

# Queensland Touch Football

# Return to Play Guidelines

## Under Stage 3 Restrictions - Version 1.3

This document is current as at 20 July 2020 and is subject to change upon the advice of government and health authorities. Associations are expected to remain up to date with the latest advice. Further Information will be published in line with government advice.



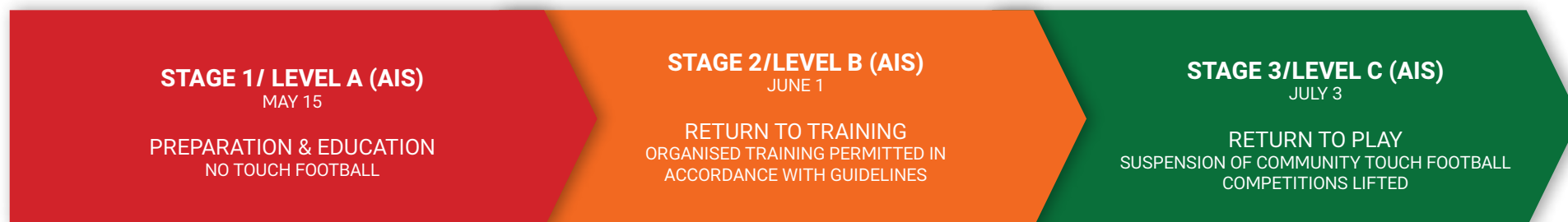
# OVERVIEW

The Queensland Touch Football (QTF) Return to Play Guidelines have been developed to provide the touch community with clear direction that supports affiliates and participants for the safe return of touch football in Queensland.

The Federal and Queensland State Government have announced a roadmap to cautiously reintroduce sport in a staged approach. These guidelines reflect the conditions that must be met and adhered to, to meet the compulsory requirements for community sport to return.

These guidelines follow the framework and advice laid out by Federal and State Government and has been developed in consideration of the National Principles for Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities, the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) Framework for Rebooting Sport in a COVID-19 Environment, the Queensland Government Return to Play Guide, in addition to TFA's Return to Play Protocols and Guidelines.

**The three (3) key stages include:**



Prior to the resumption of training or competitions, Affiliates/Clubs must ensure they meet the requirements outlined on page 4.

# GENERAL INFORMATION

## STAY UP-TO-DATE

### [QLD TOUCH.COM.AU/RETURN-TO-TOUCH-FOOTBALL](https://qldtouch.com.au/return-to-touch-football)

- [QTF Pre-populated COVID-19 Safety Plan Template](#)
- [COVID 19 Attendance Register / Contact Tracing](#)

### QLD GOVERNMENT

- [Industry Approved COVID Safe Plan - Field Sports \(Version 4\)](#)
- [Industry COVID-Safe Plan – Field Sports Factsheet](#)
- [Queensland Government Roadmap to Easing Restrictions](#)
- [Queensland Government Return to Play Guide](#)
- [Queensland Government COVID Safe Plan Checklist](#)
- [Queensland Health Resources and Fact Sheets](#)
- [COVID Safe checklist for Restaurants/ cafes \(for Canteens\)](#)
- [Work Health and Safety during COVID-19: Guide to keeping your workplace safe, clean and health.](#)
- [COVID Safe Compliance](#)

### TOUCH FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA

- [Return To Play Protocols and Guidelines](#)
- [TFA National Insurance Scheme - FAQs](#)
- [Competition Administrators, Participants and Referee Checklists](#)
- [In-Venue Signage and Posters](#)

### SPORT AUSTRALIA

- [Australian Institute of Sport framework for rebooting sport in a COVID19 environment](#)
- [Return to Sport Tool Kit](#)
- [COVID 19 Safety Coordinator](#)
- [COVID 19 Safety Plan](#)
- [COVID 19 Simplified Checklist](#)
- [COVID 19 Detailed Checklist](#)
- [COVID 19 Hygiene Guidance](#)



# GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS



**Don't attend if you're unwell  
or in a high-risk category**



**Download the  
COVIDSafe app and  
have it on**



**Sanitise hands and  
equipment before and  
after matches**



**No hugs, handshakes,  
huddles or sharing  
items like drink bottles**



**Attendance Register/  
Contact Tracing**



**Get in, play and get  
out.**

# RETURN TO PLAY

## RETURN TO PLAY

Prior to the resumption of play under current restrictions, Affiliates/Clubs must have:



**SAFETY COORDINATOR**



**COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN**



**COVID SAFE PLAN CHECKLIST**

\*Cross reference your COVID-19 Safety Plan

[CLICK HERE](#)  
**TO DOWNLOAD A PRE-POPULATED COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN**

\*Please note this template has been updated to reflect stage 3 requirements and Version 4 of the Industry COVID Safe Plan - Field Sports. All stage 3 amendments to this document are identified in green.



