

# EASTERN GOLDFIELDS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

# COVID MANAGEMENT PLAN

Version: 3

Approval Date: 16/03/2022



#### **PURPOSE**

This Covid Management Plan has been developed with advice from Hockey WA and other Government Regulators in consultation with clubs and executive members.

The purpose of the Covid Management Plan is to have set of regulations to inform how we best deliver a season, based on a unique set of circumstances.

The regulations are intended to apply if COVID-19 impacts on the ability of teams to field players and in the provision of officials to matches in the 2022 Eastern Goldfields competition.

For the avoidance of any doubt, should that scenario occur, the below regulations will supersede respective competition rules as they would otherwise apply.

#### **OBJECTIVE**

The objective of the EGHA Executive is

- To ensure the health and safety of all stakeholders;
- To ensure compliance with the law, government recommendations and guidelines;
- To ensure the reputation of hockey in the Goldfields is not negatively impacted or damaged;
- To preserve the competition and rules as close to what was originally intended as possible;
- To ensure no team or club is significantly disadvantaged compared to others as a result of COVID-19;
- To ensure decisions are made quickly, transparently, fairly and in the best interests of the sport.

# **VENUE OPERATIONS**

Eastern Goldfields Hockey Stadium falls under two categories under the Stage 2 Restrictions that were recently implemented.

Our Liquor Licence is our overriding legal fallback position; therefore, we follow the Stage 2 Restrictions for 'Hospitality' venues at times we are licenced as we currently hold a 'Club Restricted Liquor Licence' for up to 300 patrons. Regardless of whether the bar is open we are <u>licenced during the following times</u>: **Monday – Friday 5:00pm – 11:59pm** and **Saturday – Sunday 12:00pm – 11:59pm**.

The venue is unlicensed at all other times outside of this, and during this time our venue is deemed an outdoor 'Community Sport' venue, and the appropriate guidelines/restrictions need to be adhered to during those times.

HOSPITALITY VENUE ("HV") - The 2sqm rule, a maximum of 150 patrons (not including staff) where food and beverages are served, with seated service only, applies to high-risk venues including Hospitality venues.

COMMUNITY SPORT VENUE ("CSV") - Community sport is permitted with some measures in place, with no spectators permitted for outdoor community sport, <u>except for</u> immediate family and guardians of the person playing the sport.

Masks must continue to be worn indoors at all times, including children Year 3 and older, and this also includes training nights, unless of course the person is sitting down eating and/or drinking.

All persons 16 years and over must be signing in using the Safe WA App, or manually using the sign in sheets required.

#### **VENUE ACCESS**

EGHA will require proof of vaccination for patrons or participants to enter a licenced area (turf venues as well as club room facilities). The key points are as follows:

- All venues will require proof of vaccination for patrons over 16 years of age.
- Proof of Vaccination will preferably be provided at the point of entry or alternatively the point of service

# EGHA STADIUM - PLAN

EGHA has proposed the following plan in order to address the needs of the 2022 hockey season. The plan seeks to deliver:

- Clear movement and congregation options within the venue through to the bar area to have vaccination status checked;
- Access to change rooms for all players (with hygiene conditions);
- Access to all required services with minimal integration between vaccinated and un-vaccinated patrons;
- the red line demarcates our licensed area, orange bollards and chain will be used to demonstrate to patrons when they are entering and exiting a licensed area.



#### PROOF OF VCCINATION MONITORING

Access to EGHA Hockey Stadium will be managed by a single point of entry.

- EGHA staff will monitor all visitors via a check in point in the bar area.
- Patrons will receive a stamp to confirm their status as a valid patron.



# **VENUE CLEANING - OBLIGATIONS**

In the event of a positive case being reported at a hockey venue, as per the Government of Western Australia Department of Health guidance, it should be noted that:

• There is no requirement for a certificate of cleaning and disinfection to be issued for a premises to resume routine operation;

- Staff undertaking cleaning of potentially affected sites (including contracted cleaning companies) should have received training on cleaning and disinfection and the correct use of cleaning equipment (this includes the correct use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE));
- The term 'deep cleaning' has been popularised by the media to communicate thorough cleaning and disinfection of a public site that has potentially been exposed to the COVID virus. (This terminology is not a quantifiable measure of cleaning and is not recognised or used by the Government of Western Australia Department of Health);
- A useful document regarding cleaning of a venue is the following Government of Western
   Australia Department of Health publication: Infection prevention and control advice for
   environmental cleaning in non-healthcare settings (home and workplace) Infection prevention
   and control advice for environmental cleaning in non-healthcare settings (home and workplace)

#### PERSONAL PROTECTION PROTOCOL

Hygiene Protocol All venues must ensure that:

- Patrons can easily access alcohol-based hand sanitisers, specifically after touching any equipment;
- Hand sanitiser is made available throughout the venue and that all teams have access to hygiene
  options in the change rooms and dugouts;
- Players, umpires and volunteers are also encouraged to carry their own hand sanitiser with them.
   Use of Face Masks In line with the current WA Government mandate, masks are mandatory in public indoor settings. This includes club rooms and changing rooms.

Masks are not required to be worn outdoors or while seated when eating or drinking.

