



NAB AFL Auskick – Return to Play FAQs

GENERAL

How has the AFL determined if NAB AFL Auskick can proceed during COVID-19?

The AFL understands and respects the significant role it plays in ensuring the health and wellbeing of our community. As a marquee sport in the community, we have been taking advice from the Australian Government, State and Territory Government officials, AIS and health authorities to ensure we can return to play safely.

How will the AFL ensure everyone is aware of the COVID-19 protocols?

AFL is committed to implementing a comprehensive education program across all levels of our Game to ensure all participants, from our most senior officials down to our volunteers, are well briefed on the protocols involved for Return to Play. Our Education and Compliance will be a multi-pronged, ongoing approach:

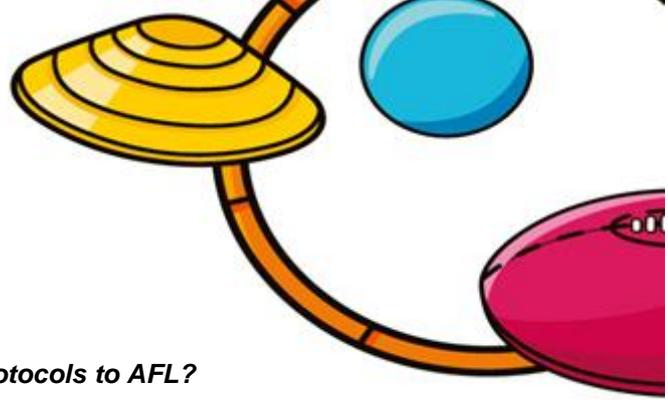
- State and Territories have their Return to Play protocols uploaded on their respective sites:
 - [AFL Victoria](#)
 - [AFL NSW/ACT](#)
 - [AFL Queensland](#)
 - [AFL NT](#)
 - [AFL Tasmania](#)
 - [WAFL](#)
 - [SANFL](#)
- Online compliance training ([AFL COVID-19 Safety Training](#) and [Australian Government Infection Control Compliance Training](#)) for one nominated official per Centre. Certificate of completion needs to be readily available and accessible by your State / Territory body if they require it. If you would like to send it to aflauskick@afl.com.au we can hold a copy for you also.
- Comprehensive data capture of compliance training completion
- Return to Play protocols available online to download for every participant via the Resources page going by the assumption Auskick is resuming under Level C of the AIS Framework (Level C refers to the [AIS Framework](#) which is a detailed framework that spells out protocols for sports to reboot safely. We are utilising this framework to develop our health, safety, and training protocols for each Stage)
- Additional training for Auskick Coordinators / Volunteers
- Protocol posters and social media assets provided to every Centre available [here and by clicking 'AFL Hygiene & Social Distancing Posters'](#)
- Clear reporting guidelines for Auskick Coordinators so they can report breaches, concerns or seek support. Your State / Territory body will be in contact with the relevant Return to Play reporting guidelines relevant to you as well as the location they will be uploaded.

When will Auskick return?

Auskick will only return to play in accordance with the AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport, and approval from State and Territory Government and medical experts. If a centre is linked to a local Football Club, it is then up to the Club to determine whether they would like to operate under the recommended guidelines.

To find out if there is a centre near you operating, please see [here](#). Additionally please feel free to email us at aflauskick@afl.com.au and we can help you find your most convenient location.





Why do other sports have different safety and hygiene protocols to AFL?

The AFL is following the protocols set out by the Federal Government's AIS Framework. Each sport may take a different approach to how they adopt the protocols set out by the Federal Government's AIS framework.

The AIS Framework identifies that different sports have different levels of social interaction, physical distancing and equipment creating the need to be specific on a sport by sport basis.

I have not gone back to work yet but you are saying it is OK to start playing footy? Why is that?

The Australian Government released a recommendation through the AIS Sports Framework that stepped out a clearly phased approach to returning to play community sport. Both Federal and State / Territory Governments have indicated that sport plays a vital role in the community and as such it has been a focus to return to play in a controlled and safe manner.

Does there need to be someone at my Auskick centre who is responsible for making sure our training and grounds adopt safety protocols?

Yes, the AFL is requesting that all Centre's nominate a representative (a COVID-19 safety officer) that can be responsible for ensuring all appropriate protocols are adopted and implemented by your NAB AFL Auskick centre.

It is essential we have someone in every Centre that can ensure we are adhering to the relevant State / Territory Return to Play protocols put in place. We will work with each Centre to ensure this nominated individual has access to the appropriate checklists, training and education resources and expect Centres to also provide their nominated individuals (if different from the Auskick Coordinator) with support in performing this important role. Whilst acting in this role the individual will be covered under the Community Football Public Liability insurance policy.

