

Coronavirus Policy

Overview and Purpose

The AGSV and APS continue to closely monitor any outbreaks of respiratory illness caused by a novel (new) coronavirus (COVID-19) that was first identified in Wuhan, Hubei Province, China. Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses that can cause illnesses from the common cold to more severe diseases such as Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS-CoV) and Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV).

Risk

Currently in Australia, people most at risk of contracting coronavirus are people who have:

- recently been in a high-risk country or region, or
- recently been in close contact with a positive / confirmed coronavirus case

To comply with best practice Risk Assessment, AGSV / APS will identify hazards at venues being used, the associated risks and will do what is reasonably practicable to eliminate those risks.

How COVID-19 spreads

The virus is thought to mainly spread from person-to-person

- Between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet)
- Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes
- These droplets can land in the mouth / nose or be inhaled into the lungs of people who are nearby

Depending on the venue, an appropriate course of action by AGSV / APS to mitigate the spread may include:

- Monitoring official Government sources for current information and advice for outbreaks in the area of the event
- Providing clear advice to Staff, Students and Officials about actions they should take if think they may have the symptoms of coronavirus or become unwell, in accordance with advice from the Australian Government Department of Health and state or territory health department
- Requesting confirmation from schools that no one from their team has been in contact with another person who has been infected

Staff, Students and Officials Responsibilities

Staff and Students participating at an AGSV / APS event has a duty to take reasonable care of their own health and safety and to not adversely affect the health and safety of others. Staff, Students and Officials should be reminded to always practice good hygiene, along with any taking the necessary steps to protect themselves and others against infection. This includes:

- Washing their hands often, with soap and water, or carrying hand sanitiser to use
- Not shaking hands before, during or after an event / match
- Not sharing Water Bottles or the like with other players
- Covering their mouth when coughing or sneezing, but not using their hands to do so
- Seeing a health care professional if they start to feel unwell
- If unwell, avoiding contact with others (including shaking hands or other touching, such as hugging)
- If a Staff, Student or Official has a heavy cold, a sore throat, a cough, has flu-like symptoms or is running a fever, an official must be notified immediately, take a COVID test, self isolate and await further instructions

A full version of the AGSV / APS COVID Plan has been circulated to all schools.

Conditions for Exclusion

Students, visitors and staff are not permitted to enter AGSV / APS Events if they:

- Are experiencing any of the following symptoms (sore throat, runny nose, cough, shortness of breath, fever, loss of taste, loss of smell, diarrhea, conjunctivitis, headache, myalgia/arthralgia (muscle/joint pain), a rash on skin, or discolouration of fingers or toes)
- Have been a close contact of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 (during the period of time in which the virus was contagious)
- Are awaiting the results of a test for COVID-19
- If they are self-isolating
- Have visited any local government areas (LGAs) or locations that have been classified for action (hotspot) in the last 14 days

Conditions of Entry & Recommendations

- Everyone entering a venue who is not a nominated participant must sign in using the QR code. This includes all care givers, spectators and coaches not listed on the team sheet
- All non participants must wear a mask at all times if required to by government legislation at that time. Competitors are also required to wear a mask whilst not on the court/field
- All people entering the venue must follow the directions of the appointed COVID Marshal
- Where possible, students should arrive prepared to play and not use Change Rooms
- At large multi school events, teams / students will be allocated a specific area at the venue. When not competing they are to remain in that area and not cross over in areas designated to other schools
- Social distancing - ensure areas that are already at designated capacity are not entered
- Bring and use own drink bottles
- Schools and parents should ensure that you drop off and pick up is in an area that is not crowded
- Spectators should not sing, chant and blow whistles / instruments
- Each person that enters the event / venue is to use the hand sanitiser provided at one of the designated stations and regularly reapply.