

ACTA COVID-19 Compliance Guidelines for Clubs

Position Statement

The ACTA's focus during the COVID-19 pandemic will always be the wellbeing of the broader community.

Combined with our enduring responsibility for our clubs and all Club Members, we remain comfortable that our position recommending that clubs close has been appropriate to this moment in time.

Under strict and specific safety protocols – enforced by state and territory guidelines as well as individual club rules – The ACTA is now satisfied that Clay Target shooting can be resumed at minimal risk if stringent measures are put in place. Having worked collaboratively with our clubs and other stakeholders, we are now comfortable to alter our position and encourage clubs to reopen so members can participate in restricted shooting activities.

As well as social distancing, these safety protocols must include:

- Maintaining personal hygiene
- Only using your own personal equipment – and not touching anyone else's
- Not touching machinery, voice activation devices or practice mechanisms
- Ensuring that ALL discarded shell casings and empty shell boxes are carefully placed in the bins provided

The ability to participate currently does not apply to those in Victoria where all sporting opportunities remain prohibited by that State government. The ACTA, through Shooting Australia, will, however, continue constructive dialogue and advocacy for shooters in this State.

It is important to note that the ACTA may again alter our position depending on the changing requirements of governments (Federal, State and Territory) as the COVID-19 landscape changes. We are also acutely aware that different jurisdictions are applying different criteria for compliance ... the following advice is therefore based on strict compliance and may be varied based on deviations in local State legislation.

Recommended Regulations:

Personal:

- Community sport members and individuals should not return to sport if in the last 14 days they have been unwell or had close contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19.
- Maintain a minimum space of 1.5 metres between you and other people that aren't from your household.
- In an environment of community transmission of COVID-19, any individual with respiratory symptoms (cough, sore throat, fever or shortness of breath), even if mild, should be considered a possible case of COVID-19.
- All community sport members must be made aware not to attend sport environments if they are unwell and should use a cautious approach. Anyone who is unwell should be referred to a doctor in accordance with local Public Health Authority guidelines.
- A person with a possible case of COVID-19 should refrain from training (even at home) until they have been cleared to do so by a doctor, given the potential for worsening illness.

Suggested Australian Government and WHO resources:

- [How to protect yourself and others from coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Hand washing guidance https://www.who.int/gpsc/clean_hands_protection/en/
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) resources <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources>

As long as the following guidelines are adhered to, Shooting activity can include practice and smaller club competitions, however, no more participants are to be allowed to attend the grounds beyond calculated limitations based on State-Government-permissions for a specified number of shooters per layout and the number of layouts available at any one time.

Clubs - Preliminary:

The responsibility lies with individual clubs to ensure that:

- They are fully aware of, and compliant with, their own State Government, and
- All of these guidelines are adhered to by engaging any staffing / volunteers required as necessary in order to completely fulfil the State's compliance guidelines.
- Of particular importance is the Range Officer who should be solely responsible for loading and unloading targets to and from traps, putting out, connecting, disconnecting and putting away voice activation equipment and / or practice mechanisms and putting out / collecting bins.
- If manual releases are used, the club should provide sanitary disinfectant wipes and the equipment thoroughly disinfected by participants following each exposure.
- If practice mechanisms are used, the club is to provide sanitary disinfectant wipes and tokens and mechanisms are to be disinfected following each use.
- A booking system should be developed, implemented and strictly adhered to.
- Promote cashless / EFT payments, however if cash needs to be exchanged ensure that hands are washed with soap and water, or a hand sanitiser is used after all handling money.
- Display appropriate education material within sporting environments and facilities. Suggested Australian Government and WHO resources:
 - Good hygiene practices poster for businesses
 - Good hygiene is in your hands
 - Hand washing guidance
 - Keep that cough under cover

Clubs - Delivery:

1. Any activity held on the club premises are to be held outdoors, employ physical distancing of 1.5m and be limited to the number of people determined by social gathering laws (currently a limit of two people in the ACT, NSW, QLD, TAS and VIC and a limit of ten people in SA and WA). Depending on the State, participants may also need to leave the premises immediately upon the conclusion of meetings.
2. With specific regard to 1. Above, the maximum number of shooters at the facility and on a layout at any one time will typically be determined using the formula of 2, 4 or 6 per layout (depending on the applicable State legislation), multiplied by the number of available layouts. Clubs need to ensure that compliance is always achieved with respect to social gathering restrictions. (i.e.: The number of persons at the facility must not exceed State-stipulated limits).
3. Subject to the social gathering and distancing legislation/restrictions, (i.e.: **not more than one person per 4m²**), while these restrictions remain, the ACTA strongly recommends that an upper limit of no more than four people be allowed to participate per layout (on lanes 1, 3 and 5 and one in rotation with every even lane being left vacant), and the **1.5m physical distancing rule** observed at all times.
4. As stated above, Clubs will need to implement a booking system to facilitate layout bookings in order to fulfil the required number of member participation opportunities while conforming with guidelines. Depending on the jurisdiction in question, the system may need to take into account the facilitation of changeover of members on an hourly basis. (i.e.: Arrive 5 minutes to the hour, 45 minute shooting time, leave by 50 minutes past the hour) in order to comply with local social distancing restrictions.
5. Best practice is that a register of attendees is kept, just in case a communicable illness were to occur.
6. Where possible, outdoor-accessible toilets should be open. At the very least, hand washing facilities including soap are to be available. Hand sanitiser should also be made available in all ablution blocks.
7. Shooters should practice safe hygiene at all times, including washing hands for at least 20 seconds before and after each shooting activity.
8. Immediately upon completion of shooting and cleaning of equipment, proceed straight to car and leave the facility ... no social congregating at layouts, at or near the club house or in the carpark.

The ACTA remains committed to complying with advice provided by the Federal and State Governments for all Shooting activities under its control.

All States and Zones and their affiliated clubs must also give absolute priority to the safety and well-being of participants, especially for those over 60-years of age. People at a higher risk of severe illness (those aged over 70 and/or those with chronic medical conditions or compromised immune systems) are encouraged to remain at home whenever possible.

These guidelines may be subject to further review once the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee and National Cabinet announce new National Principles for elite, community and individual sport/activity, which are expected to be released soon. It is anticipated that these new principles will ensure health and physical activity advice is consistent across all states and territories.

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