



ACT
Government
Economic Development

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TO ALL CLUBS AND MEMBERS

Re: RETURN TO SPORT PLANS

Late last week, the ACT Government announced that community sports were able to return to limited activities as of this weekend. This is great news for our members who have been keen to return to the greens.

However, members need to be aware that there are some important measures that must be in place before this can be done. Notwithstanding the potential health risks, there is a significant financial risk to individuals and clubs, and we are aware that compliance checks have been conducted by authorities.

A **requirement** of the return to play is that **ALL PEAK BODIES AND CLUBS** have a **“Return to Play in a COVID-Safe Environment” plan**

These plans are to be based on the principles of **“get in, train and get out”** (ie there is to be no unnecessary loitering on the premises), limiting groups to a **maximum of 10** people, maintaining **social distancing**, staying away if you are **unwell**, as well as the practice of **good hygiene**.

At a minimum, these plans must:

- Be publicly available (eg displayed on websites and noticeboards and forwarded to members as appropriate, **and** with adequate onsite signage reminding participants of requirements);
- Direct participants not to share drinks, and/or personal equipment. The plan must address how communal equipment, if used, will be cleaned and disinfected during and after sessions;
- Include a booking system that records participant details and avoids the need for members to congregate;
- Include the method for monitoring adherence to the plan; and
- Address how a “critical incident” (such as a positive test) will be managed.

Bowls ACT is currently finalising a suitable plan for its operations. Clubs have the option of developing their own plans or adopting the Bowls ACT plan (with suitable club-specific

adjustments where required). Please be assured, we are working hard to ensure our plan sensibly addresses the requirements and allows us to have a sensible and safe return to sport. We hope to release this plan early next week and we thank our members in advance for your patience and understanding in this matter.

Please note that above requirements apply to our ACT based clubs only. NSW clubs are encouraged to adopt similar processes whilst at all times being mindful of any NSW specific legislation.

It is ultimately up to the Club owners/licensees to decide whether and in what form to open their facilities. Each of our member clubs has differing circumstances and it is expected that there will be differences in how they manage their return to operations.

Finally, Bowls ACT acknowledges that the majority of our members are in the high risk age group. Each and every member is encouraged to assess their individual circumstances when making the decision to return to the green.

Kate Lyttle
Executive Officer