

FOOTBALL AT ALERT LEVEL 2

[updated September 2021]

The following guidance is based on information provided by covid19.govt.nz and Sport NZ. All guidance is subject to change.

Under Alert Level 2 COVID-19 is contained, but there is still a risk of community transmission. The objectives of these guidelines are to minimise the risk of transmission of the virus and to ensure any cases that may arise can be rapidly tracked and isolated.

Subject to the range of public health measures outlined below, play, active recreation and sport can resume under Alert Level 2. This includes contact team sports and physical activities **only** if contact tracing is in place and hygiene measures are followed. Make sure you know, or can identify, everyone who is participating in your activity, including players, officials and spectators, in case someone gets sick.

Public health measures for football at Alert Level 2

- **Stay home if you're sick** and do not take part in sport or recreation. Self-isolate at home and get tested immediately.
- **Outdoor gatherings must be restricted to a maximum of 100 people.** For sport and recreation a gathering includes players, officials, support staff and spectators. Clubs or federations will be in contact with players to confirm the impact on any scheduled training or matches.
- **The NZ COVID Tracer app must be used** by everyone involved in, or attending, your activity. If participants don't have access to the app, a physical contact tracing register must be used to record names, contact details and date and time of any activity. This information should be accessible at all times for contact tracing purposes up to 4 weeks after the contact was recorded.
- **Surfaces and equipment must be regularly cleaned and disinfected.**
- **Good personal hygiene practices should be followed.** Wash and dry your hands for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitiser, before and after activities. Cough into your elbow and don't touch your face.
- **Physical distancing of 2 metres should be maintained** wherever possible, especially from people that you don't know. It is recognised that contact during physical activity will occur but this should be minimised as much as possible, especially off the field of play.
- **You must wear face coverings in situations where physical distancing is not possible**, however this is not required while on the field of play.
- **People at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19 should take additional precautions** when undertaking physical activity, particularly older people and those with existing medical conditions.
- **Business premises, including clubrooms, must by law display the NZ COVID Tracer app QR code**, and meet the relevant workplace requirements, to allow them to can be open for staff and customers, including limiting capacity to 50 people.
- **Travel should be done safely to reduce the possibility of transmission** and spread of the virus. Read more at covid19.govt.nz.

CONSIDERATIONS FOR FOOTBALL DELIVERY AT ALERT LEVEL 2

Competition

Competitions

- Competitions and matches can occur as normal provided the total number of players, coaches, referees, support staff and spectators does not exceed 100 people for an outdoor event and public health measures, physical distancing restrictions, contact tracing and hygiene measures are in place.
- Where a number of pitches are in one large outdoor open area, multiple gatherings can take place as long as each does not exceed 100 people and remains independent, physically distant, and avoids mingling or interacting with each other. You can find the [NZF Junior Framework Guidance to Match Days at Alert Level 2](#) on our website.
- Matches should be scheduled to manage gathering numbers in accordance with public health measures.
- Spectators should be limited, or asked not to attend for now, to allow organisers to focus on players, officials and support staff.
- Any spectators that do attend are required by law to follow contact tracing and public health measures, while maintaining a physical distance of 2 metres from other spectators and participants.
- Care must be taken to avoid congregating at communal points such as entries and car parks, and to maintain physical distancing of 2 metres between groups.

Contact Tracing

- For matches to resume, contact tracing must be possible for everyone involved in, or attending, any match.
- **The NZ COVID Tracer app must be used by everyone**, including players, coaches, managers, referees, support staff and spectators, attending any activity. It can be downloaded from health.govt.nz. Bluetooth should also be enabled within the app settings.
- Organisations should work with respective facility owners to ensure that the NZ COVID Tracer app QR code is displayed at all times, as is legally required. For more information on getting a QR code visit covid19.govt.nz
- If participants don't have access to the app, a physical contact tracing register can be used to record the name, address, phone number and email address of everyone attending, as well as the date and time.
- To support contact tracing, all players, coaches, support staff and referees must be registered with COMET before attending training, and added to their respective team catalogue. COMET guidance for clubs can be found at nzfootball.co.nz/competitionfootytips. If registration in COMET is not possible, clubs should keep their own record of participant attendance.

Changing Facilities

Changing rooms should remain closed unless appropriate public health measures are put in place, in respect of cleaning and hygiene requirements, as well as the facility being approved to open by the respective council or owner. There cannot be mass congregating in these types of facilities, or multiple teams using the same facility at once.

