

# WA CRICKET RETURN TO PLAY PROTOCOLS



## JUNIOR & SENIOR CRICKET

Cricket Australia has collaborated with State Cricket Associations to develop Return to Play protocols that aim to keep our cricket community safe while playing the game they love. However, it is important to acknowledge that WA is currently operating under a different environment to other states across the country. Some of the Australian Cricket Protocols better reflect the environment of other states that are currently operating under heavier restrictions.

As such we have sought the advice of the WACA's State Medical Officer, WA Health and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries to assess these protocols against the current WA Government COVID-19 Sport and Recreation Guidelines.

Below is the application of these protocols in line with the current WA Government's Stage 4 restrictions to provide guidance to WA clubs. These are to be applied with reference to the Cricket Australia Return to Play Practical Guidelines for those protocols and practices relevant to WA.

### Australian Cricket Protocols

### WA COVID-19 Sport & Recreation Guidelines Application

#### SHARING OF EQUIPMENT

S/T Government has a position to say that sharing of sporting equipment is okay.

- CA recommend that:
  - Hands should be sanitised using Hand Sanitiser before and after handling equipment;
  - Each piece of equipment being shared to be cleaned with Alcohol-based Disinfectant Wipes by the person who used it (or someone else wearing gloves);
  - Where possible, allow the equipment to 'rest' in sunlight for at least 30 minutes before being used again.

S/T Government has a position to say that sharing of sporting equipment is not allowed or recommended.

- CA recommend following that guidance

S/T Government does not have a stated position on equipment sharing.

- CA strongly recommends that people avoid sharing equipment where possible:
  - If the sharing of equipment between people is unavoidable, then the equipment should be sanitised as best as it can be
  - Hands should be sanitised using Hand Sanitiser before and after handling equipment
  - Each piece of equipment being shared to be cleaned with Alcohol-based Disinfectant Wipes by the person who used it (or someone else wearing gloves)
  - Where possible, allow the equipment to 'rest' in sunlight for at least 30 minutes before being used again

In line with the Australian Cricket Guidelines and current state government and medical advice players are encouraged to bring their own bats, pads, protectors and gloves (batting and wicket keeping).

If this equipment does need to be shared\*, disinfecting and hygiene practices need to be applied in between each use.

If gloves must be shared, then individuals are recommended to have their own batting inners which are to be washed after each use. Hand sanitizing should also be done regularly. Any shared equipment or equipment used such as cones, stumps and ball are required to be cleaned and disinfected using alcohol based anti-bacterial wipes after each use, session or match.

Refer to Hygiene practices section below for further guidance.

#### Cricket Equipment

- Limit sharing of cricket equipment and use your own where-ever possible
- Helmets
  - Helmets can be shared where unavoidable;
  - Helmets must be cleaned using alcohol-based antibacterial wipes after each use, especially the grill;
  - Once cleaned and where possible, allow the equipment to 'rest' in sunlight for at least 30 minutes before being used again.
- Batting gloves
  - Use of inner gloves should be used where possible and washed in >60 degrees Celsius after each training session or match;
  - Clean gloves with alcohol-based wipes after each user at training sessions or matches.
- Bats
  - Clean handles with alcohol-based wipes after each training session or match.
- Batting Pads (leg, thigh, chest) & Groin Protectors
  - Do not share Groin Protectors;
  - Clean pads with alcohol-based wipes after each use at training session and matches.
- Catching (Baseball) Gloves
  - Do not share catching (baseball) gloves;
  - Players and staff should have their own catching gloves - clean them post-training with alcohol-based wipes.
- Wicket-keeping Gloves
  - Where possible players should have their own keeping gloves - clean them post training and matches with alcohol-based wipes;
  - Inner gloves should be used and washed in >60 degrees Celsius after each training and match.

\*There are no restrictions on the use of shared equipment under the current WA Government COVID-19 Sport and Recreation Guidelines as long as appropriate hygiene measure are in place.

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#### CONTACT DURING TRAINING AND MATCHES

There is to be no contact during matches between participants, officials, coaches and volunteers. This includes high fives, shaking hands and other physical contact.

Contact during sport and recreation is permitted under the current WA Government COVID-19 Sport and Recreation Guidelines.

However, 'unnecessary contact' that is not part of the requirements of the game is to be avoided. For example, the practice of 'high fives/hugs/huddles' is no longer appropriate.

#### PHYSICAL DISTANCING

All participants, coaches, volunteers and parents understand the need to observe physical distancing requirements of 1.5m always.

Unnecessary contact that is not part of the requirements of the game is to be avoided. In all other instances physical distancing practices must be adhered to.

The WA COVID-19 Phase 4 gathering limit – the 2 square metre rule - should be applied to help manage safe distancing amongst patrons (parents and spectators).

This includes when scoring and watching at any training and matches.

#### MEMBERS UNDERSTAND RETURN TO PLAYING PROTOCOLS

The club and all members have read, understood and agree to adhere to all protocols and guidelines to Return to Playing.

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#### HYGIENE PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE

All measures outlined in the Return to Playing- Protocols have been implemented by the club.

All hygiene measures outlined in the Australian Cricket and WA Government COVID-19 Guidelines are to be implemented by the club.

Regularly use alcohol-based hand sanitiser, especially after touching any equipment

- Hand sanitiser should be available at the cricket facility but players and volunteers are encouraged to carry their own hand sanitiser with them.

Do not share products or equipment including

- Drinks, towels, lip balm, sunscreen, chewing gum, lollies.

##### Food & Drink

- Bring your own drink bottle – preferably a disposable bottle;
- Bring your own food and snacks – sealed and pre-packaged only;
- Do not share food.

#### PLAN FOR THE SAFE ENTRY & EXIT OF PEOPLE FROM MATCHES

Plan on having breaks of at least 10-15 minutes between matches at the same venue to minimise crossover and allow for cleaning.

Providing breaks between matches is not a requirement under the current WA COVID-19 Sport and Recreation Guidelines.

However, it is recommended that traffic flow and areas of congestion are managed to ensure physical distancing practices are adhered to.

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### NO SHINING THE BALL WITH SALIVA OR SWEAT

Ensure that participants understand that they are not to shine the ball with saliva or sweat at any time during matches and training.

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Do not share balls at training unless absolutely necessary (e.g. fielding).

Any balls that are shared at training (e.g. group fielding), should be cleaned with alcohol-based wipes and left in a container.

### WA COVID SAFETY GUIDELINES AND PLANS

Clubs are encouraged to refer to the WA COVID Guidelines and complete a COVID Safety Plan.

Check with your local government regarding any requirements they have in relation to hire and use of their venues.

If you supply or provide food please check the relevant sections of the WA Government guidelines.

Visit [www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/covid-19-coronavirus-business-and-industry-advice# covid-safety-guidelines-and-plans](http://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/covid-19-coronavirus-business-and-industry-advice# covid-safety-guidelines-and-plans)

The WACA recommends that all participants, coaches, volunteers and parents use of the Australian Government COVIDSAFE app to trace the spread of COVID-19.