But it is also the responsibility of everyone involved in football to follow all health protocols and guidelines to ensure our game can return safely.

Once we return, do we have to download the COVID-SAFE app to participate in Auskick?

It is the AFL's strong recommendation that all participants involved in Auskick install the COVID-19 SAFE app to ensure that we can track and trace any active cases if they come to light. This is part of our commitment to Government as a sport in our return to play strategy.

How can I keep my child engaged in AFL while Auskick is not running/or I chose to wait?

You can check out NAB AFL Auskick at Home [here](#) and once you have practiced all these activities, we also have Footy at Home [here](#). You can also see all your favourite AFL and AFLW players compete in a series of funny challenges for free on the Aussie Rules YouTube channel [here!](#)

Where can I find the latest information about my State/Territory Return to Play guide?

State and Territories have their Return to Play protocols uploaded on their respective sites:

- [AFL Victoria](#)
- [AFL NSW/ACT](#)
- [AFL Queensland](#)
- [AFL NT](#)
- [AFL Tasmania](#)
- [WAFL](#)
- [SANFL](#)





MANAGING COVID-19

Will the AFL and Auskick continue to monitor COVID-19?

AFL and State/Territory bodies will follow direction from State and Territory Government and align with the AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport. AFL and State and Territory Government bodies will review all activities as directed by the Government if there is an increase in cases.

If there are any changes, Auskick will be in touch via email with relevant stakeholders to discuss next steps.

Who is responsible for implementing COVID-19 safe practices at Auskick centres?

The AFL via its State / Territory Bodies, Football Clubs, Auskick Coordinators and designated COVID-19 Safety Officers are primarily responsible; however all play an integral role in the implementation of a COVID-19 safe culture and environment.

Any official responsible for the conduct of a Auskick session will be required to undertake COVID-19 Infection Control Training including the AFL's COVID-19 Safety Training to ensure they can promote and monitor the return to play safety plan. It is also encouraged that coordinators and activity helper complete the training to help promote and monitor safe practices. Training can be completed for the AFL COVID-19 Infection Control Training [here](#) (Coordinators who do not have a listed football club will need to use the [STATE] TEST option, for example VIC TEST) and for the Australian Government [here](#).

As a coordinator, how do I know I am adhering to safe social distancing at each session?

State / Territory guidelines differ regarding social distancing both before/after and during sporting activities. We recommend you visit your State / Territory AFL site for details of the specific requirements applicable and seek support from your relevant regional Staff member.

As a coordinator, do I need to complete the free AFL COVID-19 and Australian Government COVID-19 online training module?

Any official responsible for the conduct of a Auskick session will be required to undertake COVID-19 Infection Control Training to ensure they can promote and monitor the return to play safety plan relevant to their State / Territory. It is also encouraged that coordinators and activity helper complete the training to help promote and monitor safe practices. Training can be completed for the AFL COVID-19 Infection Control Training [here](#) (Coordinators who do not have a listed football club will need to use the [STATE] TEST option, for example VIC TEST) and the Australian Government [here](#).

Certificate of completion needs to be readily available and accessible by your State / Territory body if they require it. If you would like to send it to aflauskick@afl.com.au we can hold a copy for you also.

Do parent helpers need to complete the COVID-19 Safety Training modules?

No, however the [Federal Government infection control training](#) is a free training session that anyone can do so is recommended for anyone willing.

How will my Auskick centre manage contact tracing?

Contact tracing is a way of slowing the spread of infections by identifying people who have been in contact with an infected person. It is encouraged that all parents/guardians, Auskick coordinators, activity helpers and volunteers download the Australian Government's COVID-19 tracing app.

Auskick coordinators and/or the nominated COVID-19 safety officer will also document the details of every participant and parent/guardian for each session in line with the Return to Play protocols and relevant State / Territory Government and Health Authorities.





Will there be someone at my Auskick centre who is responsible for making sure our training and grounds adopt safety protocols?

Yes, the AFL is requesting that all Centres nominate a representative (E.G. a COVID-19 safety officer) that can be responsible for ensuring all appropriate protocols are adopted and implemented by your Auskick centre. It is also the responsibility of everyone involved in football to follow all health protocols and guidelines to ensure our game can return safely.

Do I need to keep the records of every participant and parent/guardian at each session?

Yes. Auskick Coordinators and/or the nominated COVID-19 safety officer must document the details of every participant and parent/guardian for each session if their State/Territory guidelines and associated Return to Play protocols state this.

Is there a limit on the total number of Auskickers, Parent Helpers and Spectators?

In most instances there is, yes. This is however dictated by the relevant State / Territory guidelines. Limits can include, but are not limited to:

- Limits on the number of players on the field
- Limits on the number of parent helpers on the field
- Limits on the number of spectators
- Guidelines around the spacing of these players and parent helpers
- Guidelines around the spacing of spectators

How do I know the coordinator will maintain my privacy when obtaining my details at each session?

