

Toowoomba Community Football COVIDsafe plan

Scope

This document has been created to address Covid-19 issues that could arise during normal operation of the TCF and provide guidance for players and referees. This document has been written in compliance with Covid-19 restrictions as at the 7-6-2020. If restrictions are changed and a review is required, it should be completed and signed off before the next match day by TCF Organisers.

Rules

- *Sanitisation of Hands*

All players, Referees, assistant referees and Team officials shall sanitise their hands before the game, before and after half time and after the conclusion of the game to prevent any potential spread of undetected Covid-19. Players should also not touch their faces during play.

- *Sick players*

Any players that are sick and have cold/flu/Covid like symptoms should stay home and not take part on that match day. Players are reminded that it is their duty not to expose others to a potential Covid-19 infection.

- *Sick players on the field*

Any player that is showing obvious Covid symptoms will be asked to leave by the Referee. This player should be substituted immediately and take no further part in the game. If this is not complied with, the players team officials and captain should be spoken to. If they refuse to remedy the situation consideration must be given to removing the player. Referees are reminded that they should be absolutely positive that the person is sick with the required symptoms.

- *Throw Ins*

The rules for throw ins will not change. However, All players shall sanitise their hands before the game, before and after half time and after the conclusion of the game. Players should also not touch their faces during play.

- *Goal Kicks*

The rules for Goal kicks will not change. Players should avoid using their hands when retrieving the ball during a stoppage in play. However, All players shall sanitise their hands before the game, before and after half time and after the conclusion of the game. Players should also not touch their faces during play.

- *Player Challenges*

As contact with the face is already against the rules, this should not need to change.

- *Heading the Ball*

If the ball comes into contact with a players face, the ball should be sanitised by the referee at the next stoppage in play.

Etiquette

- *Handshakes*
Handshakes are not permitted while Covid restrictions and social distancing are in place. Referees should state this firmly at the before the match to team officials and captains.
- *Helping a fellow player/opponent up*
At this time, this shall not be permitted. However, we strongly encourage players to apologise/check that the other player is okay while maintaining required distance.

Players and Team Officials

- *Celebrations*
Celebrations shall observe social distancing. Referees should state this firmly before the game to remind players. Referees should show discretion, but must ensure even enforcement.
- *Fist bumps/ High Fives Etc*
Fist Bumps and other encouragement/celebrations that require physical contact shall not be done while Covid restrictions and social distancing are in place. Referees should enforce this with a warning to the player(s), then a caution(s) and then red card. Referee discretion may be applied, but must ensure even enforcement of this rule.
- *Huddles*
Any player gatherings must be non contact and try to maintain a 1.5m distance between players. Ignoring this rule will result in a warning to the team captain/official, followed by a caution, then followed by a red card.
- *Conflict between players*
Conflict between players is not tolerated at any time. Especially during these times where social distancing is required.
 - If two players engage in face to face confrontation and aggression but there is no other cautionable offense, both players shall be cautioned and immediately separated.
 - If two players engage in face to face confrontation and aggression and there are other cautionable offenses involved (shoving each other for example, or there was a previous foul that warranted a caution before the confrontation), the player(s) that would have been cautioned shall be shown two yellows.

Referees

- *Disinfection of Balls*
Referees shall disinfect the ball before the game, at half time and at full time. If the ball makes obvious contact with a players face, the referee shall disinfect the ball at the next stoppage in play. Referees shall disinfect the handles of the assistant referee flags.
- *Remain 1.5m away from Referees*
Players shall not touch the referee and if a player wants to converse with the referee, the player must remain 1.5m away from the referee. This shall be enforced by the referee under the scope of dissent by word and action.

Assistant Referees

- *Remain 1.5m away from Assistant Referees*
- Players shall not touch the referee and if a player wants to converse with the referee, the player must remain 1.5m away from the referee. This shall be enforced by the referee under the scope of dissent by word and action.

Spectators

- *Social Distancing*
Spectators must comply with social distancing requirements. Spectators are reminded that they are responsible for their own safety.

First Aid

- *Maximum number of responders*
First Aid should only be performed by a maximum of 2 people and/or paramedics as required. Failure to do so should be enforced as per the rules for dissent.