At a Sports Industry Briefing held on 11th January 2022, the State Government confirmed that **Sport including cricket can continue to be played in accordance with the Covid 19 framework.**

Further, the State Government has confirmed that Schools are able to conduct school sport programs, including inter school and representative competitions, both indoor and outdoor sports in accordance with the Covid-19 framework.

Queensland Cricket is committed to ensuring community sport can continue and continue safely.  We have also seen by way of surveys around clinics and carnivals a strong desire for cricket to continue. We are extremely grateful to the many volunteers and Clubs for demonstrating this can happen as we’ve seen through the recent return to Premier Cricket, regional junior carnivals and participation clinics.

**FOLLOW THE HEALTH ADVICE**

First and foremost, we are encouraging the community to follow the health advice. Namely;

1. Stay home if unwell
2. Check in upon arrival
3. Wear a face mask in all indoor areas
4. Maintain physical distancing
5. Practice good hygiene
6. Bring your own water bottle

**SCHOOL CRICKET & SCHOOL FACILITIES**

To address queries from schools, the Department of Education and Department our Tourism, Innovation and Sport have provided the following information;

*Schools are able to conduct school sport programs, including inter-school and representative competitions, for both indoor and outdoor sports, in accordance with the COVID-19 Planning Framework.*

*There are health and safety requirements that must be implemented to ensure these events are COVID safe. Each school will implement the required measures based on the type of event*

*From 23 January 2022, mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations will be required for all people working or delivering a service at a school or early childhood education and care setting. This includes contractors, volunteers, regulators and auditors. Learn more about the* [*vaccination requirements for workers in high risk settings.*](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.proofpoint.com%2Fv2%2Furl%3Fu%3Dhttps-3A__www.qld.gov.au_health_conditions_health-2Dalerts_coronavirus-2Dcovid-2D19_current-2Dstatus_public-2Dhealth-2Ddirections_vaccination-2Drequirements-2Dfor-2Dworkers-2Din-2Dhigh-2Drisk-2Dsettings%26d%3DDwMCAg%26c%3DtpTxelpKGw9ZbZ5Dlo0lybSxHDHIiYjksG4icXfalgk%26r%3DWQz-AuDfGMx4ZwQ3cBF6eebYv7QHI9psnpNvV7SNPkQ%26m%3DMtL7zdLkGbyoLX5cGLjmLbMCSsHmO-jWLGAxBG4Dpxg%26s%3DhspLCIHP4CiMNGDv2ajGXnOtCMSHEkdpLywXbrE9hWo%26e%3D&data=04%7C01%7CJon.Stimpson%40qldcricket.com.au%7C048e6854e54a484ae07b08d9d59c4814%7C387455ccc3fd431ba5a4e56147c2e9db%7C0%7C0%7C637775689467005654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=%2FRWFA%2Ftk5fr5U1ipR2xXxqjVEwlfEv0WIG4p%2BwEhnD4%3D&reserved=0)

*Activity Providers/Organisers who wish to attend schools to provide extra-curricular activities (e.g. community use of school facilities), within or outside hours, will be required to be fully vaccinated due to providing a service to or at a school.*

*However, the participants in extra-curricular activities at schools can be regarded as* [*visitors*](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Furldefense.proofpoint.com%2Fv2%2Furl%3Fu%3Dhttps-3A__www.qld.gov.au_health_conditions_health-2Dalerts_coronavirus-2Dcovid-2D19_current-2Dstatus_public-2Dhealth-2Ddirections_vaccination-2Drequirements-2Dfor-2Dworkers-2Din-2Dhigh-2Drisk-2Dsettings%26d%3DDwMCAg%26c%3DtpTxelpKGw9ZbZ5Dlo0lybSxHDHIiYjksG4icXfalgk%26r%3DWQz-AuDfGMx4ZwQ3cBF6eebYv7QHI9psnpNvV7SNPkQ%26m%3DMtL7zdLkGbyoLX5cGLjmLbMCSsHmO-jWLGAxBG4Dpxg%26s%3DhspLCIHP4CiMNGDv2ajGXnOtCMSHEkdpLywXbrE9hWo%26e%3D&data=04%7C01%7CJon.Stimpson%40qldcricket.com.au%7C048e6854e54a484ae07b08d9d59c4814%7C387455ccc3fd431ba5a4e56147c2e9db%7C0%7C0%7C637775689467005654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=%2FRWFA%2Ftk5fr5U1ipR2xXxqjVEwlfEv0WIG4p%2BwEhnD4%3D&reserved=0) *to the schools and therefore are not required to be vaccinated.*

