



STATE VOLLEYBALL NSW INC.

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COVID-19 and Office of Sport Statements

Over the past few days, NSW Health via the NSW Office of Sport has issued some statements with recommendations on how sport should be conducted over the coming weeks. The VNSW office has since been included in a number of detailed briefings including directly with Dr Kerry Chant, the Sports Minister and executives of the Office of Sport, Sport NSW and other sports to work through the intent and impacts of these statements.

First and foremost, everyone involved, especially the VNSW office's highest priority to keep everyone as safe as possible while playing sport. However, the intent is not to stop sport. This does create a "grey area" which needs to be interpreted by each individual and responsible person making it very difficult for us to come up with black & white explanations.

The latest and most detailed letter from the Office of Sport is here - <https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/faqadvicesport.pdf>

After detailed discussions with Sport NSW and other experts, VNSW have made the following decisions and recommendations:

- The following recommendations relate to club training, social competitions, Spikeroos programs and the like.
 - VNSW will not direct any club to decide if their activities can continue. This needs to be done locally with each club taking into account their specific situation, venue regulations, LGA regulations and their COVID Safety Plan
 - Each individual should consider if their participation is critical to them/their team with the recommendation that ideally people restrict the distance travelled from their home address and the venue to be within 10km.
- The VNSW Junior Performance Camps are postponed effective immediately. Further information will be sent to registered coaches and athletes ASAP.
- The Club Workshop for the 29th August is postponed with further information to come ASAP.
- SVL / JSVL will continue as planned with increased staff, cleaning and monitoring protocols in place.

All of the above has been discussed in exhaustive detail and are in line with many other sports. We aim to meet all recommendations as best as practical within our sports structures but without completely stopping the sport.

We understand that some individuals or clubs may have different levels of comfort with these decisions but ultimately it will be up to you as to how you want to proceed. However, to help alleviate some concerns I do want to highlight that we have some of the strictest COVID Protocols in place of any sport (including Netball who play in the same venue) and we continue to do our utmost best to ensure the safety of all involved. We are very confident in these protocols and thank you for the respect and continued support we have received in following these rules.



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These protocols, rules & measures include:

- Each Club should have their own COVID Safety Plan
- There is a very robust check in system at all VNSW activities with significant penalties if clubs/individuals breach them (some fines have been issued & individuals banned already)
- Strict limit of 1 spectator per player in Junior activities (where venue capacity allows) and no spectators at all to attend adult activities
- Complete clearing of the venue apart from essential staff and teams involved in 2 matches before next teams can enter to minimise crossover individuals.
- Limit of players only being able to play 1 match per day
- Cleaning and hand sanitising at every practical location and time
- All staff have completed a recognised COVID Safe Accreditation

I will personally be at SVL, JSVL & Spikeroos on Friday and Sunday if you would like to discuss anything otherwise please feel free to call or email me. Please continue to stay safe and ensure complacency is not creeping in to keep all of NSW out of lockdown.

Thank you

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