



**RETURN TO BASKETBALL**



# GUIDELINES FOR RETURN TO PLAYING BASKETBALL

## Introduction

Basketball Australia has developed these guidelines to assist the basketball community throughout Australia to return to structured activities. Basketball Australia has worked particularly closely with our State and Territory associations throughout these difficult times and I thank them for their assistance and commitment to the development of our sport.

These guidelines are designed as a framework to assist in reactivating our sport as deemed suitable and safe in line with the Federal Government's National Principles for the Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities. Therefore the guiding principles are:

- Keeping the basketball family safe and healthy
- Aligning with State and Federal Government restrictions
- Consistent with Australian Institute of Sport guidance
- Utilising the regulations and operating principles of basketball

In creating these guidelines, Basketball Australia aims to provide members with clarity on what activities may be able to occur at each stage of lifted restrictions. It will be critical for each association and club to consider the specific guidelines of their state/territory government and it is likely that there will need to be local variation in how we resume our weekly "fix" of basketball.

Clubs and associations must also work with other stakeholders such as venue owners (e.g. local councils and schools) who may have their own requirements for use of their facilities.

The Federal Government's plans for a return to organised sport has been informed by both Sport Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), and it is highly likely that the return will be phased in line with restrictions on the size of gatherings and border controls. Accordingly,

these guidelines have been developed to align permitted or recommended activity with government regulations of gathering numbers.

A series of images has been created that support our recommendations and guidelines and these are included as Appendix 1.

The community prevalence of COVID-19 is the key factor when evaluating infection risk. Critical Government restrictions to control the virus spread that impact the decision for basketball to restart are:

- General agreement that sports can 'restart'
- Gathering limitations
- Social distancing requirements
- Schools opened or closed (for underage competitions)
- Local government considerations
- State boundary restrictions (national competitions)

Basketball Australia acknowledges the guidelines are likely to be implemented differently between states and territories, and potentially within those jurisdictions.

At all times, government regulations will supersede these guidelines where applicable.

Basketball is considered a contact sport. Basketball Australia has proposed a number of measures that will allow safe sport. These include: sanitising basketballs and changing them between games, social distancing requirements in the venue, participants showering and changing at their home prior to competition, showering immediately following games and the use of hand sanitisers courtside when a player enters and exits the court at breaks, timeouts and substitutions.

Finally, the characteristics of the COVID-19 virus is not fully understood and it is possible that at any stage government restrictions will be re-introduced. We therefore need to proceed in a disciplined and cautious way.

## Policy Environment

These guidelines have been developed in line with advice from:

- Dr David Hughes, AIS Chief Medical Officer
- Dr Peter Harcourt, Basketball Australia's Chief Medical Officer
- Federal Government Guidelines, including:
  - » Australian Health Protection Principal Committee Statement on Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities (Appendix 2)
  - » AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport (Appendix 3).

Basketball Australia's management group and the State and Territory CEO's have conducted rigorous oversight of the development of these guidelines which has been linked to individual State and Territory plans. This has been an important component to ensure appropriate expert advice has been included in this document. The State and Territory plans are included in Appendix 4 of these guidelines.

These guidelines give an indication of the considerations that Basketball Australia will apply in determining the appropriate time for our competitions to return. Individual States/Territories will no doubt advise their members of the proposed return of competitions within each respective state/territory.

## Returning to Organised Sport

### Implementation

These guidelines have been developed with the primary focus of providing a guide to return to basketball while controlling the number of people in stadiums and controlling competition contact risk. While the guidelines permit limited numbers of people to be within a stadium, Basketball Australia encourages members to minimise attendance of non-participating persons where possible.

These guidelines have been created based on federal advice. All members should review their State and Local regulations and seek advice from their Public Health Authority or State Chief Health Officer in developing their state or territory guidelines.

In the various stages of return, the number of people in stadiums (and the flow of people in and out of stadiums) needs to be monitored and controlled and heightened cleaning and sanitation regimes need to be followed. Clubs and associations should consider whether this monitoring and compliance role can be carried out by existing court supervisors or whether a more dedicated "Bio Security Officer" be instigated.

Whichever approach is taken, clear communication of the measures put in place will no doubt assist the participants to understand and comply with those measures. If anything, we should aim to "over communicate" rather than assume people will understand what is required.

