



COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

SPORTS ASSOCIATION OF CATHOLIC COEDUCATIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOLS INCORPORATED (SACCSS INC.)

Event location	Various venues
Executive Officers	Jo Lewis and Rebecca Clugston
Contact Email	saccss@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au
Contact Mobile Number	0419 885 170 and 0402 337 930
Version	1.1 – February 2021
Implementation Date	Term 1 2021
Jo Lewis and Rebecca Clugston are responsible for this document	

This SACCSS Inc. COVID-19 Safety Plan has been developed in conjunction with current information available from the following authorities:

- Department of Health & Human Services (Victorian Health Department)
- Department of Education & Training (Victorian Education Department)
- Catholic Education Melbourne
- Australian Institute of Sport
- Sports Medicine Australia
- Relevant State Sport Organisations (peak body for each sport in Australia).

1. Introduction

SACCSS Inc. is committed to providing a COVID-safe environment for our member schools. The purpose of this COVID-19 Safety Plan is to provide an overarching plan for the implementation and management of procedures by SACCSS Inc. to support its member colleges and participants when participating in SACCSS Inc. school sport and activities. The arrangements set out in this Plan are intended to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 among members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, visitors, families and the broader community. The Plan provides the framework to govern the general operation of SACCSS Inc, any facilities it hires, the playing behaviour of all member colleges and participants and the monitoring and reporting of the health of attendees at SACCSS Inc. events. Whilst each school will implement its own COVID-safe plan, it is expected that all students, staff, officials, coaches and spectators will abide by the safety guidelines in place within this Plan to help support the safety of all participants

This Plan includes, but is not limited to, the conduct of:

- a. training and competition activities (sport operations); and
- b. facility management and supporting operations (facility operations).

At all times the Plan is subject to all regulations, guidelines and directions of government and public health authorities.

2. Key Principles

The Plan accepts as key principles that:

- The health and safety of members, participants, coaches, officials, administrators/volunteers, visitors, families and the broader community is the number one priority;
- Members, participants, coaches, officials and venue operators need to be engaged and briefed on SACCSS Inc.'s return to sport plans.
- Facilities are assessed and appropriate plans are developed to accommodate upgraded hygiene protocols, physical distancing and other measures to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19;
- Competition cannot resume until the arrangements for sport operations and facility operations are finalised and approved, if necessary; and
- At every stage of the return to sport process SACCSS Inc. must consider and apply all applicable Victorian State Government and CECV restrictions and regulations. SACCSS Inc. needs to be prepared for any localised outbreak at utilised facilities, within our competitions or in the local community.

The SACCSS Committee appointed the following persons as the SACCSS Inc. COVID-19 Safety Coordinators to execute the delivery of the Plan and to act as a point of contact for information relating to this Plan:

Name	Jo Lewis and Rebecca Clugston
Contact Email	saccss@ecmelb.catholic.edu.au
Contact Number	0419 885 170 and 0402 337 930

SACCSS Inc. expects all members, participants, coaches, officials, administrative staff and venue staff to:

- Comply with the health directions of government and public health authorities as issued from time to time;
- Understand and act in accordance with this Plan as amended from time to time;
- Act with honesty and integrity in regard to the state of their personal health and any potential symptoms; and
- Monitor their health and take a cautious approach to self-isolation and reporting of potential symptoms.

3. General Health Screening

Each school will have its own health screening procedures in place which should help in protecting the health of the wider school community. If students and staff members are permitted to attend school, then there should be no further health restrictions preventing them from participating in SACCSS sport or activities. Each school must submit an attendance register (see Appendix 'Sport Attendance Register') declaring that all present:

- Do not have any cold and flu like symptoms
- Have not been in direct contact with a known case of COVID-19 in the previous 14 days
- Have not travelled internationally in the previous 14 days
- Are not at high risk from a health perspective due to a pre-existing health condition

If participants are not willing or able to meet the infection control guidelines, they will not be permitted to be involved in SACCSS sport in any capacity.

COVID-19 Infection Control Responsibilities

Member personal and participants:

Staff, Coaches, Students, *Spectators

Contractors:

Sporting Officials and Service Providers

SAFE PRACTICES AND PROTOCOLS

HYGIENE

- Hand hygiene – alcohol-based hand sanitisers to be used on arrival at the venue and/or before the start of play, during the main break and after the game.
- Practise cough etiquette. (cough/ sneeze into your elbow or tissue and discard immediately)
- Arrive ready to play i.e. already in uniform to reduce need for change room use where possible
- Bring your own water bottle and drinks. Do not share water bottles and drinking containers.
- Students should not need to touch any external equipment other than the match ball or game implements i.e. bat.
- There is to be no hand shaking, hugging or high fives between players and coaches.
- No physical contact between officials, staff or students is permitted at any time, expect in cases of emergency and medical/injury management.
- Check that equipment cleaning routines are in place for match balls and other game equipment that may be touched; before, during main breaks and after games.

HYGIENE

- Hand hygiene – alcohol-based hand sanitisers to be used on arrival at the venue and/or before the start of play, during the main break and after the game.
- Practise cough etiquette. (cough/ sneeze into your elbow or tissue and discard immediately)
- Check with the coaches that equipment cleaning routines are in place for match balls and other game equipment that may be touched; before, during main breaks and after games.
- Ensure any sport specific COVID19 restrictions are enforced i.e. no body contact
- Do not allow hand shaking, hugging and high fives between players and coaches.
- No physical contact between officials, staff or students is permitted at any time, expect in cases of emergency and medical/injury management.
- Bring your own water bottle and drinks. Do not share water bottles and drinking containers.