**COUNCIL/LANDOWNER  
APPROVAL TO RESUME ACTIVITY**



**FACILITY MAP**

\*Outlining entry/exits, sanitisation stations etc.



**ATTENDANCE REGISTER /  
CONTACT TRACING**

\*This includes all participants, officials, spectators and anyone else who attends the venue.



# STAGE 3 - RETURN TO PLAY

## WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR YOUR AFFILIATE?

### KEY POINTS

1. Physical contact is permitted on the field of play (including competitions and training)
2. All Touch Football activities must adhere to strict physical distancing measures of 1.5m off the field of play and follow appropriate hygiene practices.
3. All participants, officials, spectators and anyone else who attends the venue must be [tracked and traced](#).
4. 'Get in. Play. Get Out'.
  - Participants to arrive at the venue ready to play and then leave.
  - No congregating before or after training/games.
  - Maintain strict hygiene practices (ie sanitise hands regularly, don't share equipment or water bottles).
5. All amenities must be cleaned frequently and be consistent with the [Work Health and Safety during COVID-19: Guide to keeping your workplace safe, clean and health](#).

NOTE: All businesses using a COVID Safe Industry Plan **must include a [Statement of Compliance](#)** - print, sign, date and display in their business premises.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#)



ATTENDANCE REGISTER /  
CONTACT TRACING



PHYSICAL DISTANCING  
RULES APPLY OFF THE  
FIELD OF PLAY



FULL CONTACT TRAINING &  
COMPETITION CAN RESUME



GET IN.  
PLAY & GET OUT



EDUCATE & COMMUNICATE  
WITH YOUR MEMBERS

# RETURN TO PLAY

## VENUE REQUIREMENTS

The below information is aligned to the AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport in a COVID-19 Environment, the Queensland Government's Roadmap to Easing Queensland's Restrictions and the Industry COVID Safe Plan - Field Sports.

VENUE*	STAGE 2 - EFFECTIVE 1 JUNE 2020 Level B (AIS)	STAGE 3 - EFFECTIVE 10 JULY 2020 Level C (AIS)
<b>COVID-19 SAFETY COORDINATOR</b>	Required	Required
<b>COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN</b>	Required.	Required. Must comply with the Industry COVID Safe Plan - Field Sports
<b>COMPLETE THE COVID PLAN CHECKLIST</b>	Required - QLD State Government Return to Play Readiness checklist and; - TFA Competitions Administration Checklist	Required - QLD State Government COVID Safe Plan Checklist and; - TFA Competitions Administration Checklist
<b>STAFF AND VOLUNTEER EDUCATION</b>	Refer to TFA's Protocols and Guidelines	Refer to TFA's Protocols and Guidelines
<b>COVIDSAFE APP DOWNLOAD</b>	Recommended	Recommended
<b>NUMBER OF PEOPLE RESTRICTIONS</b>	20 people per zone Refer to COVID Industry Plan and; QTF Field Layout Examples	For outdoor venues, physical distancing off the field of play is required. Refer to 'Principles for Stage 3' in the Industry COVID Safe Plan
<b>ATTENDANCE REGISTER / CONTACT TRACING</b>	Required Refer to TFA's Attendance Register Template	Required, as per the Industry COVID Safe Plan - Field Sports Refer to Attendance Register / Contact Tracing Template on the QTF website
<b>FACILITY MAP</b>	Recommended	Recommended
<b>DESIGNATED ENTRY/EXIT POINTS</b>	Mandatory	Recommended, where possible, to avoid unnecessary congestion
<b>COVID-19 HYGIENE PRACTICES SIGNAGE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED</b>	Mandatory	Mandatory
<b>HAND SANITISER ON ENTRY/EXIT</b>	Mandatory	Mandatory
<b>SANITISATION STATIONS</b>	Mandatory	Mandatory
<b>PHYSICAL DISTANCING 1.5M</b>	Mandatory	Mandatory off the field of play
<b>TOILETS</b>	Absolute minimum. To be cleaned frequently	Open. Cleaning measures to be consistent with Work Health and Safety during COVID-19: Guide to keeping your workplace safe, clean and healthy
<b>CHANGE ROOMS/SHOWERS</b>	Closed	Open. Cleaning measures to be consistent with Work Health and Safety during COVID-19: Guide to keeping your workplace safe, clean and healthy
<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	No sharing of personal items	Equipment must be sanitised before and after every session e.g balls
<b>CANTEEN/KIOSK</b>	Closed	Open. As per the COVID Safe checklist for Restaurants/ cafes (for Canteens)
<b>CLUBROOMS/OFFICE</b>	Closed	Indoor venue, one person per 2 metres square rule applies
<b>PLAYGROUND</b>	Closed	Open. Must adhere to 1.5m social distancing and hygiene requirements

