



RETURN TO TRAINING REQUIREMENTS – STEP 1 (Due to COVID-19)

(Applicable to all levels of outdoor Football)

As of May 2020



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INTRODUCTION

The impact of COVID-19 has resulted in the suspension of all football activities since early March. Since this time, the priority of Football South Australia has been to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the community and to undertake its social responsibility to do everything it can to slow down the spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19 is mostly likely spread through direct close contact with a person while they are infectious (usually face to face contact for at least 15 minutes; or being in the same closed space for at least 2 hours). Given that football is played outdoors, the risk of infection through playing sport is minimal, and now with the rate of infection halted in South Australia, it is time to cautiously reintroduce football related activity in a staged approach.

The conditions set out in this document are in line with government directions as at the date stated above. This document and its conditions will be amended in accordance with any future government directives.

To further aid the fight against COVID-19, Football SA supports the Australian Government's COVIDSafe app and strongly encourages all members of the football community to get behind this initiative. The app can be downloaded from the Apple App store and Google Play.



COVIDSAFE

Keep you and your family safe

Download now

Download on the **App Store** | **ANDROID APP ON Google play**

Help stop the spread and save lives.

The advertisement features a green background with white and dark green text. On the right, there is a stylized illustration of a hand holding a smartphone. The phone screen displays the COVIDSAFE app logo, which consists of a circular arrangement of the word 'COVIDSAFE' around a central shield icon with a checkmark. Below the logo, the text 'Help stop the spread and save lives.' is written. At the bottom left, there are two buttons: one for the Apple App Store and one for Google Play.

1. RESTARTING TRAINING



Football SA is following the framework provided by the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Level B and is implementing **Step 1** of the South Australian Roadmap for Easing COVID-19 Restrictions, as of **Monday 11 May 2020**.

The AIS Framework document can be found at:

<https://www.pm.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/attachb-ais-framework-rebooting-sport.pdf>

Step 1 of the South Australia Roadmap can be found here:

https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0012/195879/FINAL-DPC_RoadMap_FINAL.pdf

Step 1 Training – What is Permitted

- Training to be conducted in small groups (no more than 10 players and/or other personnel in total).
- Social distancing of 1.5m between players.
- Spacing so that there is no more than 1 person per 4m².
- Non-contact skill training drills - passing, shooting, headers.
- Some sharing of sporting equipment such as kicking a football, use of a skipping rope, weights, agility equipment.

Step 1 Training – What is Not Permitted

- Contact to contact playing skills such as tackling.
- Activities involving more than 10 people.

2. PRIOR TO ATTENDING TRAINING



Before participating in football activities participants should not attend training if in the past 14 days they have:

- been unwell or had any flu-like symptoms.
- been in contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19.
- any respiratory symptoms (even if mild) or
- are at a high risk from a health perspective, including the elderly and those with pre-existing medical health conditions.

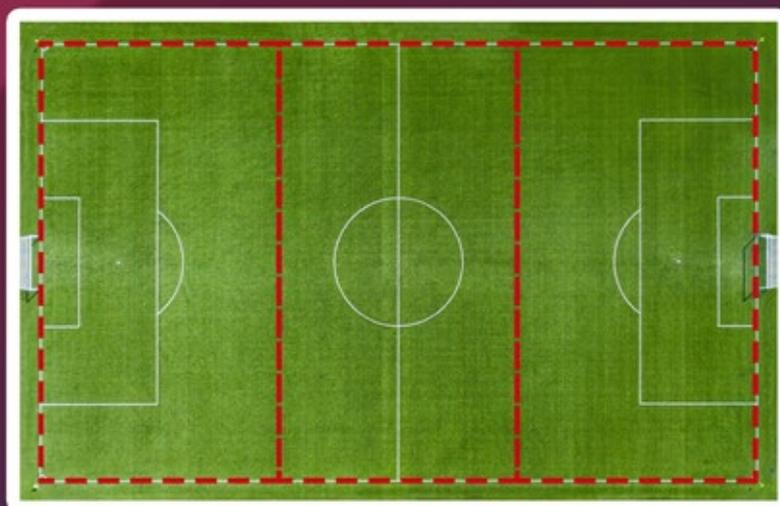
3. ORGANISING TRAINING SESSIONS



To ensure that Step 1 Requirements are being met, football fields are to be divided into 3 spaces whereby no more than 10 people can gather to ensure the density requirement is adhered to. Please see examples below.

Examples of how football fields are to be divided for training purposes.

