

13 September 2021

LOCKDOWN LIFTED IN PARTS OF REGIONAL NSW

The NSW Government has recently announced changes to some restrictions in various areas of NSW. This notice provides further detail.

At this point, the Public Health Orders DO NOT allow for organised or competitive community sport.

“Regional and rural areas with limited restrictions”:

From 12.01am on Saturday 11 September, parts of regional NSW emerged from lockdown, but will continue to operate under restrictions to ensure the safety of regional communities.

[Click here](#) to read the media release, including a list of the LGAs coming out of lockdown.

For those LGAs moving out of lockdown to the “**regional and rural areas with limited restrictions**” rules, the following now applies:

Outdoor events:

The maximum number of persons at an outdoor gathering must be calculated by applying the 1 person per 4 square metres rule, up to the maximum capacity restriction (as outlined below).

1. A non-controlled outdoor gathering – up to 20 people

Up to 20 people can gather in any outdoor public place, such as a park, reserve, beach or garden. These activities do not require a COVID-19 safety plan and are limited to 20 people.

2. A COVID-19 safe outdoor public gathering – up to 50 people

All outdoor gatherings of more than 20 people must be a **COVID-19 safe outdoor gathering**. To be deemed a COVID-19 safe outdoor gathering, the organiser must;

- Have and comply with the relevant COVID-19 safety plan;
- Keep a copy of the plan at the premises where the gathering is held; and
- Make the plan available for inspection by an authorised officer/ police officer.

3. A controlled outdoor public gathering – up to 500 people

To organise a controlled outdoor gathering, the organiser must;

- Have and comply with the relevant COVID-19 safety plan;
- Ensure the event is enclosed or bounded by fencing or another form of barrier;
- Ensure the event is ticketed;
- Ensure all persons participating in the gathering (other than employees) are assigned to specific seats or to a seating area;
- Ensure the gathering does not last any longer than 5 hours.

Gyms and indoor recreation facilities:

- Gyms and indoor recreation facilities (such as squash courts, indoor swimming pools, gyms, table tennis centres, health studios, bowling alleys and ice rinks) can re-open under the one person per four square metres rule.
- Gym and recreation classes (ie. dance, yoga, pilates classes) can be held **up to a maximum of 20 people**. These classes must also adhere to the 1 person per 4 square metres rule.

Stadiums and major outdoor recreation facilities:

- Major outdoor recreation facilities (such as stadiums and racecourses) can re-open under the one person per four square metres rule, up to a maximum of 5,000 people.
- Up to 500 people can attend ticketed and seated outdoor events, as per the guidelines above for “A controlled outdoor public gathering”.

Fitted face coverings:

The following rules and restrictions remain in place regarding the wearing of fitted face coverings (ie. face masks);

- a) A person must wear a fitted face covering over both their nose and mouth while in any indoor area of non-residential premises.

Removing fitted face coverings:

- a) A person may remove a fitted face covering if the person is engaging in strenuous physical activity.
- b) The person must resume wearing the fitted face covering as soon as practical after the strenuous physical activity ends.

“Stay at Home Areas”:

For LGAs remaining in lockdown, including Greater Sydney and some regional and rural NSW areas **but excluding the LGAs of concern**, the following now applies from 12.01am on Monday 13 September:

All outdoor public gatherings in a stay at home area are limited to;

- a) If all persons participating in the gathering who are at least 16 years of age are fully vaccinated – 5 persons (this does not including persons who are 12 years of age and under); or
- b) If any persons participating in the gathering are not fully vaccinated – 2 persons.

A person who is at least 16 years of age and participating in an outdoor public gathering in a stay at home area of more than 2 persons must;

- a) Carry vaccination evidence for the person; and
- b) Produce the evidence if requested to do so by a police officer.

For the LGAs of concern, all outdoor gatherings remain limited to 2 persons.

[Please click here](#) to check which area you live in (ie. Greater Sydney, LGAs of concern, Regional and rural NSW or Regional and rural areas with limited restrictions).

A reminder that at this point, the Public Health Orders DO NOT allow for organised or competitive community sport.

It has been noted that when NSW hits the 80 per cent double dose target, the government intends to open up further freedoms around community sport. [Click here](#) to read more about the roadmap to freedom for the fully vaccinated.

All organisations are reminded to review the Public Health Order and stay up to date with the latest changes on the NSW Government COVID-19 website.

For any questions specific to your sport, club or associations operations, we encourage you to email the NSW Office of Sport team via sectorcapability@sport.nsw.gov.au. This email is dedicated to COVID-19 specific questions relating to community sport and active recreation.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep community sport COVID-19 safe.

Sport NSW