# STAGE 3 - RETURN TO PLAY

## INDUSTRY FRAMEWORK FOR COVID SAFE EVENTS

For sporting organisations, events can be defined as those that fall outside of regular competition structure/fixtures (e.g. carnivals, championships, gala days, large scale events etc). Resumption of event activities should align with the whole of Government [Industry Framework for COVID Safe Events](#) and the [Industry COVID Safe Plan – Field Sports](#).

Events organised and run by sporting organisations complying with an approved Industry COVID Safe Plan do not require additional approval outlined in the Industry Framework for Events. However, organisations and providers should review and consider the Key Public Health Principles and Event Specific Public Health Strategies set out in the [Industry Framework for Events](#).

Fewer than 500 people – must comply with an approved Industry COVID Safe Plan – Field Sports.

Note: No formal approval is required by local Public Health units, where organised and run by sporting organisations.

500 to 10,000 people – must comply with an approved Industry COVID Safe Plan – Field Sports.

Note: No formal approval is required by local Public Health units, where organised and run by sporting organisations.

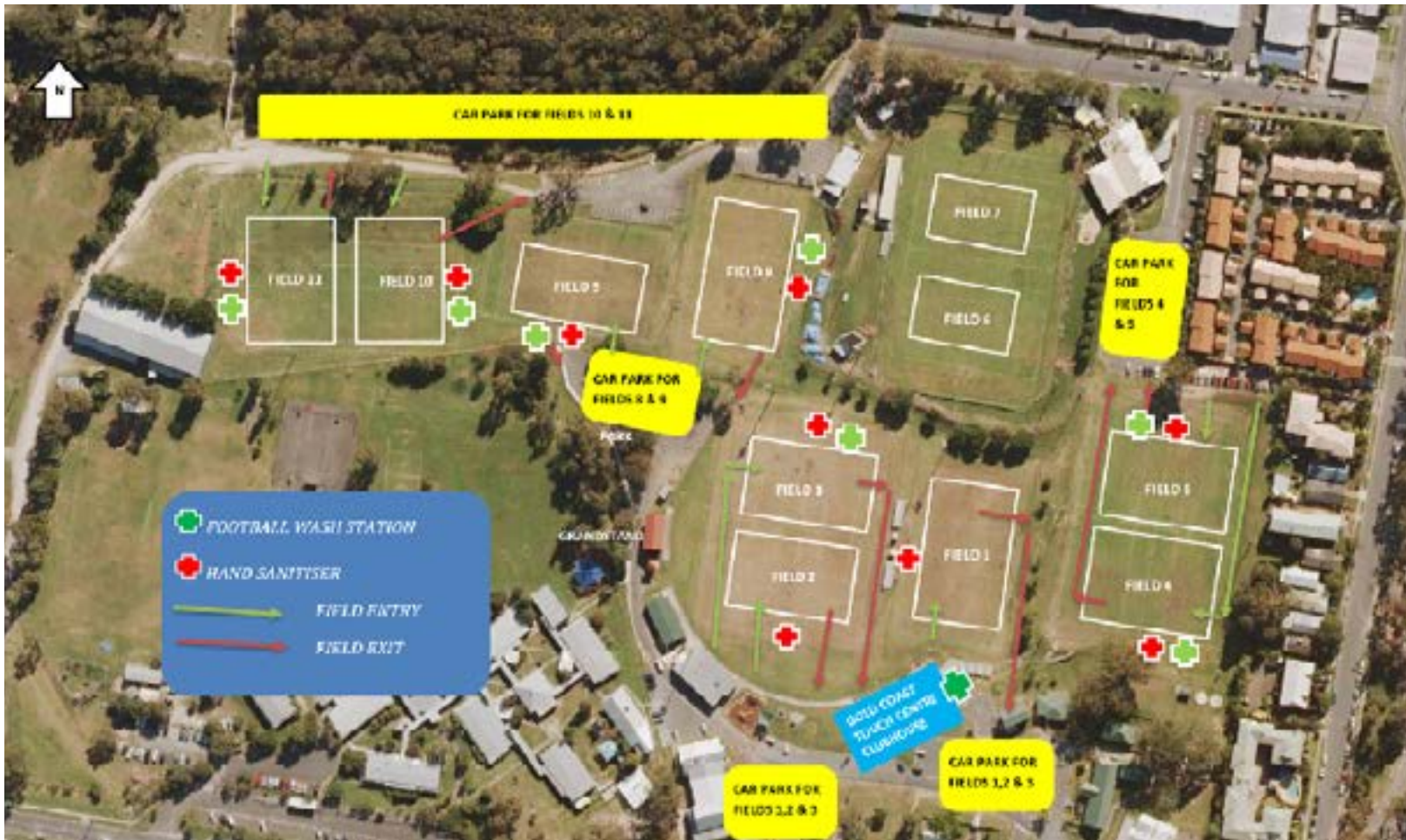
Over 10,000 people – must comply with an approved Industry COVID Safe Plan – Field Sports.