### Venue Variability

It is impossible to set out definitive guidelines and this document is not intending to do that. Clubs and associations need to consider the specific circumstances of each venue that they use. For example, a facility that has two courts side by side, may initially return only utilising one court whereas a facility that has two courts in separate halls may be able to start with both courts operating.

Similarly, the flow of people entering and exiting venues needs close consideration because the medical advice is that we must avoid large groups of people in a close proximity. A venue where there is only one entry/exit point may need to start on a smaller scale than a venue where people can enter through one door and exit from another (e.g. Fire Exit).

### Indoor sport

Stadiums are large open spaces with ventilation systems to facilitate air movement. In many facilities the flow of outdoor air is very open. Air movement varies from stadium to stadium so the venue risk assessment should also consider the quality of the ventilation system as a part of the assessment.

The risk of aerosol spread of COVID-19 indoors is unclear and appears to be limited to high risk, particularly health care, facilities. Members may wish to reference the following articles in regards to airborne risk:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-020-00974-w>

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-020-2271-3>

## What's Inside

Below, you will first find some key considerations that apply throughout our return to full competition and include guidelines for the operation of indoor venues again through the different stages based upon government restrictions.

Secondly, our three tables:

1. Government Restriction Level A (no sport)
2. Government Restriction Level B (the gradual return to sport in staged depending upon the size of permitted gatherings)
3. Government Restriction Level C (our “new normal” once sport has returned).

These tables identify relevant considerations (at each level of government restriction) in relation to the conduct of:

- Individual Training
- Club Trainings
- Development Programs (e.g. Aussie Hoops)
- Competitions

For ease of reference we have included as Appendices some practical examples of implementing social distancing requirements around the basketball court, the Federal Government statements regarding the rebooting of sporting activities and guidelines adopted by each of the States and Territories (Appendix 4).

Best wishes for a safe and successful return to the court.

Jerril Rechter  
CEO

# Key Considerations

## *Returning to Basketball*

### **COVID-19 prevention plan and basketball start committee**

Each facility should have an implementation plan that flows from the Basketball Australia start plan, adapted as necessary by state/territory associations. This committee oversees the safe return to sport and compliance with government restrictions. The scope of the committee's plan should include entry and exit to a venue and the management of individuals within the venue. The committee should also set the outcomes for non-compliance.

These guidelines are designed to ensure the safety and health of the basketball family.

### **Arrival**

Participants and officials cannot enter the court area earlier than the designated time prior to their game or before the participants and officials of the previous game have departed. Waiting time should be minimised with people asked not to arrive more than 10 minutes before their game. Separate waiting areas for each court should be designated to reduce contact between playing groups.

If an infrared thermometer is available, on arrival, participants over the age of 18 should have their temperature checked. Stadiums should display clear

instructions and signage to inform participants of the Health Risks of COVID-19 and rules of entry into the stadium. Hand sanitiser should be available at the entry of all stadiums.

### **Basketballs**

Basketballs provided by the venue should be sanitised prior to use each day and in between each game. A process must be in place to ensure there is compliance.

Teams may be limited to the number of balls they are permitted to bring into the stadium at any one time. Any basketball brought into a stadium should be sanitised prior to use (preferably upon entry).

### **Biosafety officials**

May be game supervisors or referees or other current official roles depending on what is the best fit for the association and venue. The role is to manage the restrictions so that the basketball restart is conducted in a controlled manner, overseeing social distancing, overall numbers of participants (and minimising the number of non-participants in the venue) and people, management of basketball hygiene and player compliance (hand hygiene, entry and exit to the stadium and court).

### **Breaks between games and/or training/development sessions**

Scheduling of games or development sessions should allow a set period of time between the conclusion of one and the commencement of the next. This is to allow time for separate playing groups to depart and arrive without contact and permit staff to complete sanitisation requirements. If multiple courts are being used at a venue, staggering start times will help control the overall flow of people in/out of the venue.

Where possible, utilising a different exit point from a court may facilitate a quicker turnover from one session to the next. For example, could a Fire Exit that is adjacent to a court be used?

### **Capacity Control and Biosafety**

Associations should, at all times throughout the pandemic, maintain strict counting of capacity within the stadium and on each court to ensure that limits are not exceeded to ensure biosafety. This may be something that an existing court supervisor or other official role can undertake or it may require a specific resource (volunteer or staff). It must be clear at all times who has the authority to “ask people to leave” as necessary.

