



## **Croquet CNSW COVID-19 Guidelines**

**Date of Guideline: 21 July 2021: Changes since last Guideline (9 July 2021):  
Extra mask requirements for tournaments. Experience of clubs in lockdown  
areas who have approached police**

The NSW Government and the Office of Sport issue press releases, health orders, announcements, guidelines and regulations under State emergency powers from time to time to take into account changes to COVID-19 case numbers and outbreaks. Our insurers have advised that our liability insurance remains in place provided the guidelines are followed.

As croquet is not the primary focus, CNSW often needs to seek further guidance about the application of the amended orders and guidelines for croquet. We seek advice from the Office of Sport who in turn seek advice from the Department of Health. The Office of Sport know the correct questions to ask. Guidance from the office of sport can be found at <https://www.sport.nsw.gov.au/>

The CNSW guidelines are updated in response to changes. Please let us know if anything has been missed or is not clear. Contact [treasurer@croquet-nsw.org](mailto:treasurer@croquet-nsw.org).

These guidelines are provided for the use of members and clubs. We use our best endeavours to keep the guidelines up to date. Moreover, these guidelines set a minimum level only. Clubs should consider their own circumstances and if appropriate introduce stronger measures. This has already happened with a number of clubs.

## Record Keeping

Keep a record of name, contact number and entry time for all staff, volunteers, participants, spectators and contractors attending community sports activities, where this is practicable, for a period of at least 28 days. Electronic collection (e.g., using a QR code which is issued when you register your Covid Safety Plan) of contact details for each person is strongly encouraged.

If customers do not have the Service NSW app on their phone, they can check in using the Service NSW webform

<https://apply.service.nsw.gov.au/covid-safe-check-in-webform/>

If there are unexpected circumstances which prevent the use of electronic methods to collect customer contact details, you can manually collect customer contact details using paper and pen. Any paper records must be entered into an electronic format, such as an Excel spreadsheet or Word document, within 12 hours of manually recording the details.

Electronic records need to be produced within 4 hours of a request from an authorised officer.

## Playing Croquet

### Lockdown Areas

Stay at home rules (lockdown) currently apply to Sydney, Central Coast, Blue Mountains, Wollongong and Shellharbour as well as Blayney, Cabonne and Orange local government areas.

If you are in a lockdown area you must stay at home unless it is for an essential reason. CNSW recommends that clubs in lockdown areas do not play croquet. If a club does choose to allow play, then it would be prudent to be comfortable that local police support that decision. Clubs who have approached police have been given permission to play with 2 people per lawn playing for no more than 1 hour with time between bookings to allow for cleaning equipment and no overlap of players.

Under the regulations, Community Sport will not be permitted during the lockdown period. However, croquet played as exercise or outdoor recreation is not subject to the Community Sport prohibition. This would include social games and practice. The Department of Health advise that there should be no competition games. There should be no coaching.

Players must remain in their local government area and travel no more than 10km, but common sense would mean playing at your closest club. When exercising, there is a maximum of 2 people per group. Consider how separate your lawns are. Clubs should also consider limiting lawn time to no more than one hour. Arrive, play, leave.

## All Areas

When croquet is played:

The general principle is arrive, play and leave. If members stay for a social event, then the rules for Social Gathering apply. The maximum group size is 2 in lockdown areas and 20 in regional NSW.