# UNVACCINATED ESCALATION PROCEDURE

The diagram below shows the escalation points in the event that the COVID Plan is not being adhered to.



If a person disagrees with having to be vaccinated and would like to speak to some in the first instance refer them to the Bar Management.

If a non-vaccinated person enters the licensed area contrary to requirements or alternatively refuses to leave the area or venue, if requested, the Police shall be notified.

#### COMMUNICATIONS FOR A POSITIVE COVID-19 CASE

In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 linked to EGHA, the following guidelines become imperative:

- 1. Follow the Government guidelines.
- 2. Notify Daniel Lavery on 0411 174 452 or Michelle Barnfield on 0417774249
  - EGHA will clarify with the WA State Government on the correct process to be followed.
  - Clubs are to await instruction from EGHA Executive prior to communicating to patrons and members.
  - EGHA will communicate the best way to handle the process.
  - Only the EGHA President, Daniel Lavery is permitted to authorise communications required by a venue that experiences a COVID related issue.

#### MATCH RE-SCHEDULES OR DOUBLE-UP OPTIONS

If a team has five (5) or more Players absent due to WA Government guidelines a Club may consider the following:

- Application to EGHA Competitions Committee for the fixture(s) to be rescheduled to an appropriate time. Clubs must be able to demonstrate that the team requesting the re-schedule is deemed to be the Regular Grade for all five (5) players; OR
- Application to EGHA Competitions Committee for permission to include up to an additional two
  (2) double-up players in the club. In this scenario the maximum number of double ups will be five
  (5). For the J 11/12 divisions, where the normal limit of double ups has been extended to five (5)
  in recent rule changes, Clubs will be able to extend this to seven (7) if this scenario applies

WA Government guidelines would include relevant exposure and isolation requirements, including, for example:

- A positive COVID result
- Instruction to isolate/quarantine pending a test result; and
- Instruction to isolate/quarantine due to travel or household members undertaking isolation in the same premises etc.

# **MATCH RE-SCHEDULES**

If a Club requests a reschedule as per the above conditions, EGHA Competitions Committee will endeavour to re-schedule all matches that are unable to be played according to the following:

- All reschedules to occur within the timeframe of the regular season.
- On existing 'free' weekends, including the June Long Weekend and the July School Holiday period
- Utilising mid-week time slots for fixtures, in lieu of training
- Potentially re-scheduling games to a Saturday Grass fixture.

#### **FINALS**

The season length will not be extended past the long weekend in September.

If there is an opportunity to truncate the finals series in order to complete a full season of fixtures, EGHA may do so.

This change would represent a maximum of two (2) additional weekend of fixtures, and two (2) fewer weekend of finals (removing finals). If the season is affected by re-scheduled games, EGHA apply flexibility in the way Finals are conducted. EGHA shall keep records of ladders based upon all games played and the make-up of Finals will be the best performing teams based on all games played in the division – noting ladders will be percentage based if there are teams within the division that have played a different number of matches to others

#### UMPIRES AND TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

EGHA will require that umpires and technical officials adhere to the following protocols:

- Umpires and technical officials do not spend unnecessary time in the technical area prior to their
  fixtures (ground controllers will limit the number of people in the dugout at any time. Umpires
  must not overlap or congregate in the technical area).
- All umpires must use the First Aid Room to change, (no changing to occur in the technical area).

#### **COMPLIANCE**

EGHA is aware that, in addition to the legal obligations arising from the Emergency Management Act 2005 and the Directions made under that Act, it must continue to comply with relevant existing legislation and regulations.

# FAQ's

I am a parent who is not vaccinated; can I watch my child play hockey on Sunday morning at 9:00am on the grass?

Yes, in line with the CSV rules parents are allowed to spectate their kids sport under Level 2 Restrictions;

I am a parent who is not vaccinated; can I watch my child play hockey on Sunday morning at 9:00am on the turf?

Yes, in line with the CSV rules parents are allowed to spectate their kids sport under Level 2 Restrictions, we do not become a HV until 12:00pm so you are welcome to take a seat anywhere;

I am a parent who is not vaccinated; can I watch my child play hockey on Sunday at 11:30am on the turf? Yes, in line with the CSV rules parents are allowed to spectate their kids sport under Level 2 Restrictions throughout the venue, however at 12:00pm you will have to move away from the licensed area to the unlicensed area where you can still watch the game;

I am not vaccinated; can I watch my child play hockey on Sunday at 11:30am on the grass? Yes, in line with the CSV rules parents are allowed to spectate their kids sport under Level 2 Restrictions and provided you aren't in the licensed area you are welcome to watch the full game; I have just played my game of hockey at 2:30pm on a Saturday, I am vaccinated, can I stick around and have a few beers at the stadium?

In line with HV requirements you are welcome to take a get a drink or something to eat and take a seat anywhere in the licensed area;

I have just played my game of hockey at 2:30pm on a Saturday, I am unvaccinated, can I stick around and have a few beers at the stadium?

In line with HV requirements you are required to move out of the licensed area to the unlicensed area where you may spectate from;

I am a parent who is not vaccinated; can I sit along the veranda to watch my child train at 5:30pm? In line with HV requirements you are welcome to watch your child train however you are required to move out of the licensed area to the unlicensed.