### **Cash handling**

Associations are encouraged to develop cash free procedures to reduce the chance of transmission between the user and employee. This may include credit card payments for team sheets of game fees, the concept of a single person making payment on behalf of a team, or invoicing of fees to clubs and teams where appropriate.

### **Competition Contact Risk Mitigation**

Players will be required to shower with soap and change (at home) prior to a game and again immediately following the game at their home. This mitigation will be supported with significant hand hygiene strategies during a competition.

It is the responsibility of team coaches to ensure players comply with this requirement and both coaches and referees must ensure unnecessary contact (e.g. hand shakes, high fives, pushing off the ball) does not occur.

The normal blood rules continue to apply.

## **Entry and Exit**

Associations, where possible, should designate separate entry and exit routes to reduce the risk of contact between playing groups.

If an individual is ill, has a fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat or any other sign of being acutely unwell, they will not be permitted to enter the stadium. Coaches should also check their team members that none of them are unwell.

## **Gathering Size Limits**

These guidelines have been created based on limits that are likely to be set out by Government (e.g. less than 10 people, less than 20 people etc). These are likely to vary from state to state so these guidelines have been developed to accommodate possible Government restriction scenarios. Furthermore, it is possible that states and territories will not be aligned and different restrictions will exist within Australia.

Associations must consider the size, space and lay-out of individual venues and this may require even smaller gatherings than allowed under guidelines.

## **Hand Hygiene during Training or Competition**

To reduce the risk of infection in a game when there will be some incidental contact hand sanitisers will be required on both team benches. Players and referees will be required to use hand sanitisers at every break in the game, including timeouts, and when substitutions move in and out of the game.

## **Non-Essential Services**

Change rooms, referee rooms, canteens, public water fountains, general seating areas should remain closed or roped off to the general public in accordance with the relevant reactivation level. Participants should arrive at a stadium ready to compete.

## **Parents and Guardians**

Particularly in the early stages of our return (when numbers are very limited) associations should consider whether junior competitions should take place at all in the absence of parental spectators. Associations may opt to defer these competitions until such parents can attend. Other alternatives that could be considered:

Having parents observe from a safe place that is not at

the courts (e.g. an upper viewing deck), provided that it is of sufficient size to provide social distancing of parents watching;

Allowing a small number of parents to observe, which may be rotated amongst team members

Where parents are not able to observe, the association must ensure that a responsible adult is present at the game/session and there should always be at least two coaches present.

## **Referees and other officials**

Associations should observe the number of officials permitted as per the guidelines. Associations should take care to consider the cross over of officials between playing groups. The guidelines have been implemented to reduce contact between playing groups. Basketball Australia recommends if officials are to officiate multiple games in the same evening that consistent groupings of officials are applied (i.e. officials stay on the one court). Furthermore, if the referee is aware, or is informed that, the court is not complying with the local association biosafety guidelines, the game should be stopped until the situation has been corrected.

Referees must be directed to:

- Only use the whistle when necessary (e.g. do not blow whistle to signal end of time-out or at other times when the game is already stopped)
- Use short, sharp whistle blow no long hard blows
- Do not officiate when feeling unwell
- Use hand sanitiser at every break in the game (time-outs, between quarters, substitutions)
- Blow whistle facing away from players

## **Sanitisation**

Association staff should sanitise scoring laptops or tablets, score benches, bench seating if fixed, scoreboard controllers and any other essential equipment that may have been used by playing groups to reduce the risk of transmission from one group to another.

Hand sanitiser must be available on the score bench for referees and score table officials to use during games. Courts must be cleaned as directed with a minimum of warm water and disinfectant.

## Seating Areas

In any area where seating is required it should be set according to social distancing guidelines with enough only for the numbers allowed.

## Social Distancing

Areas where people will gather or lines may occur should be marked clearly in accordance with the relevant Government regulations to encourage participants to follow Social Distancing advice (for example 1.5 metre spacing).

## Stadium Entry Signage

Associations should display signs at the entry to their stadiums as per the recommendations. This should include government recommendations on the entry conditions during the pandemic, including but not limited to references to personal health and at-risk members of the community. They should also include information specific to that venue or that association.

