

New Zealand Cricket COVID Protection Framework – Guiding Principles

The COVID-19 Protection Framework brings us an opportunity to move more freely and live with less disruption, while offering the stability needed to plan for the future. It introduces a new traffic light system to manage COVID-19 in the community:

- Green
- Orange
- Red

General Principles – Red

At **Red**, action will be taken to both protect at-risk people, and our health system from an unsustainable number of hospitalisations.

General Principles – Orange

At **Orange**, community transmission will be expected but within highly vaccinated populations in which primary care, public health, and hospitals services can be managed. At-risk groups could, potentially be, more vulnerable.

General Principles – Green

At **Green**, community transmission will be limited, contained within highly-vaccinated populations, and the health system will be well-equipped to respond to any escalations.

Guidelines for delivering community cricket safely within each of these settings have been produced, with separate documents for training and playing available on the NZC website.

Vaccinations

Throughout the pandemic NZC and Cricket Associations around New Zealand have relied on the advice of the Ministry of Health, and Sport New Zealand to formulate guidelines for training and play. A key consideration has been the desire to ensure barriers to play have been minimized while at the same time making sure that the environment is a safe one.



There are currently no mandates in place that require vaccinations for players or volunteers involved with community cricket outside the education setting. The new COVID Protection Framework allows for community cricket to be undertaken safely at all levels without a Covid-19 Vaccination Certificate (CVC). In making the decision to not mandate the use of vaccinations, cricket considered numerous factors:

- Health advice allows for community sport to be played without a CVC process
- The practicalities on managing a CVC process in an outdoor open space
- Cricket lends itself to a low risk environment. Players are naturally physically-distanced across an open space, and the game is a non-contact sport

High rates of vaccination is New Zealand's key tool in protecting people and minimising the spread of COVID-19, and central to the settings in the framework. When you get vaccinated you're not just protecting yourself, you're also helping to reduce the risk of passing on COVID-19 to your whānau, friends and community. The COVID-19 vaccine is free and available to everyone aged 12 years and over in Aotearoa.

It is important each Cricket Association works with its facility owners and local councils to ensure any specific requirements within their training and playing environment are adhered to.

Guidelines for school children have been separately developed by Sport New Zealand and the Government and are available on the NZC website.

For more general COVID-19 information visit the government website: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

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