Note: Approval required from the Queensland Chief Health Officer.

Organisations must ensure the relevant approvals are in place for events, in addition to physical distancing, sanitisation, hygiene and contact tracing requirements. More information on the relevant approvals can be found in the following Factsheet: [‘Organising An Event: Advice For Event Organisers Having The Appropriate Documentation And Approvals In Place’](#).

# STAGE 3 - RETURN TO PLAY

## FIELD LAYOUT EXAMPLE - COMPETITION



### IN LINE WITH YOUR COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

#### KEY POINTS

- Full contact training and competitions can resume on the field of play
- No congregating after training or games
- Separate entry and exit points are recommended
- Multiple sanitisation stations
- Parking zones to reduce congregation is recommended
- Consider staggered start times to discourage congregation
- Limit use of sub boxes



# TFA - RETURN TO PLAY RESOURCE HUB

## GUIDELINES & CHECKLISTS

**TOUCH FOOTBALL AUSTRALIA – COVID-19**

# RETURN-TO-PLAY PROTOCOLS AND GUIDELINES

### TOUCH FOOTBALL RETURN-TO-PLAY PROTOCOLS FOR COMPETITION ADMINISTRATORS

Competition Administrators are responsible for enforcing the following protocols and making available the appropriate handwashing facilities along with the following considerations:

- Remain at home if you feel unwell
- Designate a COVID-19 Safety Coordinator to be the key resource and central point of contact for all matters COVID-19
- COVID-19 Safety Coordinator to review the TFA Return to Play Protocols and complete a COVID-19 Safety Plan, available at [www.touchfootball.com.au/coronavirus-return-to-play](http://www.touchfootball.com.au/coronavirus-return-to-play)
- Conduct a risk assessment on the venue in relation to COVID-19 mitigation strategies
- Conduct an assessment of the competition's ability to stay within State and Territory legislation requirements on gatherings - If you are unable to adjust, the competition is unable to resume
- Adjust competition scheduling to adhere to specific State and Territory legislation regarding gathering size
- Complete the COVID-19 (Coronavirus): What It Is, How to Prevent Spread course available for free in The Nest
- Encourage members to download the COVIDSafe app and have it on
- Restrict access to clubrooms, amenities and communal areas to essential members such as Competition Administrators only and, wherever possible, establish separate entry and exit points
- Clean all surfaces and areas at the venue with disinfectant before and after competition (lights)
- Staff/Volunteers on-site must wear protective equipment (eg. gloves), regularly wash or sanitise their hands and observe social distancing at all times
- Provide sanitizer/disinfectant on each field for both participant use and for use on footballs and other equipment such as cones
- Adjust competition rules to allow substitution from anywhere along the sideline (i.e. no sub-box)
- Remove hire whistles for Referees and hire uniforms/bibs for players/teams/Referees
- Implement alternative forms of player sign-on, such as one referee managing the list
- Remove signing-off scorecards
- Restrict all available tables and seating with clear signage to promote "Get In, Play and Get Out" message
- Communicate to players, coaches, spectators and Referees the specific guidelines regarding Social Distancing and Hygiene Measures required
- Communicate to players, coaches, spectators and Referees the game times (and allocations) and venue information in a timely manner prior to the competition starting, to reduce time on-site at the venue
- Report any known cases of or tests for COVID-19 to TFA by emailing [coronavirus@touchfootball.com.au](mailto:coronavirus@touchfootball.com.au) then work with your State or Territory Health Department for next steps