## Staff (Including Administration, Desk, Cashiers, Customer Service and Court Supervisors)

All staff or volunteers that are involved in the running of games that are within a venue or interacting with participants need to have sufficient access to sanitisers, personal protection equipment and instructions on how to keep safe. This may include the use of face masks, face shields or the installation of screens to protect staff.

## Start of Game

Games should not be started with a jump ball. Instead toss a coin or use "rock, paper, scissor" to determine which team will have first possession. Alternatively, first named team in the draw has the first possession.

## Toilets and Change Rooms

It is important that whenever people are present at the facility that toilet facilities should be provided and they should be cleaned throughout each day/night. The availability of toilets is a factor that may limit the number of people an Association allows into the facility at any given time. For example, if there is only one central toilet block, it may not be appropriate to have three courts running at the same time as it may result in too many people at that central position at one time.

Alternatively, if a venue has three smaller toilet blocks (one near each court) then running three courts may be feasible.

Medical advice is that players should shower (with soap) immediately before and as soon after games/training. Initially, this is preferably done at home rather than at the venue. Accordingly, Associations may restrict access to change rooms in the initial stages of return. Once change rooms are being utilised a comprehensive cleaning regime should be implemented.

## Towels and Drink Bottles

Participants should bring a personal towel and drink bottle to their games and not share these with others.

## Uniform Hire

For the safety of staff and volunteers, it is recommended that members refrain from providing hire uniforms during the COVID-19 pandemic period.





# GUIDELINES FOR INDOOR VENUES

These guidelines should be implemented once government restrictions allow a return to sports activity in conjunction with the specific directions from State/Territory governments and also venue owners (e.g. Local Councils) and other stakeholders (e.g. Schools)

## Government Restriction: LEVEL B

	Groups of 20 or Less	Groups of 50 – 200	Groups of 200+
<b>Bench Seating</b>	Remove where possible	Player Benches only	Unrestricted
<b>General Seating Areas</b>	Closed – remove where possible	"Distancing of 1.5 metres between seats Clean Nightly"	Unrestricted
<b>Canteens</b>	Follow Social Distancing – marked areas for queuing and waiting	Follow Social Distancing – marked areas for queuing and waiting	Unrestricted
<b>Cash Handling</b>	Avoid wherever possible	Avoid wherever possible	Allowed
<b>Changerooms</b>	Closed	Open with at least daily cleaning	Allowed
<b>Court Cleaning</b>	Daily	Weekly	As required
<b>COVID-19 Health Signage on Entry</b>	Required	Required	Suggested
<b>Designated Entry &amp; Exit Points</b>	"Required Consider separate points where possible"	"Required Consider separate points where possible"	Unrestricted but sufficient to enable monitoring numbers
<b>Hand sanitiser on Entry</b>	Strongly Recommended	Strongly Recommended	Recommended
<b>Hand sanitiser on Scorebench</b>	Required. Players must utilise this at all breaks and substitutions	Required. Players must utilise this at all breaks and substitutions	Required
<b>Infrared Temperature Testing</b>	Optional	Optional	Not Required
<b>Public Water Fountains</b>	Closed	Closed	Allowed
<b>Retail/Merchandise Stores</b>	Closed	Follow Social Distancing	Follow Social Distancing
<b>Sanitise Scorebench</b>	After each game	After each game	Recommended Daily
<b>Sanitise Scoreboard Control</b>	After each game	After each game	Recommended Daily
<b>Social Distancing in areas with Lines</b>	1.5m	1.5m	Recommended
<b>Toilets</b>	Cleaned at least daily Follow social distancing	Cleaned at least daily Follow social distancing	Cleaned Daily
<b>Vending Machines</b>	Closed	Closed	Cleaned Daily

## Government Restriction: LEVEL C

<b>Bench Seating</b>	Unrestricted
<b>General Seating Areas</b>	Unrestricted
<b>Canteens</b>	Unrestricted
<b>Cash Handling</b>	Allowed
<b>Changerooms</b>	Allowed
<b>Court Cleaning</b>	As required
<b>COVID-19 Health Signage on Entry</b>	Not Required
<b>Designated Entry &amp; Exit Points</b>	Unrestricted
<b>Hand sanitiser on Entry</b>	Recommended
<b>Hand sanitiser on Scorebench</b>	Required
<b>Infrared Temperature Testing</b>	Not Required
<b>Public Water Fountains</b>	Allowed
<b>Retail/Merchandise Stores</b>	Unrestricted
<b>Sanitise Scorebench</b>	Recommended Weekly
<b>Sanitise Scoreboard Control</b>	Recommended Weekly
<b>Social Distancing in areas with Lines</b>	Unrestricted
<b>Toilets</b>	Cleaned Daily
<b>Vending Machines</b>	Cleaned As Required

