



## BCA COVID POLICY

UPDATED 11<sup>th</sup> January 2022

1. The Board of the BCA, the Pennant Committee and affiliated Clubs are committed to comply with all Covid protocols whilst continuing to endeavour to maintain integrity within the draws and play as much as cricket as possible.
2. The latest advice given to the BCA via Cricket Victoria will be the primary source of Covid protocols with the expectation that all participating Clubs follow the same advice and are managing their Covid protocols.
3. It is incumbent upon Clubs to continue to manage their covid protocols.
4. Players will be deemed unavailable upon notification to their Club that they are any of the following:
  - A Close Contact and in isolation;
  - That they have symptoms and have returned a positive RAT and are in isolation;
  - Have returned a positive PCR test and are in isolation;
  - Have symptoms and have not been able to source a RAT
5. The BCA is also monitoring the approach of other associations particularly Premier Cricket.
6. Beginning Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> Jan and until otherwise advised all Clubs are requested to; email the Operations Officer by no later than 12pm each Wednesday using the template provided, the number of teams their Club can field for the coming weekend due to COVID. Any subsequent changes to a player's covid status are to be updated in the template and re-sent to the Operations Officer.
7. Based upon the advice received from the Clubs the Pennant Committee, with input from the BCA Board Executive, will make a decision each week as to whether the competition will proceed or any necessary changes to the fixture to play as much cricket as possible – one example maybe the deleting of a grade, in line with (non-binding) Cricket Victoria advice this would be lower grades first.
8. Upon the gazetting of the fixture, Clubs have until midday on Friday to confirm, if due to changes to covid unavailability of not being able to field a team and thus forfeit (lowest grade first), without financial penalty with the points being awarded to the opposition team. Clubs must advise the BCA Operations Officer ([operations.ballaratcricket@gmail.com](mailto:operations.ballaratcricket@gmail.com)) of the forfeit.
9. Clubs can field a minimum number of 8 players in a team, but can still name a full team for qualification purposes, only including those unavailable due to covid.
10. Clubs are requested to have contingency plans in place for players who become unavailable due to Covid late on Friday or on Saturday mornings.
11. From this week (15<sup>th</sup> January) and until further notice, all grades can field 12 players (11 only to bat or bowl) – this concession is intended to provide some relief if a player receives very late or during a game advice of change in Covid status resulting in ineligibility.
12. Future qualification for finals will be a case-by-case basis if a player has been affected by COVID and thus unable to play – the Pennant Committee will deal with all such requests. Proof of player unavailability will be required as per Point 4.
13. On Game Day the decision to play must be made by those responsible for the game on the day, Captains and Umpires.
14. If on Game Day, due to covid availability a Club cannot field a team, the team will have deemed to have forfeited and points will be awarded to the opposing team, no fine will be applied. Immediate notification must include - Operations Officer by email, the Pennant Committee Chairman by phone (Wayne Hinchcliffe – 0419 382 269) and the opposition team.
15. If on Game Day, due to covid availability, both Captains agree to abandon the game, the results of the game will be ratified once appropriate written and photographic evidence of unavailability has been produced and



what contingency plans the clubs had in place. A maximum of three points may be awarded, points will be withheld pending further investigation by the Pennant Committee. The BCA will not tolerate any evidence of manipulation of the result including collusion.

16. Should a game commence and through the course of the game, a team's player availability drops to lower than 8, the team is deemed to have forfeited, no fine applies and the points are awarded to the opposition team.