If you are tested for COVID-19, immediately notify your Competition Administrators and email [coronavirus@touchfootball.com.au](mailto:coronavirus@touchfootball.com.au) to inform TFA

Developed by TFA in conjunction with Dr Paul Griffin, Director of Infectious Diseases at Mater

Read Touch Football's detailed safe return-to-play protocols at [www.touchfootball.com.au/coronavirus-return-to-play](http://www.touchfootball.com.au/coronavirus-return-to-play)

### TOUCH FOOTBALL RETURN-TO-PLAY PROTOCOLS FOR REFEREES

Referees play an integral role in the game of Touch Football and will be required to work closely with Competition Administrators in assisting in the implementation of protocols for our return to play.

**REFEREES ARE ENCOURAGED TO PROMOTE THE Get In, Play and Get Out APPROACH TO ALL TEAMS.**

In addition to this, the following are the minimum requirements for Referees to consider when officiating in Touch Football competitions:

- Remain at home if feeling unwell
- If you are a member of a high-risk category, reconsider your participation in Touch Football
- Complete the COVID-19 (Coronavirus): What It Is, How to Prevent Spread course available for free in The Nest
- Encourage members to download the COVIDSafe app and ensure it is functional while at the venue
- Prior to arrival, review your game allocations, game times and venue info
- Prior to arrival at the venue, disinfect your whistles and do not share it with other Referees
- Make sure you arrive at the venue ready to Referee
- Upon arrival and prior to and immediately following officiating a match, ensure you have thoroughly washed or sanitised your hands with products provided at the fields
- Understand your role in player sign-on and score-keeping – this must be done by only one Referee
- Avoid the use of changerooms, bathrooms and communal areas
- Cover your mouth with your elbow to cough or sneeze
- Avoid touching your face
- Do not spit or clear your nasal passages
- Maintain social distancing by avoiding huddles and congregating in groups before, during or after matches
- No communal water bottles or shared items such as duty referee shirts, shared whistles or towels
- Bring your own pencil and coin
- Manage unnecessary contact between participants, such as high-fives, handshakes and hugs
- Shower at home, instead of at the venue
- Complete tasks at home whenever possible, such as meetings or recovery sessions
- For parents/guardians of referees, please limit drop-off and pick-up to only one parent/guardian and other dependents as required and necessary

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### TOUCH FOOTBALL RETURN-TO-PLAY PROTOCOLS FOR PLAYERS, COACHES, PARENTS & SPECTATORS

**PLAYERS, COACHES AND SPECTATORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ADOPT THE Get In, Play and Get Out APPROACH.**

In addition, the following are the minimum requirements for everyone to consider at Touch Football competitions:

- Remain at home if feeling unwell
- If you are a member of a high-risk category, reconsider your participation in Touch Football
- Download the COVIDSafe app and ensure it's functional while at the venue
- Prior to attending, assess if you are essential to the delivery of the game – spectators must be kept to a minimum at all times to assist with social distancing
- Prior to your game, review game time and venue info to reduce your time at the venue
- Make sure you arrive at the venue ready to play
- Upon arrival and prior to participating in a match, ensure you have thoroughly washed or sanitised your hands with products provided at the fields
- Avoid the use of changerooms, bathrooms and communal areas
- Cover your mouth with your elbow to cough or sneeze
- Avoid touching your face
- Do not spit or clear your nasal passages
- Maintain social distancing by avoiding team huddles and congregating in groups before, during or after your match
- No communal team water bottles or shared items such as jerseys, bibs or towels
- Avoid unnecessary contact with other participants, such as high-fives, handshakes and hugs
- Shower at home instead of at the venue
- Wash and disinfect footballs, cones and any other equipment before and after training and matches
- Complete tasks at home whenever possible, such as meetings or recovery sessions
- Parents/guardians, please limit drop-off and pick-up to only one parent/guardian and other dependents as required and necessary
- Spectators are not encouraged. Supervision of minors must be done from one's own vehicle, if possible. If not, social distancing is required at all times

