COVID-19 Vaccinations

Bowls Tasmania needs to lead the way and provide direction to regions and clubs regarding compulsory COVID-19 vaccinations. Accordingly it is Bowls Tasmania policy that:

- Players will have to be fully vaccinated (at least two doses) against COVID-19 to be selected to play in future State teams.
- Players in future Bowls Tasmania championships must be fully vaccinated (at least two doses) and must show proof of vaccination to be eligible to play.
- Players in Bowls Tasmania State Wide Challenge games played after 1 February 2022 must be fully vaccinated (at least two doses) and must show proof of vaccination to be eligible to play.

Bowls Tasmania has granted exemptions to the above requirements as follows:

- Players will not have to be vaccinated against COVID-19 if they can provide an exemption signed by a qualified medical practitioner.
- Junior players will not have to be fully vaccinated (at least two doses) until 30 June 2022.

Bowls Tasmania has strongly recommended to its Regions and Clubs that they follow the above Bowls Tasmania policy regarding all bowls under their jurisdictions. All three Regions have adopted the above policy effective from 1 February 2022.

Masks

It is a Tasmanian Government requirement that everyone must wear a mask in all public indoor spaces effective from midnight 20 December 2021 until further notice as an additional layer of protection against COVID-19. This includes:

- Workplaces
- Businesses, shops, accommodation including hotels, restaurants, pubs and bowls clubs.
- Public transport

There are some exceptions. You **do not** need to wear a mask when:

- Outdoors - unless attending a large event.
- In your home or when visiting the home of someone else.
- Consuming food, drink or medicine – you may remove your mask briefly to eat or drink inside but must put it back on immediately afterwards.
- Travelling in a vehicle alone, or only with someone who normally lives with you.
- Doing intense physical exercise – lawn bowls is not deemed to be intense physical exercise.
- An exemption or exception is provided by the Director of Public Health (or delegate).

Children aged under 12 years are exempt from wearing masks indoors.

Social Distancing

Social Distancing requirements of 1.5m must be adhered to both on and off the green. Also a density level of 2m squared must be complied with. (This will need extra attention for Club bar and hall facilities. Please ensure you have measured your Clubs facilities so you can be certain of your capacity).

Signs should be placed at Club entrances reminding people to maintain physical distancing when entering. Signs should also be placed at Club entrances stating the maximum number of people permitted in each room or area.

Bowls Activities

- Hand sanitiser is to be made available at the entrance to the Club and beside each green in use.
- Disinfectant spray must be made available beside mat/jack boxes. After each use, all mats and jacks must be thoroughly cleaned before being used again.
- Any club bowls that are loaned to players are to be thoroughly cleaned before and after use.
- Bowls equipment should not be shared between players (e.g. bowls, cloths, measures etc).
- Where possible, outdoor-accessible toilets should be open, if using an outdoor green. At the very least, hand washing facilities should be available.
- 1.5m physical distancing rule is to be always observed, including for coaching.
- Players should always practice safe hygiene, including washing hands for at least twenty seconds before and after bowls.
- Players should consider using elbow bumps instead of shaking hands.

Spectators

Clubs are permitted to have a maximum of 1,000 players and spectators at their venues for OUTDOOR competition and 250 players and spectators in an undivided space for INDOOR competition. This is provided that the 1.5 metre social distancing and the two square metre rules can be complied with.

Contact Tracing

Clubs should use the Check-In TAS Application and should also provide a paper-based system for those who do not have access to the Check-In TAS Application. The paper-based system must collect the name of the person, a telephone number, an email address, the date and time the person entered the premises. Paper-based records must be kept for a minimum of 28 days.

Clubs should have a designated volunteer / staff member to ensure that people 'check in' when entering the Club.

Clubs

Bowls Tasmania recommends that all Clubs have a designated volunteer/staff member to fulfil the COVID-19 Safety Plan guidelines. This person should be fully aware of and compliant with their own State Government legislation and STA advice.

Clubs are permitted to have a maximum of 250 persons for an undivided space inside their Clubhouse provided that the 1.5 metre social distancing and the two square metre rules can be complied with. Clubs should consider using their lounge and/or dining rooms to provide enough space to meet the required social distancing and 2 square metre rules.

Clubs should identify and document a cleaning schedule for the Club – identifying high frequency touch points at the Club that require (at least daily) cleaning and disinfecting, surfaces that are not high frequency touch points that will require routine weekly cleaning.

Case and Outbreak Management

Clubs should prepare a Case and Outbreak Management Plan to identify what you need to do to keep your Club operating should you have a COVID-19 exposure at your Club.

Further Information

Should you require any further clarification or assistance around this issue please contact Bowls Tasmania directly; exec@bowlstasmania.com.au or 0447 722 128.

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