

New Zealand Rugby COVID-19 Requirements: Alert Level 3 & Alert Level 2

These requirements are applicable to all levels of Rugby.

Government Alert Level 3: Restrict

Reduce: Community transmission might be happening.

Outcome: Further restrictions on activities, including at workplaces and socially to address a high risk of transmission within New Zealand.

Summary: Stay at home, other than for essential personal movement, and going to work or school.

Public Health Measures: People should keep 2 metres apart outside home where possible (apart from with people within their extended bubble). In a controlled environment such as a workplace, 1 metre distancing is required.

NZ Rugby Measures – No Rugby

Under COVID-19 Alert Level 3 no rugby activity, including playing, workshops and training is permitted.

- All forms of competition and festival rugby postponed or cancelled.
- All forms of team and group training postponed or cancelled.
- All in-person game development workshops postponed or cancelled.
- Rugby clubrooms and facilities closed.
- All staff and volunteers to stay home and stay safe.

Government Alert Level 2: Reduce

Reduce: Disease is contained but risk of community transmission remains.

Outcome: Physical distancing and restrictions on gatherings to address sporadic cases or a cluster in New Zealand.

Summary: Businesses open, but physical distancing applies.

Public Health Measures: Gatherings are currently limited to 100 people indoors and outdoors. Community sports involving contact (e.g. rugby) can resume only if good contact tracing and hygiene measures for participants, equipment, and facilities are in place. People should keep their distance from people they do not know in public (2 metres), with 1 metre physical distancing in other environments (e.g. workshops). Face coverings are recommended

NZ Rugby Measures – Trainings and Games

- Trainings and games can continue once clubs and schools have plans for compliance with public health guidelines regarding mass gatherings, contact tracing, physical distancing, and participant and facilities hygiene which are signed off by your Provincial Union. Gatherings to participate, coach, manage or support rugby are limited to 100 in any given day (this does not include match officials). This includes tournaments and festivals. Refer to the detailed requirements below.
- Participants and spectators must adhere to public health measures.
- Contact tracing measures must be put in place for all participants and spectators. This includes use of the QR Code for the COVID Trace App or an alternative means.
- Mass gathering protocols must be adhered to - maximum numbers and physical distancing measures are subject to Government requirements.
- Rugby clubrooms and facilities may open so long as Ministry of Health guidelines on Health and Safety are met.
- In-person game development workshops can be conducted where physical distancing measures (1 metre) are adhered to and contact tracing measures are in place. Government limits on mass gathering numbers must be adhered to.

New Zealand Rugby COVID-19 Alert Level 2 Health Requirements

Under COVID-19 Alert Level 2 all rugby can continue but must follow the NZ Rugby Health Requirements below. These requirements are applicable to all levels of Rugby.

NZ Rugby Health Requirements that apply to Alert Level 2:

Contact tracing Requirements:

- The Government has introduced mandatory recordkeeping. Venues must display a QR code and have an alternative method for scanning so that those using the official COVID Tracer App are able to quickly log their movements. The process for getting a government QR has been simplified and can be done here <https://qrform.tracing.covid19.govt.nz/>

Alternative Record Keeping

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Using the COVID tracer app is the best method for record keeping. However, you also need an **alternative method** for those who can't scan. Some examples include: a tablet-based electronic system, a ballot box-style system, or a staff member recording details but **not** a clipboard where people's details are visible to the public. Please include a privacy statement (see the example below) next to your alternative method, only store the information for 60 days and be sure not to use the information for any other purpose.

Privacy statement example: *This information is being collected to assist in the management of the COVID-19 pandemic. It will be given to public health officials if it is required for contact tracing. We will not use it for any other purpose and will destroy it after 60 days. It will be kept securely here at [name of the establishment].*

Requirements for Participants (for example players, coaches, managers, medical staff, referees, club/school volunteers, and Provincial Union staff)

- Stay home if you are sick and do not attend trainings or games. If you have flu-like symptoms, even if they are mild, self-isolate at home, contact your GP or Healthline on 0800 358 5453 and get tested immediately.
- Only use changing rooms if appropriate hygiene measures are in place.
- Disinfect equipment, particularly the rugby ball, and any shared equipment such as hit shields, tackle bags, cones, and scrum machines before and after trainings and games.
- Wash and dry hands before and after trainings and games, after going to the toilet and after coughing or sneezing.
- Cough into elbow, avoid touching your face.
- Bring your own water bottle, and do not use team water bottles.
- Avoid spitting and coughing.
- Participants should maintain physical distancing when not participating in the actual rugby training or game.
- As per Government advice, it is recommended that face masks are used.
- Sign into venues and events using the Covid tracer app.