## Government Restriction: LEVEL A

No organised sporting activities

<b>BASIC PRINCIPLES</b>	No physical contact between individuals with only outdoor activities permitted. Social distancing strictly enforced, returning home as soon as exercise is completed. Strength training and sport-specific training is permitted provided any necessary equipment is provided by the individual.
<b>HYGIENE PROTOCOLS</b>	Personal hygiene measures apply (use of hand sanitiser, minimise touching of face)
<b>INDIVIDUAL TRAINING</b>	Outdoor activity ONLY, limited to individual or pairs, provided that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No sharing of equipment (including drink bottles, towels, balls)</li> <li>- 2 metre distance maintained at all times</li> <li>- No prolonged contact before or after session ("meet – train – go")</li> <li>- No use of communal facilities (e.g. outdoor gyms)</li> </ul>
<b>CLUB TRAINING</b>	None
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (e.g. Aussie Hoops)</b>	Online sessions only Players remain in their home and may utilise online resources and receive direction online (e.g. Zoom conference)
<b>LOCAL COMPETITION</b>	None
<b>BA COMPETITIONS</b>	None. All BA competitions and leagues are postponed. BA is actively working with states/territories to investigate feasibility of rescheduling the 2020 U18 and U16 Australian Junior Championships. BA is working with clubs on format and scheduling for the WNBL and wheelchair national leagues.

## GOVERNMENT RESTRICTION: LEVEL B

Return to organised Sporting Activities, in stages depending upon permitted gatherings as dictated by Government

	Groups of 10 or Less	Groups of 20 or Less
<b>BASIC PRINCIPLES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Social distancing maintained with some sharing of equipment permitted (such as passing, shooting and dribbling a ball).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestic level competition may resume but format and structure will depend upon each facility</li> </ul>
<b>HEALTH PROTOCOLS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DO NOT ATTEND IF FEELING UNWELL</li> <li>Hand sanitiser available for use before, during and after session</li> <li>Athletes provide own drink bottle</li> <li>Full shower with soap before and after sport (preferably at home unless training facility has adequate cleaning in place)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DO NOT ATTEND IF FEELING UNWELL</li> <li>Hand sanitiser available for use before, during and after session</li> <li>Athletes provide own drink bottle</li> <li>Full shower with soap before and after sport (preferably at home unless training facility has adequate cleaning in place)</li> </ul>
<b>INDIVIDUAL TRAINING</b>	<p>Permitted, following health protocols Athlete provide own towels, drink bottles &amp; ball Equipment such as skipping ropes, weights, mats to be sanitised between use by each individual"</p>	<p>Permitted, following health protocols Athlete provide own towels, drink bottles &amp; ball Equipment such as skipping ropes, weights, mats to be sanitised between use by each individual</p>
<b>CLUB TRAINING</b>	<p>Small groups only (max 10 people in total, no more than 7 athletes) Maximum length of 45 minutes Incidental contact only – NO deliberate body contact activities Outdoors preferred and no spectators whether indoor or outdoor Individuals provide equipment (e.g. balls) to be sanitised in session</p>	<p>No session longer than 60 minutes and no spectators Limited competitive drills in first 4 weeks Include warm-up / cool down activities to assist with recovery Hand sanitiser available for use before, during and after session No waiting before/after practice.</p>
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (e.g. Aussie Hoops)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Small groups only (max 10 people in total, no more than 7 athletes)</li> <li>Incidental contact only – NO deliberate body contact activities</li> <li>No spectators</li> <li>Outdoors preferred</li> <li>Individuals provide equipment (e.g. balls) and sanitise during session</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No spectators</li> <li>Maximum of 20 people (including coach/manager) on single court</li> <li>Use only 1 court when courts are adjacent</li> <li>No sharing drink bottles</li> <li>Sanitise all shared equipment between sessions"</li> </ul>
<b>COMPETITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Up to 7 players and 1 coach per team with 2 bench and 2 referees</li> <li>No spectators and do not use adjacent courts</li> <li>Teams wait safely to enter court and leave venue immediately after</li> <li>Rotate and sanitise balls and sanitise scoretable equipment</li> <li>No jump ball to start game (toss coin or "rock, scissor, paper"</li> <li>Referees regularly use hand sanitiser and no unnecessary whistles</li> </ul>
<b>THINGS TO CONSIDER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sessions with junior athletes only conducted where parents can observe from a distance</li> <li>Use different entry and exit points where one session follows another</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sessions with junior athletes only conducted where parents can observe from a distance</li> <li>Use different entry and exit points where one session follows another" "• Competition with children aged 13 and below may not be feasible where no spectators are allowed.</li> <li>Consider staggered time slots to facilitate entry/exit</li> <li>Consider small 3x3 competition as return to competition</li> </ul>
<b>BA COMPETITIONS</b>	<p>None. All BA competitions and leagues are postponed. BA is working with states/territories to investigate feasibility of rescheduling competitions.</p>	

