

# DIAMOND VALLEY CRICKET ASSOCIATION

## JUNIOR COVID-19 PLAYING CONDITIONS 2021/22

*Version 6 – 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021*

The DVCA has adopted the Cricket Victoria Return to Play COVID Guidelines for this season. In addition to the CV Guidelines, the DVCA has further adopted specific recommendations for our Association. Please find below the COVID Playing Conditions for season 2021/22 for the Senior & Vets competitions.

These requirements are for the 2021/22 season only are to be read in conjunction with our Association rules and the Laws of Cricket in general. Where there is any conflict between our Association rules or the Laws of Cricket in general, these regulations are to take precedence.

### VACCINATION

Cricket Victoria strongly recommended that all eligible people get fully vaccinated asap. N.B. The below information is based on current information available on the Victorian State Government [CORONAVIRUS WEBSITE](#):

Unless an individual council, school, university or other landowner has rules in place that exceed these requirements, the following rules will apply:

#### **(a) Matches & training sessions**

**People directly involved: Players, coaches, umpires, scorers and any other person directly required for running the match / training session e.g. canteen/bar attendants**

Full vaccination status is **NOT** required for the duration of matches & training sessions. These people can access indoor spaces without showing proof of vaccine status

People directly involved in the match (e.g. players, umpires) who are not fully vaccinated should be allowed adequate time before matches (e.g. up to 1 hour) and after-matches (say 30 minutes) in any indoor spaces such as change rooms. After this time, the venue is to be treated as an indoor space for socialising – not playing community sport – and therefore align to the wider rules around hospitality / cafes – e.g. full vaccination status is required to enter indoor spaces.

**All other people 16 years and over (unless you have a valid exemption) – e.g. spectators, parents/guardians, club committee members not directly required for running the match**

Full vaccination status **IS** only required to enter any indoor spaces such as social rooms – except for toilet or emergency access which shall be open for all

#### **(b) Other cricket related activities – including after-match social functions, club meetings**

Full vaccination status **IS** only required to enter any indoor spaces such as social rooms – except for toilet or emergency access which shall be open for all.

# **PLAYING GUIDELINES**

## **1. ON ARRIVAL**

On arrival, everyone (including spectators) must check-in at the designated areas and use the available hand sanitiser. Clubs should have multiple check in areas for those attending to sign in. This procedure is to help with any contact tracing should a COVID-19 case occur.

## **2. VICTORIAN STATE GOVERNMENT / DHHS RESTRICTIONS COMPLIANCE**

All people involved in cricket matches in Victoria must always comply with directions from the State Government / DHHS. Where there is any conflict with the requirements below, the requirements from the State Government / DHHS shall take precedence. This includes travel to and from matches and carpooling (Regional and Metro).

## **3. KEEP HYGIENE FRONT OF MIND**

**Off-field:** Everyone attending cricket matches (players, volunteers, umpires, spectators, scorers, canteen staff etc.) are to keep a 1.5m distance from others at all times before, during and post-match. Those 12 years and over are also required to wear a face mask when indoors and when unable to keep a 1.5m distance. Keep use of facilities to a minimum (e.g. toilet / canteen access only). Keep your hygiene practices up.

**On-field:** Players and umpires shall not gather within 1.5m before and after play, during any breaks, following wickets and shall minimise any time spent within 1.5m of another person whilst play is underway. Players and Umpires are **not** required to wear a face.

## **MATCH EQUIPMENT**

Anyone touching matchday equipment must sanitise their hands when setting up & packing down. Items shall be cleaned with an alcohol-based antibacterial wipe/spray - minimum 70% alcohol (ethanol or IPA) content before being touched. Matchday items includes - stumps, boundary cones or rope, tables / chairs for scorers, scorebooks, moving sightcreens, covers, rollers, mowers etc.

Should the stumps and/or bails need to be reassembled following being broken by the ball or player, then this is the job of the umpires only.

## **4. PERSONAL EQUIPMENT**

- Personal equipment (pads, gloves, helmet and bat) is discouraged from being shared. If it is however necessary to share equipment, the first person using the equipment shall remove their gloves, sanitise their hands and wipe or spray the item with a minimum 70%-alcohol (ethanol or isopropyl alcohol (IPA) based antibacterial wipe or spray. The person then borrowing the equipment, shall sanitise their hands before use and clean after use.
- All players kit bags are to be stored at least 1.5m apart from any other player bags.
- No items worn by a player shall be touched by another person unless the item is cleaned first. This includes any items that a bowler takes off to bowl their over (e.g. jumper, sunglasses, cap). These items are not to be held by an umpire or given to another player or person, and are to be placed by the bowler themselves at the nearest of the following three locations:

➤ At a designated spot behind the central umpire (end of pitch area recommended).

N.B. When an item is left on the field that belongs to the current bowler, they should be placed so they are no wider than the width of the stumps. If struck the ball is declared a 'dead ball' and re-bowled. However, should a fielder throw the ball and it strikes the bowlers hat/sweater in this position, then play will continue.

## 5. COIN TOSS

There will be no coin toss at junior matches, the home team will field first.

## 6. MATCH BALL

- **Sweat/Saliva Conditions:**

No saliva shall be placed on the ball by anyone at any time. Sweat may only be applied to the ball provided it is from a person's back/arms (sweat from head/neck is not allowed). Players are permitted to give the ball a 'dry shine' on their apparel only. If a player has been found to be using sweat or saliva from their head/ neck on the ball, it is to be sanitised immediately following the cleaning instructions listed.