- No member should play if unwell or waiting for the results of a Covid-19 test or have been overseas or in a hotspot in the previous 14 days.
- Clubs should complete and display a COVID-19 Safety Plan. Clubs can download a template from <https://www.nsw.gov.au/register-your-business-as-covid-safe>. The template allows you to choose Community Sport as a business type. The NSW Office of Sport encourages sporting organisations to register as a COVID-19 Safe business and display your COVID-19 Safety Plan. Many croquet clubs have already done this
- Shared equipment should be cleaned and sanitised before and after use. Croquet balls should be washed with soap and water as the manufacturer has advised that alcohol wipes may affect the colour. Hoops clips etc should be wiped with sanitising wipes or washed in soap and water
- Social distancing applies at all times –1 person per four square metres and 1.5 metres between players. If you cannot maintain 1.5metres between players, then you should wear a mask. This is especially important when playing GC doubles and when coaching.
- Clubs should provide sanitiser and wipes for member use and members should be asked to bring their own supplies as well
- Players must record names and phone numbers for each playing session in an electronic record. Remind your members to use the QR code if you have one. Members can register other members who do not have a QR code capable phone. If you use a manual system transfer, details to an electronic system within four hours. Clubs must retain these records along with booking information and booking sheets. If your clubhouse is open, you are strongly encouraged to use a QR code for registration of every person at your venue. If you are in a restricted area masks must be worn indoors.
- Masks must be worn in all indoor areas if the indoor areas are permitted to be open. Masks must also be worn in Outdoor Recreational Venues (such a sports grounds with seating) but this definition does not usually apply to croquet being played as exercise. Croquet Tournaments do require masks as explained later in these guidelines

## Social Gatherings

There are no social gatherings in the lockdown areas. Outside this area 1 person per four square metres applies and masks must be worn in indoor non residential premises.

## Corporate Hires

Each Corporate Hire needs their own Covid Safety plan. You cannot use your club Covid Safety Plan. There can be no corporate hires if you are in the lockdown areas.

## Clubhouses

- Clubhouses must be closed in the lockdown areas.
- Outside this area you can be open, and you are strongly encouraged to have a COVID-19 Safety Plan. Masks must be worn indoors. Social distancing applies at all times. Clubhouses must display the maximum number of people in the clubhouse (even if it is closed) at one time based on one person per four square metres. The rule does not apply until you have more than 25 people but use your common sense. Kitchens can open under the conditions specified in your COVID-19 Safety Plan. Please note that surfaces must be cleaned at least once a day using gloves and an appropriate cleaner. Kitchen utensils and food should not be shared so use disposable items.
- There are no specific requirements for food but the principles of hygiene and not crowding apply. Food should be prepared under a COVID-19 Safety plan, so it is not advisable to bring food from home for consumption by others. Gloves/paper towels should be used to handle items
- Club meetings and AGMs may be held within the clubhouse subject to the conditions of your COVID-19 Safety Plan

## Competitions between Clubs

No competitions are allowed in the lockdown areas, including competitions between club members.

Outside these areas Clubs are able to organise these events, but organisers should note:

- Social distancing should apply at all times, including when travelling to and from the event. You should be aware of, and manage, the risk of people travelling in breach of health orders as this may endanger other players.
- Masks are to be worn indoors and outdoors when not playing. Referees and umpires as well as spectators and players waiting to play must wear masks.
- Food and drink offerings must be in accordance with the COVID-19 Safety Plan. Generally, food and drink must be in individual servings and there must be no sharing.
- Draws may need to be reorganised so that players have less interaction. If you need help with the draw for your local event, please contact the Tournament Committee for support

- Consider travel restrictions for players and the fact that some players may not be able to return to or come from their place of residence.

## **CNSW Competitions**

- A registered Covid Safety plan is needed for venues hosting CNSW events. Participants must login with the Service NSW App even though players have registered online
- Whether or not CNSW events proceed will be considered on a case by case basis, but players should check before committing to accommodation expenses. Registered players in each event will be notified of any changes. Players who require a refund should send an email to [treasurer@croquet-nsw.org](mailto:treasurer@croquet-nsw.org) along with their BSB and account numbers.

Croquet Tournaments involving competitive games are regarded as community sport activities and a face mask must be worn. The following principles apply:

- Everyone is required to wear a mask upon arrival to the facility/activity (including training and games)
- Participants and referees/umpires are able to remove their masks when they commence warming up for the activity.
- Everyone else (coaches, managers, team doctors, score table officials and spectators etc) has to keep their masks on at all times.
- Following the completion of the match, players and referees need to put their masks back on as soon as possible prior to leaving the venue.

This means masks should be worn up to the venue but can be taken off by players who are competing. All other participants who are not competing in the tournament such as spectators, officials, etc. should be wearing masks.