

# **COMMUNITY BASKETBALL** **COVID-19 UPDATE – 4.3.22**



**BASKETBALL**  
**New Zealand**

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# COMMUNITY BASKETBALL COVID-19 UPDATE – 4.3.22

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

Thank you to all our community basketball leaders who are continuing to manage your organisations and providing safe participation opportunities as we continue to navigate the challenges presented by COVID-19.

Further to our Association Leadership Forum yesterday this is the first of a weekly update Basketball New Zealand will provide while we continue to operate in a rapidly changing environment.

New Zealand is currently at RED settings on the COVID Protection Framework.

If you have questions relating to COVID-19 your best resource remains the excellent resources and guidance available on the Sport New Zealand and COVID.govt.nz websites:

- [The COVID-19 Protection Framework](#) (traffic lights) summary provides an excellent summary of the CPF
- [How Sport will operate under the CPF](#) is an excellent summary of how to apply each level of the CPF to sport
- On the [Sport New Zealand website](#) you can also view and download the full set of traffic Light level guides
- General guidance for businesses: [business.govt.nz](https://business.govt.nz)
- Guidance for workplaces that have a case of COVID-19: [health.govt.nz](https://health.govt.nz)
- Guidance for all of New Zealand: [covid19.govt.nz](https://covid19.govt.nz)

If you cannot find the information or answers you are looking for you can email:

Sport New Zealand - [covid19response@sportnz.org.nz](mailto:covid19response@sportnz.org.nz)

Basketball New Zealand – [community@nz.basketball](mailto:community@nz.basketball)

Over the next pages you will find answers to questions submitted this week.

We will endeavour to source answers to all questions submitted by **5pm each Wednesday** in this weekly update that will be circulated on Friday afternoons.

Nga mihi,

**Brad Edwards**  
**GM Community Basketball**

## 1.2 WEEKLY Q & A'S

### **Can you get clarity on who counts in a 100 max limit – ie do refs count, do association staff, do scorebench, do team coaches and managers? – Mark, Tauranga**

Sport New Zealand Response: Any workers at venues to do count towards 100 person limit (if this limit is applicable). For clarity workers for basketball activity includes venue staff and volunteers, association staff and volunteers, game officials, coaches and team managers. Essentially only players and spectators (if they are allowed entry) are to be counted in the 100 limit.

### **Are Regional Sport Trust owned and operated facilities considered public and treated as public/council facilities? Josh, Northland**

Sport New Zealand Response: Public facilities are those which are owned by councils, so Regional Sports Trust owned facilities may not be included in this, however this will be a call for facilities to make as they understand their organisational structures best.

### **Are Facilities that are Council owned COMPANIES also covered by the public/council venue mandate? Mark, Tauranga**

Sport New Zealand Response: This will be a call for facilities to make as they understand their organisational structures best.

### **Will the new exemption for all school students participating in school organised sport include students who are coaching and officiating? Jill, Southland**

Sport New Zealand Response: We are still working through the details of the new school sport changes and awaiting seeing the legislation. However, my understanding at this point is that like normal when students are in coaching/refereeing positions they are classed as workers and therefore do need to be vaccinated. If they are working in a dual role as participant and coach however, they would not need to be vaccinated. We will release guidance as soon as we know the details around this so will make sure this is clear.

### **There still seems to be lots of confusion regarding when do have to wear a mask and when is okay to not. Is there an official ruling on it and is it a requirement or only a recommendation? Mike, Manawatu**

Sport New Zealand Response: For regular community sport (Gatherings) you need to wear masks at all times unless eating and drinking or exercising. The exception here is if your Gathering group has exclusive use of the defined space or venue you are in- then you do not need to wear face masks although it is still encouraged. Have a look at our FAQs, in particular "How do we know if we have exclusive use of a venue?" and "Do we still need to wear face masks?" <https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/covid-19-protection-framework-faqs/> These are requirements in the COVID-19 Public Health Sport New Zealand Response (Protection Framework) Order 2021. At Orange and Green where you are encouraged to wear face masks this is a recommendation.

### **Is there any govt support available for CASUAL staff (coaches/refs) who can't work due to isolation requirements and/or cancellation of programmes due to COVID-19 based decisions by schools or providers? – Rob, Auckland**

We have reviewed available information and the best option is to go to the COVID-19 website below to follow the online tool to check eligibility and apply online: <https://covid19.govt.nz/isolation-and-care/financial-support/>

Sport New Zealand Response: The two available support packages are detailed on this document: <https://www.workandincome.govt.nz/documents/covid-19/employer-factsheets/covid-19-leave-support-and-short-term-absence-factsheet-english.pdf> Employers can apply on behalf of their casual staff for these packages and use the average hours worked by the employer over the last 8-week period.

**Can you confirm that ball and equipment sanitization is no longer considered essential? Rob, Kapiti**

No, hygiene requirements have NOT changed and are of even more importance to help control the spread of Omicron.

**Below are the Q & A responses shared on the Association Forum yesterday.**

**Can we get clarification of what the current restrictions are, what “air barrier” between groupings actually means, and what the information being sent to facilities are for usage of indoor facilities. – Josh, Northland**

- Definition of an air barrier for indoor facilities – Sport NZ FAQ on defined airflow, MOH advice – key factor is to ensure groups do not mix, thick curtains or temporary wall dividers may be acceptable, this is ultimately a judgement call for venues to make.
- Rules/Guidelines for indoor facilities - Council owned and operated venues do not have a 100 person limit and must apply 1m<sup>2</sup> per person, this is in the Public Health Order

**Are you aware of other sports cancelling their leagues and/or reducing the opportunity to mix with other schools? Does BBNZ have any position on this given the current rate of spread of covid? – Kevin, Taranaki**

- Our current position remains that following Government and Sport New Zealand advice that we encourage basketball to continue to be offered as long as the current guidelines are followed.
- Our communities, tamariki & rangatahi especially, have been missing out on opportunities to play on and off for two years so we need a balanced approach to support their wellbeing
- Red setting is designed to enable sport to continue but cancel large events and gatherings

**Does a facility mandate (which in some/many instances is in place to fulfill employer H&S responsibilities) trump this relaxation of requirements for participants? Or vice versa? – Rob, ABS**

- Our understanding is that this requirement will be legislated so facilities will not be able to ask school students for MVP. It remains unclear as yet if they MUST allow school students in.
- The intention of the change is to enable unrestricted entry, council venues unlikely to be able to not accept booking or entry

**School Sports Update is a little unclear - this includes school teams in competitions with club teams. Question: what happens if the club teams league is enforcing (or the venue enforcing) double vaccination entry only? Question: non-vaccinated students treated as vaccinated? But the venue capacity is the grey area—100 per defined space or no limit if council facility? Some school facilities become community facilities after a set hour (eg 5.30pm). So on the school to make adjustment with community usage rules? – Anthony, Waikato**

- Our understanding is that this requirement will be legislated so facilities will not be able to ask school students for MVP. It remains unclear as yet if they MUST allow school students in.
- Yes all school students would be treated as MVP exempt, they count towards any MVP use venue limits but do not trigger a lower non MVP limit.
- School facilities to community facilities, yes this would be on schools to manage but school student MVP exemptions would apply and MVP requirements for non-school students would continue to apply.



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