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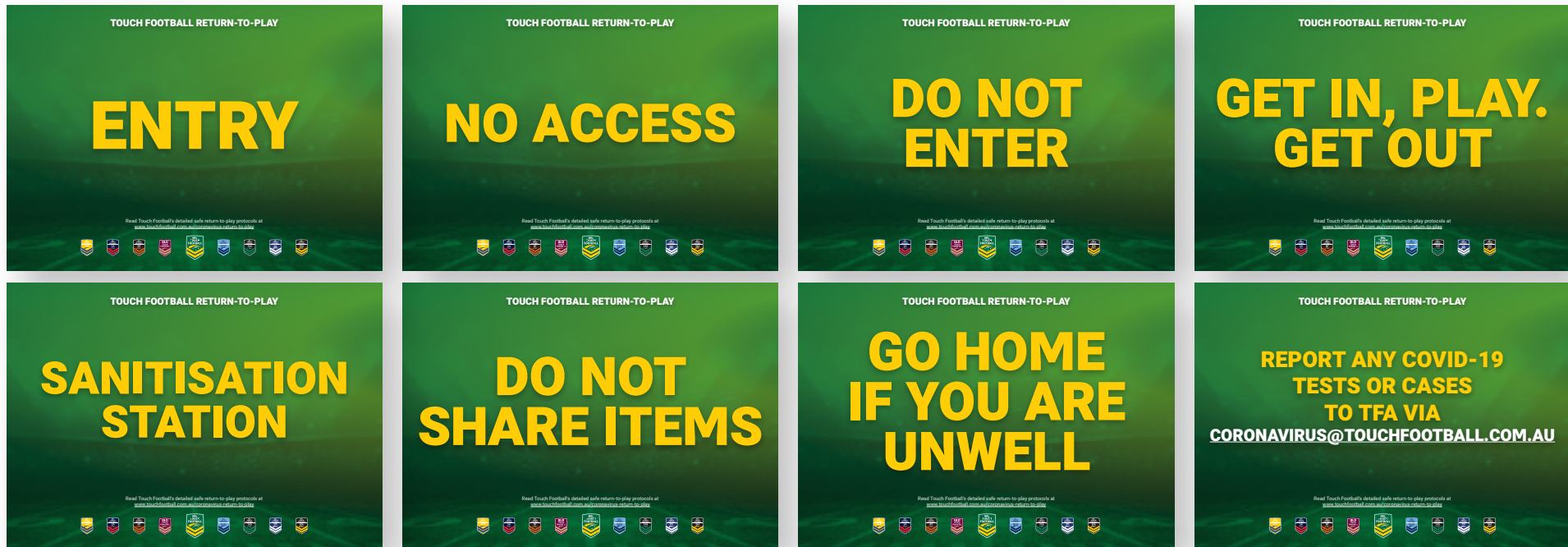
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VISIT THE 'TFA RETURN TO PLAY RESOURCE HUB' TO VIEW AND DOWNLOAD ALL AVAILABLE RESOURCES.

# TFA - RETURN TO PLAY RESOURCE HUB

## VENUE SIGNAGE



VISIT THE '[TFA RETURN TO PLAY RESOURCE HUB](#)' TO VIEW AND DOWNLOAD ALL AVAILABLE RESOURCES.



# TFA - RETURN TO PLAY RESOURCE HUB

## POSTERS

### PROTECT AGAINST COVID-19 AT TOUCH FOOTBALL FOR REFEREES

In addition to the safety guidelines in place for other types of attendees, referees must also keep the following in mind:

- 1 Do the free COVID-19 (Coronavirus) *What It Is, How to Prevent Spread* course in The Nest
- 2 Prior to arrival, review game allocations, times and venue info
- 3 Prior to arrival, disinfect your whistle
- 4 Bring your own pencil and coin
- 5 Arrive ready to referee and leave straight after
- 6 Promote the *Get In, Play and Get Out* approach to all teams
- 7 Manage unnecessary contact between participants
- 8 Do not share whistles, bottles, shirts or towels
- 9 Player sign-on and score-keeping must be done by 1 referee

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### PROTECT AGAINST COVID-19 AT TOUCH FOOTBALL

If you are in a high-risk category or feel unwell, do not turn up.

- 1
  - Fever
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath
  - Sore throat
- 2 Download the COVIDSafe app and have it on
- 3 Reduce time at the venue. *Get In, Play and Get Out.*
- 4 Thoroughly wash or sanitise hands
- 5 Sanitise equipment like footballs before & after matches
- 6 Do not share items, incl. drink bottles or bibs
- 7 Practice social distancing (no hugging, high-fives, etc)
- 8 Don't congregate (no sub-boxes or time in clubhouses)
- 9 Spectators are discouraged

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**Queensland  
Government**

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