Further information can be found on the Education website  [https://qed.qld.gov.au/covid19/frequently-asked-questions](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fqed.qld.gov.au%2Fcovid19%2Ffrequently-asked-questions&data=04%7C01%7CJon.Stimpson%40qldcricket.com.au%7C048e6854e54a484ae07b08d9d59c4814%7C387455ccc3fd431ba5a4e56147c2e9db%7C0%7C0%7C637775689467005654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=LK6xjZ07dw6RA7pINr%2BJjo0RkEWRv9t3AWQqeDdquBg%3D&reserved=0)

**CURRENT RESTRICTIONS FOR SPORT & RECREATION**

The State Government has confirmed the following restrictions remain in place

*Both vaccinated and unvaccinated people can still participate in many sport, active recreation, and fitness activities including indoor and outdoor events - state-wide.

Indoor venues, activities and events are required to operate in accordance with the COVID Safe Checklist for Restricted Businesses and comply with occupant density limits apply.

These organisations are required to collect contact information via the Check In Qld app - please note you are not required to collect contact information is the person is or appears to be a primary or secondary school-aged child and is a part of a group attending an activity organised by a school, sporting team or community group. However, all escorting adults must check in.

Face masks are required in all indoor settings across Queensland including workplaces, indoor stadiums, sports arenas, sports centres, gyms and sport activities (exemptions apply). As always masks can be removed during strenuous exercise.

It is important to note that organisations are able to self-impose additional restrictions for patrons and can decide to refuse entry to unvaccinated persons. If your organisation or one of your affiliates is looking to self-impose restrictions relating to vaccination status, we would encourage to seek legal advice. The Fair Work Ombudsman has also released detailed advice for employers around mandating vaccinations.*

**Further information can be found here;**

[https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/government-actions/roadmap-to-easing-queenslands-restrictions/sport/restrictions](https://aus01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.covid19.qld.gov.au%2Fgovernment-actions%2Froadmap-to-easing-queenslands-restrictions%2Fsport%2Frestrictions&data=04%7C01%7CJon.Stimpson%40qldcricket.com.au%7C048e6854e54a484ae07b08d9d59c4814%7C387455ccc3fd431ba5a4e56147c2e9db%7C0%7C0%7C637775689467005654%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=d%2F3kN3NWkT4vJbxI%2FABsmZlwMM6lb7fX9J2LMcFkSMw%3D&reserved=0)

**PRACTICAL TIPS FOR MANAGING GAMES**

Queensland Cricket has been working with stakeholders on a number of practical management guidelines to be implemented where possible including.  These are seen as examples of ways to minimise the risk of covid whilst ensuring sport can continue to be played.

* Limit dressing room usage where possible
* External marquees up for teams
* Separate areas for parents and spectators away from teams.
* Hand sanitising stations
* Don’t share water bottles
* Canteen management strategy– order ahead, service to outside, stickers on the ground, limit internal dining
* No shared hotel rooms or buses (carnivals)
* Training in smaller groups, or teams (rather than entire Club)
* Parents not to attend training
* Strong messaging around and adherence to the health advice
* Competition and fee refund flexibility i.e if someone cannot play or doesn’t feel comfortable
* Schools limiting trial games to internal games