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Where possible, maintain separation of 1.5m at all times between people.
- During breaks in play, do not have the participants grouped closely together in the traditional team huddle.
- No physical contact between officials, staff or students is permitted at any time, expect in cases of emergency and medical/injury management.
- Ensure seating areas are set up to enable physical distancing – this may mean blocking off sections of fixed seating or removing non-fixed seating.
- Teams are seated at least 1.5m away from each other, ideally on opposing sides of a field/court (if available).

SOCIAL DISTANCING

- Where possible, maintain separation of 1.5m at all times between people.
- Where necessary, ensure COVID19 group sizes are implemented (i.e. 10 or 20 people only per activity) and that other groups and matches are adequately separated.
- No physical contact between officials, staff or students is permitted at any time, expect in cases of emergency and medical/injury management.
- First Aid Officers to work in a designated and marked off workspace; vehicle (van or ambulance), marquee and roped off treatment area.
- Enforce current restrictions limiting the number of players, teachers (and parents when permitted) that can attend an event.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Staff dealing with first aid situations, gloves and surgical masks are to be worn.
- All persons over 12 years of age – are encouraged to carry a face mask on their person for instances where social distancing can't be maintained.
- All players (on and off the field of play), coaches and officials are permitted to be unmasked during game time, but should wear masks prior to start, at breaks and once match is completed.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

- Officials: are to limit the contact they have with the match ball/ sporting equipment where practical. Sanitize hands before and at break during the match.
- First Aid: gloves and surgical masks to be worn at all times.

STAY HOME IF UNWELL

- The COVID-Safe Sport Poster should be displayed at SACCSS events.
- Clear communication messages provided to students, staff, and others prior to attending SACCSS events about staying home when unwell.
- Any staff, students, parents, officials etc. who are unwell must not attend the venue and should return home if they become unwell with COVID-19 symptoms (loss or change in sense of smell or taste, fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose).

SURFACE CLEANING AND ENHANCED DISINFECTION

- Aligned with the required cleaning standards in a school facility, please ensure that the necessary cleaning arrangements are made.
- At external venues where there is an onsite facility manager, the Home Teams Sports Coordinator (or nominated staff member) or the SACCSS Executive Officer or nominated Convener (for SACCSS managed events) will liaise with the Venue Operator to ensure facilities are undertaking their regular hygiene practices throughout the day.
- At external venues where there is no onsite facility manager, the Home Teams Sports Coordinator (or nominated staff member) or the SACCSS Executive Officer or nominated Convener must ensure that the cleaning and disinfecting activities listed in the Enhanced School Cleaning Guideline are delivered accordingly.

RECORD KEEPING

- Each participating school must retain responsibility for managing the attendance list of students and staff at any SACCSS event, whether it takes place on-site within a school owned setting, off-site at a Local Council managed venue, or within a sporting facility operated by an independent Venue Operator.
- Student and staff attendance lists must be able to be made available to DHHS in a digital format if required directly after the conclusion of an event where a COVID risk arises. This can be in the form of a photograph of the team sheet, or an electronic download from the school's LMS or relevant student management software.
- Officials that are appointed by either the Home School or the SACCSS (referees, umpires, sports trainers, first aid medics, etc) must have their contact details recorded for each visit they make to the school or sporting venue. If the sporting event takes place on-site at the Home School or at an external venue booked by the Home School, it is the Home School's responsibility to keep record of all officials.
- For all events booked and managed by the SACCSS, the recording of officials' details will be the responsibility of the SACCSS Staff.
- Where external venues require attendance lists for COVID Safe record keeping, details will be provided in advance.
- All officials, parents, spectators and any others attending SACCSS events that are managed by the SACCSS will be required to register their attendance via the Passtab Visitor Management System which will be supplied by SACCSS to support contact tracing.

- All attendees must adhere to the return to play conditions of the SACCSS.

RESPONDING AND MANAGING UNWELL STUDENTS OR STAFF

- An appropriate isolation space should be designated ahead of the event, in the event a student or staff member experiences compatible symptoms with coronavirus (COVID-19), such as fever, cough or sore throat. In which case they need to be isolated with supervision and students should be collected by a parent or carer as soon as possible.
- The teacher responsible for the student or the student themselves should take immediate action to report concerns to the Convener of the event or the designated COVID Safe Officer.
- The SACCSS COVID Safe Officer should advise the teacher responsible for the student that the student should seek medical advice and/or obtain a COVID-19 tested by contacting the 24-hour Department of Health and Human Services coronavirus hotline 1800 675 398. Also see: Managing illness in schools and early childhood services during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic
- Every precaution should be taken to ensure that distance and hygiene measures are adhered to when communicating with and taking care of someone presenting with COVID-19 symptoms.
- All schools, officials, coaches and spectators must adhere to the return to play conditions of the SACCSS. They must also comply with any additional entry requirements requested by facilities/venues.

NOTE - SPECTATORS

SACCSS allows the attendance of spectators at its events; however, this is dependent on the venue capacity and the specific protocols of each college (events held on school grounds).

All spectators are required to sign into the venue (this will vary between sites) and follow the specific protocols and procedures that are in place at that venue.