Enforcement Procedures:

- 1) In Games where there is an official umpire, the following procedure will be in place should a player & team be in breach of adding sweat (from head/neck) or saliva to the ball whether unintentionally or intentionally:

U18's & U16's

- a. Each team shall be given only 2 warnings if a player has been deemed to be in breach of the regulations (intentional or unintentional breaches). On the 3rd occasion during an innings when the team breaches the regulations, a 5-run penalty will be added to the score. For any further breach in the same innings, a 5-run penalty will be continued to be added to the score.

All other age groups

- b. Each team shall be given 2 warnings if a player has been deemed to be in breach of the regulations (intentional or unintentional breaches)
  - c. Should a player reoffend for a third time, the umpire will ask the player not to bowl again for the duration of the match
- 2) For games with no umpires, the same policy will apply however it will be up to the coaches of each team to adhere to the policy. The situation will be re-assessed after the grading games to determine if this is an issue.

- **Cleaning the Ball:**

The umpire shall not touch the ball at any stage - this includes where players or parents are umpiring. Where it is necessary to touch the ball to inspect it, the umpire shall immediately sanitise their hands before & after inspection (or wear disposable gloves and dispose of them immediately after use).

The ball shall be cleaned with an alcohol-based antibacterial wipe/spray (**NOT GEL**) with minimum 70% alcohol (ethanol) content **at the half way mark of the innings (eg. 20 overs)**, at any scheduled break (drinks, lunch, afternoon tea) and if the ball has been touched by hand by any off-field person (spectators, coaches, parents etc.). If a wicket falls during an over when a break was planned, the ball shall be cleaned immediately. This shall be completed by the bowling team captain (or another designated player if the captain is a keeper) in sight of the central umpire and/or junior coaches. Sanitisation products should be placed off the field of play, with the fielding captain or at a position agreed to by both captains at the toss. The sanitisation products should be easily accessible for all players on the field to complete sanitisation breaks efficiently. Any wipes shall be disposed of immediately (or placed in a secure zip lock bag until the next break).

- After a wicket, the ball shall be left next the stumps at the bowling end for the next delivery and be collected by the bowler when getting ready to bowl the next ball.

- At the completion of each over, the fielder who fielded the ball last will be responsible for placing it next to the stumps at the end of the pitch where the next over will be bowled.
- During each scheduled break, the ball shall not be touched by anyone. It may be placed in a zip lock bag or put in a box and held to ensure security.
- Players are permitted to dry the ball with a towel on days when there are damp conditions however the towel is NOT to be shared between players. Each player must have their own towel to dry the ball.

## 7. NO COMMUNAL FOOD / DRINKS

- No communal food / drinks shall be supplied by clubs. Players and officials shall either bring their own personal drinks / food or purchase at any available canteen / kiosk.
- Any food brought to the match should be in a sealed or pre-packaged container.
- At the scheduled drinks break, players are able to leave the field to retrieve their drink bottles.

## 8. HAND SANITISER (ALCOHOL-BASED ANTIBACTERIAL WITH MINIMUM 70% ALCOHOL)

- All attendees shall sanitise their hands upon arrival at the ground.
- The home club is required to provide all sanitisation products for both teams and officials for the duration of the match.
- All players, umpires and officials (including scorers, coaches etc.) shall sanitise their hands **at the halfway mark of the innings** (this can be at the fall of a wicket in the designated over). The batting team are encouraged also to regularly sanitise whilst off the field.

## 9. TEAM SHEETS / SCORING

- No physical team sheets are required. Teams are to be selected on MyCricket before play commences. Should a team have a late change and can't make the change to MyCricket prior to the game commencing, the captain shall fill out a team sheet and take a photo of it to be shown at the toss.
- Scorers shall maintain a 1.5m distance at all times. Any equipment used (iPad, scorebook, pens) shall be wiped - with an alcohol-based antibacterial with minimum 70% alcohol (ethanol or IPA) before use and each time a new scorer is required.
- Both teams are permitted to use electronic scoring if there is agreement for this method of scoring. The umpire will check both electronic scoreboards to ensure scores align at the end of the match. If a paper scorebook is used in conjunction with electronic scoring then the umpire will check both the electronic screen and paper scorebook to ensure both scores match at the end of the match. If paper scoring is being used, all scorers must provide their own pen to score. It is preferable that one scorer is used for the duration of the match. Electronic devices must be sanitised prior to use.
- Where manual scoreboards are in use, it is preferable for the same person to attend to the numbers during an innings. If there is more than one person attending to the scores, then the person touching the numbers should disinfect their hands after each update.

## 10. MATCHES IMPACTED BY COVID-19

Given the current climate facing the Australian community, there may be instances where matches are impacted by either a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19. DHHS will be able to provide specifics relating to testing and quarantine protocols. Any club who becomes part of a COVID case, needs to notify the DVCA Executive as soon as possible. The subsequent information provided to impacted players and teams within that club will ultimately determine the course of action for the relevant games ahead for those particular teams involved. However, given this situation is external to cricket, and often no fault can be attributed to participants who are suspected of having or have a

confirmed case of COVID-19, any match impacted by COVID-19 shall be determined either as a draw. Any club which needs to forfeit a game because of the impacts of a COVID case, will not be fined.

#### **11. UMPIRE FEES PAYMENT**

Clubs are to prepare the umpires fees (\$70 cash) in a plastic zip lock bag prior to the match and make sure that all money is wiped down prior to being placed in the bag. The cash money must not be that collected from the players on match day.

#### **12. BREAKS**

There is to be a quick changeover in the match at the end of 20 overs. There is to be no sharing of food or drinks. This will also be used as a sanitisation break.

#### **DVCA COVID CONTACT – JUNIORS**

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