

Amazing Clubs

Coronavirus COVID-19

How your club can prepare

March 2020



How your club can prepare in response to the spread of Coronavirus COVID-19

Coronavirus is increasingly having an impact around the world and is a rapidly evolving issue.

This guide assists community sports clubs to consider scenarios influenced by the spread of the Coronavirus and to help clubs prepare if its activities are suspended or cancelled.

In times of uncertainty, its good management to scenario plan. We have thought of the following two discrete scenarios for clubs:

Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Club activities continue as planned – watch and act	Club activities suspended or cancelled
<p>Club activities continue as scheduled.</p> <p>Clubs have an increased awareness of the Coronavirus – with initial thoughts about how the virus could impact its services and sporting season.</p> <p>This is where most clubs would currently find themselves in mid-March 2020.</p>	<p>Club activities suspended or cancelled to prevent the Coronavirus spreading within the community.</p> <p>Following advice from public health officials, national and state sporting associations advise affiliate clubs to suspend club activities, training and games.</p>

About Coronavirus COVID-19

This guide does not intend to replicate or interpret information about Coronavirus COVID-19.

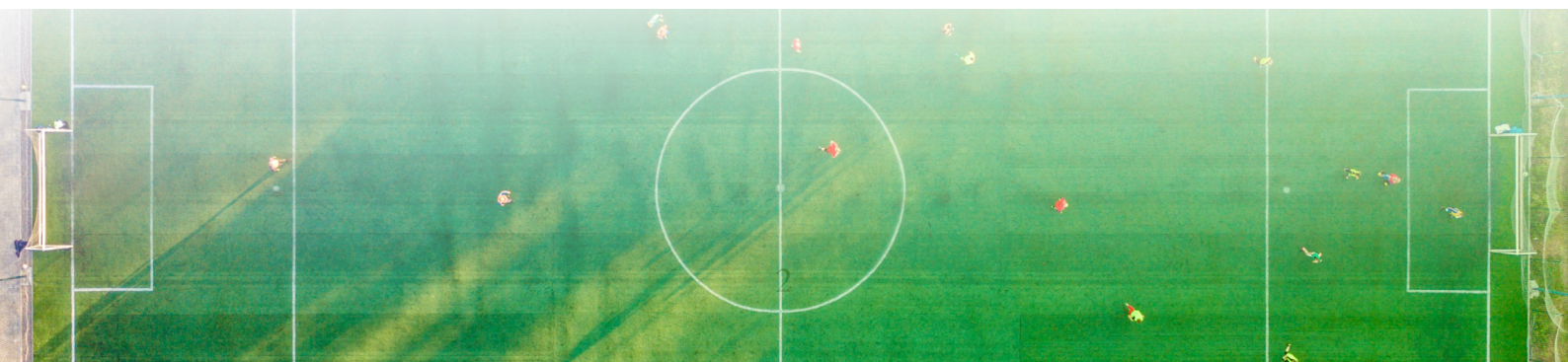
To learn about the Coronavirus from public health officials:

- visit the Department of Health website for comprehensive information about the Coronavirus, its symptoms and how the virus can spread; and

- contact the healthdirect hotline on 1800 022 222 or visit www.healthdirect.gov.au for personal health concerns.

Public health officials and governments are increasing measures to help restrict and prevent the spread of Coronavirus COVID-19 both within Australia and globally.

There is a chance that games and training are temporarily suspended and/or cancelled to help prevent the spread of the Coronavirus.



Scenario 1

Club activities continue as planned - watch and act

At the time of writing (15 March 2020), most winter and annual sporting clubs are continuing training and games as planned.

Clubs have an ongoing duty of care to prevent harm and keep their members safe both on and off the field.

If your club is currently organising training, games and other activities it's important to be informed about Coronavirus COVID-19 and to promote safe practices. Here are some initial considerations to help fulfil your club's duty of care:

Keep updated about the Coronavirus from public health officials and your state sporting association

- Appoint a committee member(s) to regularly review information updated on your state or territory public health officials website.
- If you're an affiliated club, contact your state or regional sporting association and ask how information relating to the Coronavirus will be shared with the club; including being advised if games and competitions are suspended/cancelled. The important thing is to make sure there is a clear communication process in place.

