

BASKETBALL ACT

Dear Basketball ACT members,

Within yesterday's announcement that the current lockdown in the ACT will be extended for another four weeks, the importance of vaccinations continues to be raised as a critical factor in the safe recommencement of community sport.

Understandably, questions are now being asked from within the Basketball community around whether Basketball ACT has a position on mandatory vaccinations for participants before they can return to basketball activities. As such, I wanted to take the opportunity to share with you the current Basketball ACT position on this topic.

As previously communicated in relation to matters related to the current COVID-19 outbreak, Basketball ACT continues to be guided in our approach and decision making by advice and public health directives from the ACT Government. This includes advice related to the importance of vaccinations in the fight against the spread of COVID-19 and the important role it plays in the return to community sport.

Whilst recognising that, under ACT Government Health directives, vaccinations remain voluntary (although highly recommended) and that no public health directives have been issued requiring proof of vaccination. Basketball ACT strongly encourages all our members and the wider basketball community to become vaccinated in order to protect yourselves and the wider public. Conscious that there is no mandatory requirement for anyone participating in community sport to receive or prove vaccination status prior to returning to play; in line with the ACT Government approach, at this point Basketball ACT is not considering implementing policies requiring mandatory vaccinations prior to returning to the courts.

As with all COVID-19 related matters, we understand that this advice can change and we may need to adjust our position accordingly. Basketball ACT is continuing to work with the ACT Government to ensure that it has the most up to date information in which to make our own policy decisions and will continue to review our position regularly and communicate accordingly. Basketball ACT is also working closely with the other major participation sports in the region through the Coalition of Major Participation Sports (COMPS) to assist in developing a wider return to sport road map to ensure that our return to the courts is safe for everyone involved.

Thank you again for your support throughout these challenging times and we look forward to welcoming you all back on court when it is safe to do so.

Kind regards,

David Simpson
Chief Executive Officer
Basketball ACT
15 September 2021