



COVIDSafe Plan

Information for International Sport Travel



INTRODUCTION

This document is intended to assist sports in developing a COVIDSafe Plan in preparation for travelling internationally and should be used in conjunction with the Sports COVIDSafe Plan Template.

COVIDSAFE OFFICER

Sport organisations should appoint a COVIDSafe Officer to oversee and implement sport policies in relation to risk mitigation for COVID-19. Roles and responsibilities of a COVIDSafe officer include:

- > Ensuring that the sport has an appropriate COVIDSafe Plan in place, and that all members of the Team comply with that plan.
- > Staying abreast of the latest health recommendations from relevant State/Territory health authorities.
- > Staying abreast of COVIDSafe requirements in destination countries.
- > Educating athletes and support staff regarding COVIDSafe practices.
- > Monitoring compliance with daily health checks, physical distancing, hand hygiene, mask wearing etc.
- > Provide a communication link between their sport and Australian Olympic Committee (AOC)/Paralympics Australia (PA) on COVID-related matters.

COVID-19 VACCINE

The Federal Government has announced a [COVID-19 vaccine national roll-out strategy](#). This prioritises at-risk workers and medically vulnerable individuals in a stepwise fashion. Some members of the Olympic and Paralympic Teams may be prioritised due to their own work or health circumstances. Whether all the Olympic and Paralympic Team will be vaccinated prior to the Games will depend on the timing and efficiency of the vaccination roll out program. It is preferable for the Olympic and Paralympic Teams to be vaccinated prior to the Games if the opportunity for vaccination arises. Vaccination may not be appropriate for some athletes due to underlying health conditions. It is not compulsory for athletes to be vaccinated in order to attend the Olympic or Paralympic Games.

MANDATORY COVIDSAFE REQUIREMENTS

All professional and elite sporting organisations are responsible for development and compliance with a COVIDSafe Plan. The COVIDSafe Officer must ensure all persons covered under their COVIDSafe Plan are educated, informed, protected and aware of their responsibilities regarding their safety, and safety of others during the activities of the organisation.

Public Health Directions will at all times take precedence over sport COVIDSafe Plans.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INCLUDING FOR TOKYO

International travel should only be undertaken after careful consideration of the [risks of international travel](#).

Ground Transport

- > Masks should be worn on all transfers between accommodation and airport.
- > Avoid all unnecessary contact with surfaces during airport transfers.
- > Wash/sanitise hands immediately after leaving ground transport.
- > Ensure windows remain open to maximise ventilation and (where able) physical distancing is maintained whilst using ground transport



Airports

Specific guidance is provided for travel through airports, to ensure the safe carriage of sports people at the various stages of the journey.

- > Where possible, complete travel formalities online prior to commencing travel, and for forward journeys, such as online check-in and online pre-flight meal selection.
- > Maintain physical distancing >1.5m, particularly in lines and larger groups.
- > Where possible avoid or limit time spent in crowded areas such as food courts, and departure gates.
- > Wear a mask while in the airport, particularly during boarding, travel, disembarkation, and during transit.
- > Wash or sanitise hands on a regular basis, particularly after contacting high touch surfaces, and using bathroom and toilet facilities.
- > Use the airport toilet facilities immediately prior to boarding the aircraft, to minimise the use of the aircraft toilet during the flight.
- > Maintain a sufficient supply of masks and hand sanitiser (<100ml) in carry-on baggage.
- > Avoid contact including speaking, with other persons outside of the travelling group, unless necessary.
- > Where luggage trolleys are used, sanitise the handle prior to use, with disposable sanitising wipes.

It is strongly recommended that athlete and staff travelling to Tokyo put in place protocols including taking pre-packaged food to the airport to minimise shared dining facilities and undertake cleaning of public bathroom amenities prior to use (i.e. gloves, mask, disinfectant wipes).

Air travel

Specific guidance is provided for air travel, to ensure the safe carriage of sports people at the various stages of the journey.

- > Maintain physical distancing >1.5m, particularly when boarding, embarking, and disembarking.
- > Where possible avoid or limit time spent in crowded areas such as the departure gate, immediately prior to boarding, and while waiting to use onboard toilet facilities.
- > Wear a mask during flight, carefully removing for food and beverage and replacing immediately thereafter.
- > If wearing a disposable surgical mask, change every 4 hours
- > Immediately after seating, sanitise, using disposable sanitising wipes, high touch points of the seat area, including seat belt buckles, arm rests, window shades, entertainment screens, remotes, and tray tables. Sanitise hands immediately after.
- > Sanitise hands on a regular basis, particularly after contacting high touch surfaces, and using onboard toilet facilities.
- > Minimise the use of the aircraft toilet facilities, and movement around the cabin during the flight.
- > Avoid contact including speaking, with other persons on the flight including flight crew, unless necessary.
- > Maintain a sufficient supply of masks and hand sanitiser (<100ml) in carry-on baggage, for regular use.
- > Stagger the removal of face masks, with seating neighbours, for food and beverage purposes.
- > Remain seated after arrival, until sufficient space is available to stand and disembark the aircraft in a physically distant manner.
- > Report any symptoms to the flight crew.
- > Follow the guidance from flight crew.



Duration of international stay

When travelling to camps overseas, it is recommended to reduce the duration of the international stay to the shortest duration possible.

Travelling with a doctor

For larger travelling parties (10-15) it is recommended that a doctor is included in the travelling support staff. A doctor can work with local health authorities to provide assessment and treatment that may prevent a hospital presentation. This is likely to be more important when travelling to countries where the local health care system has capacity challenges.

Para-sports and athletes are recommended to utilise the Para-athlete Medical Risk Screen on AMS prior to departure.

Size of touring group

Minimise the size of the touring party. Larger group sizes increase the potential exposure of the group to COVID-19.

Personal protective equipment

Teams should travel with a sufficient supply of face masks and hand sanitiser to ensure that the travelling party practices appropriate risk mitigation. It is difficult to maintain physical distance on international air travel. A face mask should be worn for the duration of the flight. All in the touring party will require instruction regarding appropriate use of face masks, including use for airport transfers at destination, and depending on local transmission rates.



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