## GOVERNMENT RESTRICTION: LEVEL B

Return to organised Sporting Activities, in stages depending upon permitted gatherings as dictated by Government

	Groups of 50 or Less	Groups of 100 or Less
<b>BASIC PRINCIPLES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normal competition allowed but unnecessary body contact to be avoided (e.g. hand shakes, high fives)</li> <li>• Actively monitor numbers in stadiums and manage entry/exit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Normal competitions with active Health Protocols and management of numbers within stadiums and "flow" of people in/out</li> </ul>
<b>HEALTH PROTOCOLS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DO NOT ATTEND IF FEELING UNWELL</li> <li>• Hand sanitiser available for use before, during and after session</li> <li>• Athletes provide own drink bottle</li> <li>• Full shower with soap before and after sport (preferably at home unless training facility has adequate cleaning in place)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DO NOT ATTEND IF FEELING UNWELL</li> <li>• Hand sanitiser available for use before, during and after session</li> <li>• Athletes provide own drink bottle</li> <li>• Full shower with soap before and after sport (preferably at home unless training facility has adequate cleaning in place)</li> </ul>
<b>INDIVIDUAL TRAINING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permitted, following health protocols</li> <li>• Athlete provide own towels, drink bottles &amp; ball</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permitted, following health protocols</li> <li>• Athlete provide own towels, drink bottles &amp; ball</li> </ul>
<b>CLUB TRAINING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No session longer than 60 minutes</li> <li>• Include warm-up / cool down activities to assist with recovery</li> <li>• Hand sanitiser available for use before, during and after session</li> <li>• Spectators/parents to wait in safe area</li> <li>• No waiting before/after practice.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full training permitted</li> <li>• Actively remind players to adhere to health protocols</li> </ul>
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (e.g. Aussie Hoops)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limited spectator area, with distancing of 1.5 metres between seats</li> <li>• Use of adjacent courts permitted but with designated person to manage numbers</li> <li>• No sharing drink bottles</li> <li>• Sanitise all shared equipment between sessions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Permitted with active reminder to players to adhere to health protocols</li> </ul>
<b>COMPETITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of adjacent courts permitted but designated person to monitor overall numbers (restrict team numbers if necessary)</li> <li>• Teams wait safely to enter courts and leave immediately</li> <li>• Rotate and sanitise balls and sanitise scoretable after each game</li> <li>• Representative basketball may resume</li> <li>• Spectators limited to maximum of 1 per player</li> <li>• Referees regularly use hand sanitiser and no unnecessary whistles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spectators limited to 2 per player (or other mechanism as determined by venue) and spectator seating limited with 1.5 metre distancing</li> <li>• Referees regularly use hand sanitiser and no unnecessary whistles</li> </ul>
<b>THINGS TO CONSIDER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative basketball (junior and senior) may require limitation on spectator numbers and designated "door control"</li> <li>• 3x3 competitions may allow maximum utilisation of courts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider staggered time slots to facilitate entry/exit</li> </ul>
<b>BA COMPETITIONS</b>	None. All BA competitions and leagues are postponed. BA is working with states/territories to investigate feasibility of rescheduling competitions.	

