



**CROQUET VICTORIA**

A0001560E ABN 91 903 271 264

P O Box 468 Lavington NSW 2641

Telephone 0459 502 728

Email: [secretary@croquetvic.asn.au](mailto:secretary@croquetvic.asn.au)

## CROQUET VICTORIA

**The guidelines below indicate what is permitted under current Victorian government policy.**

Across Victoria, croquet clubs and associations and local councils operate in many different ways and within different surroundings and communities. Making an assessment of whether croquet can be provided safely will depend on factors which vary across each council area and may be specific to each venue. It is the responsibility of each council, association and club to work together to make this assessment based on individual circumstances.

Croquet Victoria recommends that each club and each member carefully weighs up the benefits and risks when making their decision. The Croquet Australia insurance policy does not cover any COVID-19 related illness.

If in doubt, don't play. If your club or you decide to play, please observe the following restrictions and guidance.

### POST-LOCKDOWN GUIDELINES FOR CLUBS LOCATED IN VICTORIA: 15 November 2020

These guidelines are based on [Department of Health and Human Services advice](#), the current [Chief Officer of Health Directions](#) for Victoria as a whole, and the changes announced by the Premier on 26 October 2020. They now include the requirements of a COVID-safe Plan – see the recent [Sport and Recreation guidelines](#).

This document is being progressively modified as government guidelines are updated. Please check the [Croquet Victoria website](#) for the most recent version.

**LATEST NEWS:** From midnight on 8 November 2020, restrictions in regional Victoria and metropolitan Melbourne are aligned. Travel within Victoria is no longer restricted, with some conditions on overnight stays.

**Every club is expected to develop a COVID-safe plan. A template for this is supplied.**

#### 1 What play is allowed, and how many people can play

*Social play and competition are allowed. Toilets and changerooms are open. Outside gatherings are preferred, but clubhouses may be used for gatherings of up to 10, subject to a density quotient of 8m<sup>2</sup> per person. Everyone is expected to observe social distancing and hygiene rules. Phase sessions to avoid congestion at entry / exit points.*

##### SOCIAL PLAY

Both singles and doubles are permitted. Groups of 10 players (social play) are allowed – more than one group, if the groups can stay at least 10m apart. More than 10 in a group if everyone is from the same household. Consult your local authority about the approach at your club.

##### COMPETITION

[Recent SRV guidelines](#) clarify that the maximum for a competitive activity is set by the sport's state body and depends on the number required to facilitate the activity, including officials. For croquet, unlike cricket, this is variable. It may mean all club members (for a formal season opening competition); teams of four or more plus referee/s for an inter-club competition; or blocks of six or eight for a tournament.

Keep groups as small as is appropriate for the competition, and maintain separation between the groups. No spectators.

Travel between the regions and metro Melbourne is now allowed. No restrictions on distance. Some limitations on overnight stays. Victorian borders still subject to regulation.

#### 2 Who can play

Please only play with others if you are in good health.

There is no explicit ban on players over 70. If you are suffering from a condition that puts you at risk, please stay away or arrange to practise on your own. Be careful to observe the hygiene requirements.

#### 3. In the event of someone testing positive with COVID-19

If you have any of the symptoms of COVID-19, please get tested and stay home till you are cleared. If the test is positive, please inform the club, and of course stay home till you are cleared.

**Clubs should specify in their COVID-safe plan how they will manage an incident where someone has attended who is at risk of or been diagnosed with COVID.** See attached template.

#### 4 How is attendance recorded

Keep an attendance register. We recommend that in order to assist with contact tracing, one person in each group records everyone's name, arrival and leaving times. Ensure that contact details for those attending are readily available.

#### 5 Social distancing and hygiene

Wear a fitted mask (not a face shield or scarf). Only remove it if you are eating or drinking, or strenuously exercising. Keep at least 1.5 metres between yourself and anyone else. No handshakes or high fives! If your toilet and hand basin are in a restricted space, make arrangements to ensure social distancing when they are in use. Hygiene involves:

- wash your hands thoroughly (palms, backs of hands, between fingers, fingertips, thumbs, wrists) with soap or sanitiser – when you arrive, and after you have touched something that someone else may have touched.
- keep your hands away from your face (we are told people normally touch their faces 23 times an hour).
- clean items that you have touched that other people will use after you (see below)
- if First Aid is needed, use single-use gloves (see below).

