



EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES IN VICTORIA

6 DECEMBER 2020

Following the announcements made on Sunday 6 December 2020 regarding further lifting of restrictions, the COVIDSafe Summer guidelines have been released.

The following directions are provided to assist in the running of competitions, rallies, clinics and club activities under the Restricted Activity Directions (Victoria) (no 3).

The restrictions came into effect at 11.59pm on 6 December 2020.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW:

- **Face masks** are no longer mandatory at community sport however they must be carried at all times. While they are no longer mandatory (for indoor or outdoor), they are still highly recommended, particularly when social distancing is not possible.
- There are no patron caps for **indoor sport** > venue numbers are to adhere to 1 per 4sqm density quotient. Class numbers are 50.
- There is a patron cap of 1000 for **outdoor sport** > venue numbers are to adhere to 1 per 2sqm density quotient (if using electronic record keeping) or 1 per 4sqm (if not using electronic record keeping). Class numbers are 100.
- You must **monitor** the number of patrons (athletes, officials, volunteers and spectators) at all times to ensure compliance with your density quotient.
- You can now use the state government free electronic **QR code service**:
<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/qrcode>

While it is wonderful that restrictions have eased and we move into a COVIDSafe summer, it is still important to maintain social distancing (1.5m) and the hygiene policies in place.

- The approach of **'get in, compete, get out'**, minimising unnecessary contact at the event, remains.
- The protocol of only the minimum personnel required to run the sport being permitted onsite, remains.
- While your capacity may increase, it is strongly recommended to still only run your sport within your capacity to deliver a COVIDSafe event (ie. just because you can increase numbers, we don't recommend you do).
- While you can now have spectators on site, we recommend you only permit them if you can SAFELY manage them within a COVIDSafe framework.

THE FOLLOWING STANDARD REQUIREMENTS FOR EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES REMAIN:

- Review your COVIDSafe plan, to ensure in line with current guidance.
- Appoint a COVIDSafe Officer to oversee activities.
- The COVIDSafe app should be downloaded and actively used.
- Record the name, contact details and time at venue, of everyone who comes into your venue. (These records must be kept secure and for a period of 28 days).
- Check with venue owners/managers regarding venue specific requirements.
- Facilities such as club houses, communal change rooms (including showers), and toilets can open. Density quotient of 1 per 4 square metres applies.
- Clubrooms and other facilities may be opened with capacity subject to the density quotient. Display sign at entrance indicating limit.
- Common use areas and surfaces are to be cleaned regularly. Encourage good hygiene.
- Encourage use of hand sanitiser and have readily available on site.
- Disinfect equipment after handling – avoid sharing of equipment where possible.
- Schedule activities to expedite participation and avoid overcrowding.
- Implement processes to streamline check-in, payments and bookings – avoiding unnecessary gatherings and double handling of items.
- Persons displaying any symptoms must not attend or be permitted on site.
- Persons displaying any symptoms, after arrival, must depart the site immediately.
- Determine protocols if a person presents with symptoms or develops symptoms onsite.
- Canteens can open – takeaway only and to be taken off site.
- Clubs may re-open locked grounds for training and exercise provided a booking system is in place to limit numbers at the venue and assist tracing. Rules in line with the requirements for rallies and group training are to be applied.
- Yard/Stables provided by the venue/OC: Alternate yards/stables to be used. EXCEPT in the instance where horses AND Riders come from the same bubble.
- Yard/Stables provided by the rider: If providing their own yards, they do not need to alternate yards within their own area. However, the OC does need to ensure that private yards are appropriately distanced from neighbouring private yards.
- There is a required (minimum) distance of 4m between trucks/cars/floats, including portable yards or other equipment associated with the float/vehicle.
- If you are going to tie up horses on corresponding sides of a float then the appropriate distancing needs to be in place.
- Some discipline specific guidelines may apply for the running of events. Refer to your association for further details.
- Camping is permitted, subject to, and consistent with current government guidelines.