Hygiene

- All participants should wash and dry their hands, or use hand sanitiser, before and after any activity.
- Maintain physical distancing of 2 metres wherever possible. Avoid team huddles, stop pre or post game handshakes and the traditional 'ceremonial walkout'.
- Face coverings, such as masks, are recommended to be used in public and must be worn where physical distancing is not possible.
- Spitting, or similar actions, is prohibited, including on goalkeeper gloves.
- Sharing of equipment should be minimised where possible and equipment should be thoroughly cleaned before and after every use.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caution should be exercised with common touch points (e.g. gates or doors) with hands washed or sanitised after use. • Water bottles should not be shared under any circumstance. • Food, such as half-time oranges or lollies, should not be shared.
Training & Community Product Delivery	<p>Training and Community Delivery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full contact training can occur as normal once plans are in place to comply with public health measures, gatherings and physical distancing restrictions, contact tracing, and football hygiene measures. • Each business, organisation or individual that is running training sessions must comply with their respective local council requirements, including having relevant Health and Safety Plans in place, where required. • Training outdoor must be limited to a maximum of 100 people, including players, officials, support staff and any spectators. Training indoor must be limited to a maximum of 50 people. For trainings that takes place outdoors on a single field or in large spaces, there may be multiple gatherings, so long as these are managed in accordance with the public health measures and the people at one gathering do not mingle or interact with those from another gathering. • Training should be scheduled to allow appropriate time for teams to arrive and leave without overlapping. <p>Contact Tracing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For training to resume, contact tracing must be possible for everyone involved in, or attending, any session. • The NZ COVID Tracer app must be used by everyone, including players, coaches, managers, referees, support staff and spectators, attending any activity. It can be downloaded from health.govt.nz. Bluetooth should also be enabled within the app settings. • Organisations should work with respective facility owners to ensure that the NZ COVID Tracer app QR code is displayed at all times, as is legally required. For more information on getting a QR code visit covid19.govt.nz • If participants don't have access to the app, a physical contact tracing register can be used to record the name, address, phone number and email address of everyone attending, as well as the date and time. • To support contact tracing, all players, coaches, support staff and referees must be registered with COMET before attending training, and added to their respective team catalogue. COMET guidance for clubs can be found at nzfootball.co.nz/competitionfootytips. If registration in COMET is not possible, clubs should keep their own record of participant attendance. <p>Changing Facilities As per competition</p> <p>Hygiene As per competition</p>
Education Courses, Meetings and Workshops	<p>Education Courses and Workshops</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education courses, club meetings, or workshops can occur as normal only if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For indoor events, there are no more than 50 people in total at each gathering; • Appropriate physical distancing can be achieved; • A face covering or mask is worn when not seated; • Contact tracing measures are in place; and • The venue being used to host the event complies with the facilities guidance in the next section. <p>Contact Tracing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For courses, meetings and workshops to resume, contact tracing must be possible for everyone involved in, or attending, any activity. • The NZ COVID Tracer app must be used by everyone attending any activity. It can be downloaded from health.govt.nz. Bluetooth should also be enabled within the app settings. • Organisations should work with respective facility owners to ensure that the NZ COVID Tracer app QR code is displayed at all times, as is legally required. For more information on getting a QR code visit covid19.govt.nz • If participants don't have access to the app, a physical contact tracing register can be used to record the name, address, phone number and email address of everyone attending, as well as the date and time. <p>Hygiene</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow all required and recommended public health measures listed. • Sharing of equipment should be minimised where possible. • Caution should be exercised with common touch points (e.g. gates or doors) with hands washed or sanitised after use.
Facilities	<p>All venues and sporting facilities, including clubrooms and gyms, are able to open. All venues must have a WorkSafe plan in place for safe operation. Sanitation measures can be found at sportnz.org.nz.</p> <p>Clubrooms, Bar & Food Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The clubroom bar and food facility must by law display the NZ COVID Tracer app QR code as well as follow the guidelines put in place for restaurants and bars under the Government's Guidelines for Businesses under Alert Level 2 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Patrons must remain seated. ▪ The total number of people at the gathering is limited to 50. ▪ A face covering or mask must be worn when not seated. ▪ Fulfilling all other health and safety obligations. <p>Contact Tracing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact tracing must be possible for everyone involved with, or attending, any event. • The NZ COVID Tracer app must be used by everyone, including players, coaches, managers, referees, support staff and spectators, attending any activity, and can be downloaded from health.govt.nz. Bluetooth should also be enabled within the app settings.

- Organisations should work with respective facility owners to ensure that the NZ COVID Tracer app QR code is displayed at all times, as is legally required. For more information on getting a QR code visit covid19.govt.nz
- If participants don't have access to the app, a physical contact tracing register can be used to record the name, address, phone number and email address of everyone attending, as well as the date and time.

Changing Rooms and Toilets

- Changing rooms should remain closed unless appropriate public health measures are put in place, in respect of cleaning and hygiene requirements, as well as the facility being approved to open by the respective council or owner. There cannot be mass congregating in these types of facilities, or multiple teams using the same facility at once.
- Facilities, water, soap and towels/drier should be made available for participants to wash and dry their hands, or hand sanitiser.

Hygiene

- Follow all required and recommended public health measures listed.
- Caution should be exercised with common touch points (e.g. gates or doors) with hands washed or sanitised after use.
- Surfaces and equipment must be regularly cleaned and disinfected where practicable.