## GOVERNMENT RESTRICTION: LEVEL B

Return to organised Sporting Activities, in stages depending upon permitted gatherings as dictated by Government

	Groups of 200 or Less	Groups of 500 or Less
<b>BASIC PRINCIPLES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Social distancing maintained with some sharing of equipment permitted (such as passing, shooting and dribbling a ball)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Domestic level competition may resume but format and structure will depend upon each facility</li></ul>
<b>HEALTH PROTOCOLS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DO NOT ATTEND IF FEELING UNWELL</li><li>• Hand sanitiser available for use before, during and after session</li><li>• Athletes provide own drink bottle</li><li>• Full shower with soap after sport (preferably at home unless training facility has adequate cleaning in place)</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DO NOT ATTEND IF FEELING UNWELL</li><li>• Hand sanitiser available for use before, during and after session</li><li>• Athletes provide own drink bottle</li><li>• Full shower with soap after sport (preferably at home unless training facility has adequate cleaning in place)</li></ul>
<b>INDIVIDUAL TRAINING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Permitted, following health protocols</li><li>• Athlete provide own equipment where possible</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Permitted, following health protocols</li><li>• Athlete provide own equipment where possible</li></ul>
<b>CLUB TRAINING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Full training permitted</li><li>• Actively remind players to adhere to health protocols"</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Full training permitted</li><li>• Actively remind players to adhere to health protocols</li></ul>
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (e.g. Aussie Hoops)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Permitted with active reminder to players to adhere to health protocols</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Permitted with active reminder to players to adhere to health protocols</li></ul>
<b>COMPETITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Permitted with controls on spectator numbers, to be determined by venue operator</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Permitted with controls on spectator numbers, to be determined by venue operator</li></ul>
<b>THINGS TO CONSIDER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consider extension of spectator numbers by hosting "watch party" of live stream at another section of venue. Active monitoring of overall number of people in venue</li></ul>	
<b>BA COMPETITIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minimum requirement to consider staging BA events (with restriction on spectators) competitions if interstate travel permitted</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staging of BA events considered provided that interstate travel is permitted.</li></ul>

## GOVERNMENT RESTRICTION: LEVEL C

Full contact sport permitted with sustained social distancing but unrestricted overall numbers and enhanced hygiene measures in place.

<b>BASIC PRINCIPLES</b>	Normal sporting activities are permitted, without restriction upon numbers. However, heightened hygiene protocols may remain in place.
<b>HYGIENE PROTOCOLS</b>	Some hygiene protocols are likely to be developed after the Covid-19 pandemic
<b>INDIVIDUAL TRAINING</b>	Permitted
<b>CLUB TRAINING</b>	Permitted
<b>DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS (e.g. Aussie Hoops)</b>	Permitted
<b>LOCAL COMPETITION</b>	Permitted
<b>BA COMPETITIONS</b>	BA competitions and leagues may be staged. Format and structure of WNBL and wheelchair national leagues may differ from previous seasons for initial season. Hosting of international events in Australia permitted.

# APPENDICES

1. Guidance for the implementation of social distancing requirements around the basketball court.
  - Basketball Australia, Sample Posters that can be displayed at venue
    - » **Return to Training: General Guidelines for Coaches and Athletes**
    - » **Return to Training: Pre-Training Protocols**
    - » **Return to Training: During Training Protocols**
    - » **Return to Training: After Training Protocols**
  - Basketball Australia, **Guidelines for Coaches on Return to Train Strategies**
  - Basketball Australia, **Guidelines for Coaches on Return to Train Strategies (High Performance Emerging Pathway)**
  - Basketball Australia, **Examples of Implementation of Return to Train Guidelines**
2. Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, **Statement on Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities**
3. Australian Institute of Sport, **Framework for Rebooting Sport**
4. Each State & Territory have developed detailed Guidelines for Return to Sport based on the requirements set out by their State. These guidelines will be updated, in line with restriction updates, and as such the website links below will provide the most relevant and up to date information for each State and Territory.
  - Basketball ACT
  - Basketball NSW
  - Basketball NT (Darwin Basketball)
  - Basketball QLD
  - Basketball SA
  - Basketball TAS
  - Basketball VIC
  - Basketball WA
5. **COVID-19 Safety Officer Position Description**



RETURN TO BASKETBALL - 20 MAY 2020