Promote personal hygiene

- Posting and sharing personal hygiene messages in the club's facilities, on the club's website and social media platforms as well as instant text messaging to members ahead of training and games can help keep members safe. Personal hygiene advice is available from your state or territory health department.

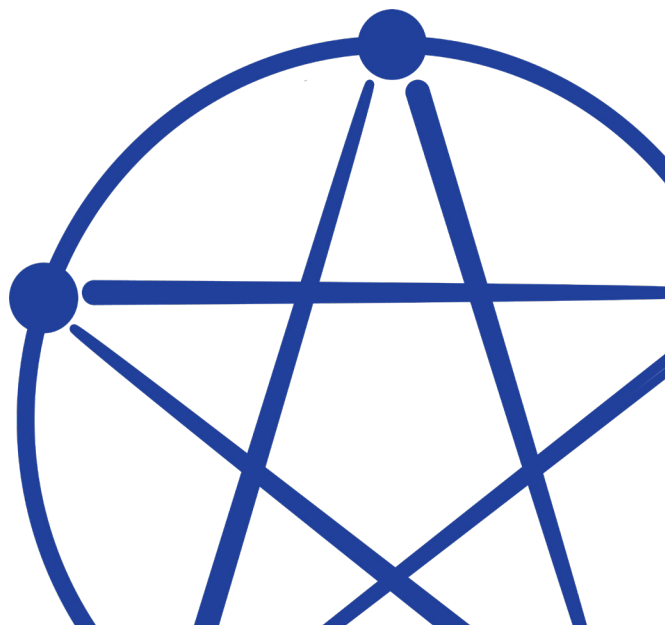
- Where possible provide additional hand sanitising stations around the club

Encourage sick people to stay at home

- Educate members that if they are feeling unwell to stay at home, rest up and get better. This is good practice to promote athlete wellbeing and recovery.

Create a plan in how the club will respond if advised to suspend or cancel games, training and club activities.

- Make sure the club has a system and process in place if it needs to immediately inform all members of a disruption in service. Does your club currently have the capacity to instant message all members if needed?
- Does the club have a pre-prepared message if services are disrupted by the Coronavirus? We have seen a range of messages in the media about the suspension or cancellation of events. The best ones empathise with their audience. Your club has a unique culture, and it's recommended that you draft your own message in preparation that puts the safety and wellbeing of members first.



Scenario 2

Club activities are suspended or cancelled

If a club is advised to suspend or cancel training, games and activities then it's important not to panic. Now is the time to be calm, selfless and generous.

When a club informs members of any form of disruption then its natural human behaviour to receive mixed responses.

If met with negative responses from members, it's important to maintain the club's position and promote that any suspension or cancellation is in the best interests of the health and wellbeing of the club's members and the broader Australian public.

Here are some initial considerations in the case of suspension or cancellation of services:

Keep members informed

- Have systems and processes in place to keep members informed about changing circumstances (i.e. suspension extended or club activities to resume) like an instant messaging service.

Consider the financial implications to the club

- Now is the time to pay particular attention to the club's finances to ensure the club remains in a healthy position and does not trade insolvent. Ask the Club Treasurer to provide advice to the committee on the club's financial performance in the hypothetical scenario that the club's activities are suspended for 4 weeks, 8 weeks and even 12 weeks.
- If the club finds itself in financial difficulty then it's important to contact

its state sporting association, local government and any other relevant service provider (electricity and water) at the earliest convenience to discuss strategies to ease financial pressure.

Securing valuables

- It is important to consider how the club will secure valuable assets if left unattended for an extended period of time. Are physical assets securely stored?

Reinform insurance cover

- It is good practice to re-read the club's insurance policies to understand what the club is covered for.

A note from Amazing Clubs.

The truth is we don't know how community sport will be affected by the threat of Coronavirus COVID-19. We do know that it's smart to be informed and prepared. Please forward this resource onto others you know who are involved in running a community sports club.

To learn more about how your club can respond to the threat of Coronavirus COVID-19 and other advice in how clubs can be run in a simple and amazing way visit our website [Amazing Clubs](https://www.amazingclubs.com.au) or [sign up for our free advice](mailto:ben@amazingclubs.com.au), no spam ever.

Be safe and amazing.

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