#### 6 Hygiene equipment

The club should ensure that players can access

- soap and sanitiser
- paper towels for drying hands
- alcohol wipes for cleaning equipment
- disinfectant in toilet
- single-use gloves (kept near the First Aid kit and the toilet)
- Personal Protection Equipment for use if there is a need for someone to give First Aid: mask, protective goggles, disposable raincoat.

Schedule regular and frequent cleaning of accessible areas and frequently touched surfaces. Display the schedule in the club rooms, with sign offs to show when areas have been cleaned.

#### 7 Playing equipment

Use your own mallet if possible.

For any playing session, arrange for each item of shared equipment to be handled by only one person. For example, the attendance register, the hoops, the peg, and any other shared equipment such as the trolley or corner pegs and lines.

If you have to use a club mallet, put out hoops / peg, get out balls, or handle other equipment:

- sanitise your hands (washing with soap is fine)
- clean the equipment with soap, detergent or sanitiser (for balls, use only a mild detergent and water – anything else may damage the balls)
- sanitise your hands again
- sanitise all equipment at the end of the session.

In Golf Croquet, each ball should normally be handled only by the person playing it. However, if need be, other players could use their foot or mallet to move it.

In Association Croquet and Ricochet, the striker may only handle their own ball. When other balls need to be moved or positioned, this should be done with the foot or mallet.

#### 8 First Aid

Use disposable (single-use) gloves to open the First Aid kit and deal with the emergency. Use the Personal Protection Equipment as required.

Afterwards, discard the disposable items and wash your hands before closing the First Aid kit.

#### 9 Club and committee gatherings

Up to 10 people may meet outdoors in a public space. The number permitted indoors is limited to a maximum of 20, subject to the space available: at least 8m<sup>2</sup> must be available per person. Social distancing must be observed and masks worn. Attendance should be recorded.

#### 10 Travel

You are allowed to drive and/or use public transport to get to a venue for sport or recreation. Social distancing is advised. This means it would be preferable for people to travel only with people they share a house with. Travel should be minimised. Please play at your nearest accessible courts.






#### 11 Documenting what you are doing

You need to ensure everyone knows (and does) what is expected.

Strategies could include:

- displaying these guidelines at the club, where members attending can see them
- writing to all members listing what is required

- establishing a booking system to ensure that no more than ten people attend at once
- keeping an attendance record which shows when people came and went
- maintaining a folder with receipts for relevant equipment
- designating one or more members to take responsibility for implementing different aspects of the guidelines, eg managing the booking system, counselling members who appear to be unaware of the guidelines.

	<p><b>Ensure physical distancing - You Must</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Ensure workers and visitors are 1.5 metres apart as much as possible</li> <li>❑ Display signs to show patron limits at the entrance of enclosed areas where limits apply</li> <li>❑ Ensure employees work from home wherever possible</li> <li>❑ Apply the four-square-metre rule to configure shared work areas and publicly accessible spaces</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Wear a face mask - You Must</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Ensure all workers and visitors entering the worksite wear a face mask as per public health advice</li> <li>❑ Provide adequate face coverings and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to workers who do not have their own</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Practice good hygiene - You Must</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Frequently and regularly clean and disinfect shared spaces, including high-touch communal items such as doorknobs and telephones</li> <li>❑ Make soap and hand sanitiser available for all workers and customers throughout the worksite and encourage regular handwashing</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Keep records and act quickly - You Must</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Support workers to get tested and stay home even if they only have mild symptoms</li> <li>❑ Develop a business contingency plan to manage any outbreaks</li> <li>❑ Keep records of all people who enter the workplace for contact tracing</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Avoid interactions in enclosed spaces - You Should</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Move as much activity outside as possible, including meetings, tearooms, lunchbreaks, locker rooms, and serving customers</li> <li>❑ Enhance airflow by opening windows and doors</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Create workforce bubbles - You Should</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❑ Keep groups of workers rostered on the same shifts at a single worksite and ensure there is no overlap of workers during shift changes</li> </ul>