Personal details captured at each Auskick centre will remain confidential with the Auskick coordinator. If you feel as though your personal data has been breached we encourage you to email us at aflauskick@afl.com.au immediately.

Do I need to do a temperature check before each session?

If you can do so, it's encouraged, and for those that can we ask that parent/guardians, Auskick coordinators, activity helpers and/or volunteers check themselves prior to attending. Temperature testing is not mandatory.

As per the health protocols we ask that participants, parents/guardians and any spectators do not attend if they are feeling unwell.

What if a parent or child seems to be unwell?

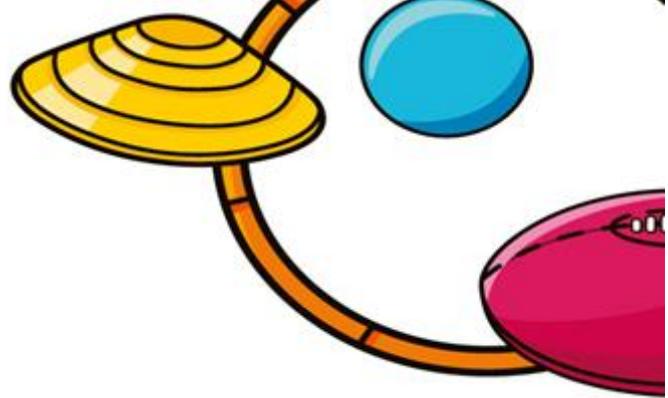
If a participant, parents/guardians, Auskick coordinator, activity helper and/or volunteer must not join a Auskick session in the last 14 days if they have been unwell or have been in contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19.

Any player or official member that has underlying health conditions or is considered a vulnerable person should consult with a healthcare professional prior to attending Auskick.

My Auskick centre has started again, but I am not feeling 100% or a family member has had/recovered from coronavirus.

It is essential that no one ever attends training or spectates if they are feeling unwell or they have been around someone who has been unwell. You must ensure you notify your Auskick coordinator and/or COVID safety officer if you have attended training and been unwell or have concerns about a family member or close contact.





What do we do if we are feeling unwell?

Anyone who has a fever or respiratory symptoms consistent with coronavirus, no matter how mild, is strongly recommended to attend a COVID-19 clinic, or their GP, for assessment and testing.

Monitor for symptoms such as fever, cough, or shortness of breath. Other early symptoms to watch for are chills and body aches or muscle pain, a sore throat, headaches, runny nose, diarrhoea or unexplained loss of taste or smell.

If it is determined you are to undertake a test, following the test you must self-isolate by immediately going home and resting while you wait for your test result (which you should usually get within 2 days). Whilst you are waiting you must stay at home (i.e. do not attend work, school/university or training), wash your hands often with soap and water, cough and sneeze into a clean tissue or your elbow and avoid close contact with others, including members of your household.

You must also notify your COVID safety officer that you have undertaken a COVID-19 test and they must then notify their relevant League official who will advise on next steps.

Does COVID-19 have any impact on our Insurance? Are we still covered?

Yes. Centres will be covered as usual under the AFL's Community Football Public Liability policy. Participants will also be covered as usual under the Auskick Personal Accident policy for physical injuries sustained in footballing activities, however cover does not extend to a sickness or illness. Cover under these policies is always subject to their terms, conditions, and exclusions. Further information is available from the Marsh website by [clicking here](#).

Are we liable for a claim if there is a positive test case at our Auskick centre?

A Centre can limit the risk of being found liable for a claim in connection with there being a positive test by a player or other participant at the Centre, by taking all reasonable precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 within the Club and the wider community, including but not limited to, following the advice and recommendations of Federal & State Governments. A Centre's potential liability will need to consider the circumstances of the particular case. Volunteers (and clubs) are covered under the AFL's public liability insurance policy, subject to the policy terms and conditions as outlined above.

RUNNING AUSKICK ACTIVITIES

Is there a checklist to help me know what I need to do before each session?

Yes! The Auskick return to play protocols document has a checklist for you to follow ahead of every session.