Requirements for Spectators and Supporters

- Stay home if you are sick. If you have flu-like symptoms even if they are mild, self-isolate at home, contact your GP or Healthline on 0800 358 5453 and get tested immediately
- Physical distancing of 2 metres must be maintained wherever possible, especially from people that you do not know. This includes seating areas where supporters should maintain at least one seat distance between each other.
- The maximum number of spectators around each full-sized rugby field must not exceed Government guidelines, and spectators should avoid moving to view games at adjacent fields. Supporters should maintain a physical distance of 2 metres from other spectators, and participants.
- Supporters must follow usual personal hygiene measures such as avoid spitting and coughing, and cough into your elbow, and avoid touching your face.
- Avoid high traffic areas e.g. car parks, facilities, and entry/exit points. Move in and out of these areas quickly.
- Supporters and spectators must provide their contact details for contact tracing purposes using the Covid Tracer App.
- As per Government advice, it is recommended that face masks are used.

Requirements for Coaches and Managers in Planning Trainings

- Establish and implement a plan for limiting training numbers to the Government approved number of participants at each designated training area. Ensure that hygiene plans are in place for participants, equipment and facilities, and that contact tracing measures are in place.
- Direct participants to avoid training and stay home if they are sick. Participants with flu-like symptoms, even if they are mild, are to be advised to self-isolate at home, contact their GP or Healthline on 0800 358 5453 and get tested immediately.
- Discourage any congregation at high traffic areas e.g. car parks, facilities, and entry/exit points pre and post training. Move in and out of these areas quickly.
- Develop a plan with medical staff for the safe treatment of injured players to limit risk of transmission.
- Only plan training activities that involve contact where necessary.
- Discourage any spitting or any practice during training which creates a risk of transmission.
- Refer [Team Coach and Manager Checklist for Training here](#).

Requirements for Organising Committees and Provincial Unions Relating to Competition Planning

- Plan competition and fixture scheduling with regard for Clubs and facilities abilities to manage likely player and spectator numbers.
- Plan competition and fixture scheduling with regard to games played at public grounds with no domiciled club.
- It is mandatory to ensure recordkeeping at venues and events is completed using the Covid Tracer App or an appropriate alternative means.

Requirements for Clubs and Schools for Changing Rooms and Toilet Facilities on Training and Match days

- Develop and implement a plan to ensure the safe use of facilities including changing room allocations, public notices, managing traffic flows, and regular cleaning of facilities.
- Refer [Changing Room and Toilet Facilities Checklist for Training and Match Days here](#).

Requirements for Clubs, Schools, and Referees for Match Day Operations

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- Develop and implement a plan to ensure the safe attendance by participants and spectators to your grounds, including volunteer management, field scheduling, traffic flows, crowd control per field, contact tracing, changing room allocations, and toilet access.
- Refer [Match Day Operations Checklist for Clubs, Schools and for Referees here](#).

Requirements for Clubrooms and Facilities Managers on Training and Match Days

- Develop and implement a plan to ensure compliance with public health guidelines regarding crowd control, contact tracing, physical distancing, and participant and facilities hygiene.
- Refer [Clubrooms Checklist here](#). It is mandatory to ensure recordkeeping at venues and events is completed using the Covid Tracer App.

Important Notes

Subject to change:

- Rugby workplaces, involving performance and high performance players, coaches, managers, support staff, and referees are subject to different protocols and are available on request from NZR.
- Please note that this advisory is current as 19 October 2021 and is subject to change.
- NZ Rugby continues to work closely with Sport NZ and the Ministry of Health to provide the most up-to-date information for our stakeholders.