



Eastern Suburbs FC

5th June 2020

Dear Members

Return to Football at Easts – UPDATE

Background

The Queensland Government has today released the approved “COVID Safe Plan for Football.”

The plan comes into effect from **5th June** and facilitates significant relaxations to the number of players/persons who can attend training sessions at Heath Park.

Your Board has been meeting very regularly to anticipate and implement the necessary COVID protocols to deal with the ongoing changes being announced by the State Government. This has not been a minor task with directives changing weekly and recently, daily.

At our latest Board meeting on Wednesday **3rd of June**, we considered the recommencement of training under the current Stage #2 restrictions (publicly released by the Queensland Government on the **31st May**). This allowed the recommencement of training for 20 players per venue at any one time.

As I’m sure you can appreciate, understanding and then implementing these changes for immediate effect on the 5th June would be hugely difficult even for a large corporate business and is simply impossible for a club run solely by volunteers.

Accordingly, we have made the decision to implement the recommencement of training at Heath Park on the following staged basis:



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“Return to training” commencing Monday 8th June

The training plan will remain as currently approved by the Board this week, being 20 players per venue – i.e. Heath Park - at any one time.

This provides a single training session during this week (Monday to Sunday) for all of our teams, with the exception of the Mini-Roos teams who will be separately confirming a training commencement date in June.

We will use this week to test and run through our COVID safety plans and required volunteer resourcing at the club. This will iron out any issues and have us ready for the significantly increased training participation due to commence on 15th June.

“Return to training” commencing Monday 15th June

This will see an increase in participation for two to three groups of 20 per field at any one time. Defined training areas for each group will enable participants to maintain social distancing at a venue.

This will mean we can increase training for a large number of teams to 2 sessions per week. It will be a significant logistical exercise each day to ensure COVID compliance!

Call for “Restart Volunteers”

You will certainly understand that your Board needs the week commencing 8th June to test and implement all the necessary COVID safety protocols and processes. Just as importantly, we will need to train and coordinate our own club volunteers to ensure the safe and healthy return to football in 2020.

In this regard, I would like to reiterate the call up for *Restart volunteers* to join us in implementing the return to playing process commencing on Monday 8th June 2020.

I strongly encourage all parents and supporters of our players to consider volunteering for this important initiative.



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Should you be able to assist, please email the club - volunteer@eastfootball.com - and provide the following details:

- Name
- Contact phone number
- Easts Team(s) associated with (if relevant)

We have established a volunteer register and each team coach will be advised of the volunteers available.

Given the tight timing of our planned recommencement, your earliest response would be appreciated.

We are Easts.

Yours sincerely

Glen Brown

President - Eastern Suburbs Football Club