



# HOCKEY NEW ZEALAND COVID-19

## Return to Community Hockey Guidelines

WE DON'T WANT HOCKEY BEING THE REASON WE GO BACK SO A CAUTIOUS PLANNED APPROACH IS IMPORTANT

### PHASE 01 | GETTING READY TO TRAIN

#### SYSTEMS & PROCESS DEVELOPMENT

#### WHAT

- Associations and Clubs to put procedures in place to ensure all necessary requirements can be met. These include hygiene protocols for facilities and people, requirements for mass gatherings and contact tracing. This is a legal requirement.
- Cannot leave this phase until 1) all obligations met as a legally constituted organisation and 2) there has been approval from your board.

#### TIMELINE

- Begins 12th May, 2020.

### PHASE 02 | PREPARE TO PLAY

#### TRAINING

#### WHAT

- Associations and clubs have all health and safety and contact tracing systems and protocols in place and operational.
- Training can recommence allowing athletes and teams to prepare themselves for competition.
- Groups must be limited to 10 including all coaches and all additional protocols must be met.
- Associations and clubs will make decisions on competition structures and playing opportunities.
- Full training can resume once mass gathering guidelines have increased (reviewed on 25th May).
- A staggered approach to the introduction of training would be advantageous across adult and junior hockey to ensure Associations and club capacity to implement all appropriate measures to keep our people safe.

#### TIMELINE

- Associations and clubs likely to move into this phase between 18th May and 1st June (this date will vary depending on each Association and clubs preparedness).
- From the 6th June teams will be able to recommence preseason games.

*Athlete loading and welfare is imperative during this phase taking into account lack of recent hockey activity and likely other pressures individuals are facing.*

### PHASE 03 | RETURN TO PLAY

#### COMPETITION

#### WHAT

- Hockey competition can recommence pending government increasing current mass gathering restrictions.
- A staggered approach to competition implementation would be advantageous across adult and junior hockey to ensure Association and club capacity to implement all of the systems and processes required to keep our people safe.
- Consideration must be given to athlete welfare particularly in earlier stages of this competition period to ensure a graduated return to competition hockey.

**Note:** This stage cannot recommence under the current mass gathering restrictions.

#### TIMELINE

- 13th June is earliest competition could commence although is likely to be later depending on national guidelines and local preparedness.
- Hockey season to be finished prior to the start of Term 4 in order to support players who play summer sport.

*It is important that athletes are not overloaded after a period of limited hockey activity and that the whole of a players workload is taken into account (club and school).*