Example 1



Example 2



All training sessions are to be non-contact skills training. Non-contact skill training drills can include passing, shooting, headers. Accidental contact may occur during drills, however no deliberate body contact drills such as tackling is permitted.

4. CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF TRAINING

When conducting training, the following conditions are to be implemented by the **Coach/Club Official**:



- Training Requirements:
 - Records of attendance at training are maintained
 - No person to person contact training drills to be conducted.
 - No more than 10 people to be involved in the drill. For example one coach, nine players.
 - Social distancing to be implemented – 1.5m.
 - 10 people to be in a spacing so that there is no more than 1 person per 4m².
 - Any handling of equipment is to be kept to a minimal.
 - Heading of a ball may occur during the natural process of a drill, for example a ball being crossed. However, practising of heading by picking up the ball and throwing should be discouraged.
 - Throw ins are to be discouraged.
 - No usage of changerooms, gym, wet or inside areas.
- Only essential people are to attend training sessions (i.e. players, coaches, and volunteers involved in operations and one parents/carer of participants).
- Spectators are not permitted. One Parents/caregivers is permitted for supervision purposes and if feasible they are encouraged to wait in car / outside venue to avoid gatherings.
- If training bibs are used, each individual player is to be allocated a bib and each player is required to take the bib home and wash.
- Regular breaks are to be provided for the purpose of rehydrating and hand sanitising.
- Toilets are to be open for use.
 - Restriction on the number of people using the toilets at any one time to apply dependent upon the size of the amenities.
 - Soap and sanitiser to be available in the toilets at all times.
- Players are to leave the venue in a staged approach, with sessions concluding in a clockwise manner.
- No social activity is to occur once training has concluded.

When participating in training sessions, the following conditions are to be implemented by the **Player/Parent**:

- Players must not arrive more than 15 minutes prior to training commencing and remain in the car until 5 minutes before training to avoid gatherings.
- Players are to come already prepared to train – changing rooms will not be in use.
- Players are to bring their own drink bottles and they are to be clearly labelled. No sharing of drink bottles is to be permitted.
- Players are to leave the venue immediately once their training session has concluded.

5. GENERAL SAFEGUARDS



In addition to the conditions outlined above for training, it is recommended that everyone involved in football continue to practise good hygiene by implementing the following measures:

Hygiene - Clubs

- Ensure spaces at each facility, surfaces and objects are regularly cleaned with disinfectant.
- Provide **hand washing guidance** to all participants and volunteers (http://www.who.int/gpsc/clean_hands_protection/en/).
- Promote regular and thorough hand washing by volunteers and participants.
- Provide sanitising hand rub dispensers in prominent places around the venue.
- Ensure sanitising hand rub dispensers are regularly refilled.
- Ensure soap dispensers in toilets are regularly refilled.
- Ensure bins are provided around the venue.

Hygiene - Individuals

- Players, officials, volunteers and/or their parents/carers should carry hand sanitiser on their person in order to enable good personal hygiene.
- If using tissues, place them directly in the bins provided.
- Seek to avoid the use of public toilets, however if necessary, ensure hands are washed thoroughly.
- Each participant is to provide their own drink bottle that is clearly labeled and is only used by that individual. No sharing of drink bottles.
- Each participant is to take their training bib home to wash individually.
- No sharing of pens or clip boards, each volunteer must bring their own to venues.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the toilet.



Behaviour

- Cover mouth and nose with a tissue or your elbow (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze.
- Wash hands with soap and water often.
- Use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.
- No spitting at any time.
- Wipe down all surfaces and objects with appropriate anti-bacterial / disinfectant wipes or soap, particularly those frequently touched. This includes door handles, light switches, kitchen surfaces, bathroom surface, phones, remote controls and any other high touch areas.
- Do not share drink bottles.
- Practice social distancing. If someone comes and stand next to you, move around the field and ensure you implement social distancing requirements.



6. EDUCATION



Football SA will undertake the following education activities to assist with the education of football stakeholders on the requirements of returning to training:

- A zoom meeting will be conducted with all Club Presidents to outline the conditions of returning to training.
- A coaches' forum will be conducted via zoom to outline the conditions and requirements training.
- Football SA Coaching and Development Department will compile examples of coaching activities that can be conducted. These will be distributed electronically to coaches and clubs.
- Football SA will utilise social media and website to promote the requirements associated with returning to training.

Full resources can be found here:
<https://www.footballsas.com.au/return-to-training-hub>