

To:	Club Presidents and Delegates
From:	Nicole Bowles (General Manager Operations)
CC:	David Simpson (CEO), Basketball ACT Board & Basketball ACT Staff
Date:	31 August 2021
Subject:	Update Competition Lockdown Impacts

Following the ACT Government announcement yesterday (31 August 2021), the previously advised ACT lockdown will now be in effect until at least midnight, 17 September 2021, having been extended for a further 2 weeks.

Whilst the lockdown has been extended there has also been some relaxing of protocols that relate to sport and recreation, including the extension of the size of group gatherings to 5 people, and the amount of time people can exercise away from the home has been extended to 2 hours. In relation to what this means for Basketball ACT and our community, we would like to clarify that whilst exercise in groups of up to 5 people is permitted, it is not permitted to be an organised group or a for-profit gathering. It is simply an allowance for slightly larger groups to get together; while exercising the continued mask mandate and observing social distancing at all times.

In light of this Basketball ACT has advised all of our programs that it is not acceptable under the current provision for teams to be organising small group sessions as it is not in the spirit of the protocols. We would also request that if any of our Members Clubs are asked about whether it is possible to run small group sessions that you also advise against it. Lastly, we would also ask that if you hear of any of your groups / teams / programs considering getting together for small group training can you please actively shut them down immediately as they are not in accordance with the ACT Government protocols.

Whilst we all want to get back on court as soon as possible, we still need to ensure that we are all working in accordance with the guidance to ensure that we are not in lockdown any longer than necessary.

In relation to competitions, following the recent extension of lockdown and after taking feedback from many of our member clubs via the recent videoconference and subsequently, we have considered our next milestone position and revised our return to competition planning to better suit the new lockdown environment and the feedback received.

Noting that any structures remain highly contingent on the specific details of when and how lockdown is released, we can advise the following updated information in relation to competitions for the remainder of 2021:

Junior Winter Competition – Despite the lockdown extension, the completion of the Junior Winter Competition still remains a priority for Basketball ACT. Taking on board club feedback, (depending on the return to competition timelines), a revised Finals format which now reintroduces Semi Finals and Grand Finals will be implemented to complete the season. Note that if we are unable to finalise competition by 26 November 2021 the season will be deemed complete.

Senior Premier League – Completing the Senior Premier League Competition also remains a priority for Basketball ACT, including a finals series played across a Semi Final and Grand Final format. In line with Junior Competitions, if we are unable to complete the competition by 26 November 2021 the season will be deemed complete.

Senior Social Winter Competition - The Senior Social Winter Competition will be rescheduled with the remaining competition rounds to be played. Finals will be played in their standard two round format. If lockdown is extended post 17 September, our next decision-making point in relation to the season needing to change formats or dates will be Friday 9 October 2021.

All Summer Competitions - As we return from current lockdown restrictions, we will have a greater understanding on the changes needing to be made to the Basketball ACT Summer Competitions to accommodate the winter competitions and we will communicate the new season information to all stakeholders when available. Please note team registration and nomination dates will be extended and new closing dates communicated in due course.

If the Winter competition is unable to recommence on or before the weekend of 9-10 October, a revised summer format will be implemented based on the recommencement date. This

may include prioritising the 3x3 competition formats for the Summer and revise the opportunity to host alternative 5x5 tournaments prior to the end of the year.

3x3 Competitions - Any 3x3 competitions previously scheduled for September have been cancelled. The 3x3 Tour is scheduled to go ahead, commencing the week of 18 October 2021 and will be rescheduled as required.

All 3x3 events will be scheduled across summer in line with ACT Government restrictions, and all competition registrations will be communicated via our social media channels.

We encourage all our members to continue to comply with Government directives including staying home during the shutdown period, continuing to practice good hygiene and continuing to use the Check in CBR App if you must leave the home.

To stay up to date with ACT Government COVID-19 information visit:

<https://www.covid19.act.gov.au/>

Basketball ACT will continue to provide updates as significant changes develop and further information relating to specific competitions mentioned comes to hand. As always, for any further information, please feel free to contact any Basketball ACT staff member for assistance.

We look forward to welcoming you back on court in the near future.