



Australian Oztag

Response to COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Domestic competitions

This is an update in regards to COVID-19, or better known as the Coronavirus for all Associations. It is important we take the necessary precautions as a sporting body and follow Government advice/directives during the pandemic. There are changes every day as the Government constantly updates its restrictions.

AO is continually meeting to discuss the situation and will provide timely updates or each day if necessary. As you are aware the NSW Senior State Championships & Australian Oztag Trans-Tasman Tour have both been postponed. This comes after NZ & Australian Governments both implemented travel restrictions and mandatory self-isolation procedures when entering the countries as well as a ban on non-essential mass gatherings of more than 500 people.

Most Associations have completed their Summer season with a few still playing finals this week. Our advice is to finish these competitions implementing the good practice hygiene tips below and ensuring you abide by the Non-essential gathering policy of 500 persons. (should not be issue with players attending, playing & leaving straight away.)

AO is suspending all further Autumn & Winter competitions from Monday 23rd March until Monday 4th May, 2020. This date will be revised if needed as information changes on a daily basis. This has been common practice with most sporting bodies as they/we play our part in reducing the transmission of the virus.

- Following the current Government advice, competitions currently finishing their finals may continue ensuring they abide by government policy.
- Each association should implement measures to restrict the amount of people at the field at any one time, this includes spectators.
- Any players or officials must not attend if they feel unwell
- Practice good hygiene at the competition this includes:
 - Hand sanitizer available at the ground if you can get it.
 - No sign on sheets, this will avoid using same pen and hands on counter/table.
 - Replace tags & ball after each game if you have enough tags.

PO BOX 703 CRONULLA NSW 2230

P: (02) 9526 8633

F: (02) 9531 0533

E: info@oztag.com.au

W: www.oztag.com.au



- Wash tags after each night
- Avoid hand shaking and any physical contact
- Players are not to share drink bottles
- Referees must not share whistles
- Follow good hygiene procedures <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

If an association needs help or has any questions regarding the current situation, please contact AO & visit the Government Websites below for further reading.

World Health Organisation

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

NSW Government – Office of Sport

<https://sport.nsw.gov.au/novel-coronavirus-covid-19>

Bill Harrigan
Australian Oztag | CEO

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