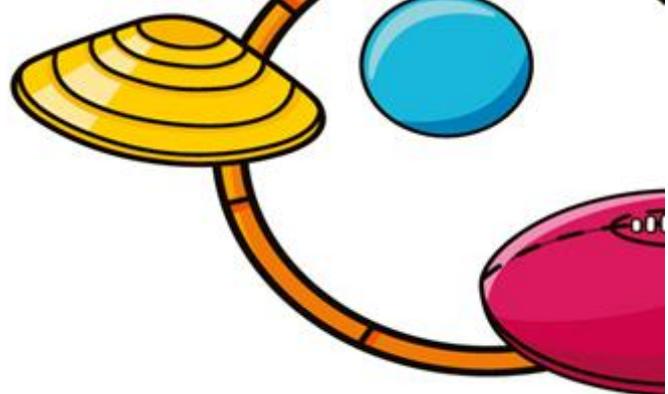
State and Territories have their Return to Play protocols uploaded on their respective sites including this checklist:

- [AFL Victoria](#)
- [AFL NSW/ACT](#)
- [AFL Queensland](#)
- [AFL NT](#)
- [AFL Tasmania](#)
- [WAFL](#)
- [SANFL](#)

How do I know if the games being played are "COVID-19" safe?

State / Territory guidelines will guide the interaction during activities, but the general assumption is that Auskick will only resume when it is safe to undertake Auskick approved activities without exception, which can be found [here](#).





When should I clean the equipment?

All equipment will be thoroughly sanitised before and after each session. The AIS Framework specifies that we ensure “hospital grade disinfectant is used”. We ask that before and after training or equipment use that balls, mats, cones etc. are all thoroughly disinfected with hospital grade cleaning products and stored safely until next use.

Can I still be an activity helper at my child’s Auskick centre?

Yes, you can but while practicing safe social distancing measures. Parent helpers must sit/stand 1.5 metres apart and maintain base density requirement of 4 square metres per person. (unless base density restrictions differ in your State / Territory).

Can the Auskick Coordinator provide instruction to kids in close contact (within 1.5M for example)

Yes, unless State and Territory guidelines state otherwise, “officials” can conduct an Auskick session as they usually would and provide instruction to kids. This is however a personal choice for Auskick Coordinators and we strongly recommend this is avoided if you can demonstrate and use verbal cues with support of the child’s parent helper.

My Auskick Centre is a large Centre, how do I manage large numbers of kids whilst maintaining the protocols?

Parent helpers, especially those willing to play a more leading role are our strong recommendation of larger Centres. If you can identify some parent helpers prior to the first session and have them familiar themselves with the protocols, we suggest you consider breaking up your larger group into smaller groups during the sessions.

Auskick Coordinators can also limit to the total number of participants at their Centre using the instructions that we have created, they can be [found via this link](#).

AUSKICK CENTRE OPERATIONS

My kids do AFL at School. Will this be starting up again at my school?

The decision for AFL programs to recommence in schools will be subject to individual schools directions from the relevant State / Territory Health and Education Departments. Whilst some schools have returned, others are still closed, and some are only returning in a phased approach. We suggest connecting with your school to understand their position on sport coaching in Terms 3 and 4.

Our Auskick group normally shares the load with fruit and snacks, or cooks a BBQ? Can we still do this?

No. At no time can players share any food or drink under current restrictions. State / Territory guidelines will guide the ability for Centres to be able provide food or drink via a canteen or BBQ.

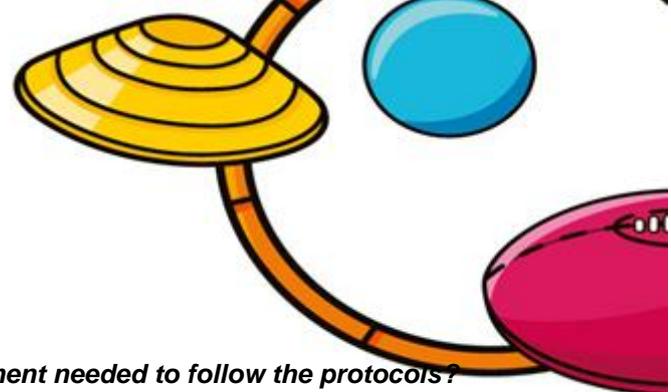
Can we use our local clubhouse?

It is recommended that access to clubhouse facilities and gyms is restricted as per your State / Territory Government guidelines to reduce the need to clean facilities in the instance of a positive test and to reduce frequently touched surfaces.

Does the AFL need a copy of the Auskick Coordinator / COVID-19 Safety Officer’s AFL and Government infection control training certificates of completion?

No, however this does need to be readily available and accessible by your State / Territory body if they require it. If you would like to send it to aflauskick@afl.com.au we can hold a copy for you also.





Will the AFL be providing the cleaning / sanitising equipment needed to follow the protocols?

The AFL is currently working through opportunities to assist Auskick Centres with the provision of sanitisation and cleaning kits and we hope to have an answer very soon.

FEES AND FINANCES

My Auskick centre didn't run last year but I paid. Can I get a refund or credit for 2021?

If your child is registered to participate a NAB AFL Auskick Program in 2020 that has been cancelled, and you have not yet received any communication from the AFL Auskick team in respect to compensation options for your registration fee, please contact the AFL Auskick team on aflauskick@afl.com.au

