



# DARTS SOUTH AFRICA

## **Guidelines for the Return of Vaccinated Spectators to Sporting Events**

This guideline must be used to develop your spectator risk assessment plan to enable spectators to safely attend your event. The spectator risk assessment plan must be kept on record if Darts South Africa or the DSAC want to perform an audit on your safety process' and protocols.

### **Purpose**

These guidelines provide the broad framework by which spectators will be permitted to return to Darts South Africa and affiliates' sporting events.

The aim of the guidelines is the following:

To create a safe environment for spectators.

To address the economic impact and publicity of getting spectators back to darts events and its related activities.

To provide a guide to the development of comprehensive and robust COVID-19 Management Plans that identifies the risks to those attending and provides protocols that address the prevention & control measures to mitigate these risk

To advise recognised sporting bodies and venue hosts on key Covid-19 control measures required to operate safe events for spectators in line with Government Public Health advice.

The document should also be read in conjunction with the Government's latest Covid-19 guidance and previously approved plans submitted

### **Legislative Framework**

These guidelines must be read in conjunction with Disaster Management Act, 2002: Amendment of regulations issued in terms of section 27 (2) as directed by the Department of Co-Operative Governance

- a) Government Gazette, 30 September 2021, No. 45253: Department of Co-Operative Governance
- b) Government Gazette, 11 October 2021, No. 45297: Department of Co-Operative Governance
- c) Government Gazette, 15 October 2021, No. 45329: Department of Sports, Arts and Culture

Further to these guidelines, event hosting bodies must ensure that they adhere to the directions in the SASREA Act and any other applicable Government Health and Safety Regulation (OHS), and complete and file any further application that is required before an event with spectators can go ahead (Department of Sport, Art and Cultures – Test Event Adjudication Application document.)

1. The following clauses in Regulation 69 of the Government Gazette, 30 September 2021, No. 45253: Department of Co-Operative Governance are relevant:

**69** (1) Every person when attending a gathering and in order to limit exposure to COVID-19 must -

- a) Wear a mask
- b) Adhere to all health protocols
- c) Maintain a distance of at least one and half meters from each other
- d) Adhere to the curfew hours as provided for in regulation 66; and
- e) Adhere to any other health protocols and social distancing measures as provided for in directions issued by the relevant Cabinet member after consultation with the Cabinet member responsible for health.

(2) An owner or operator of any indoor or outdoor facility where gatherings are held must display the certificate of occupancy which sets out the maximum number of persons the facility may hold.

**79** (1) Industries, businesses and entities, both private and in the public sector, must -

- a) designate a COVID -19 compliance officer who must oversee -
  - (i) the implementation of the plan referred to in paragraph (b); and
  - (ii) strict adherence to the standards of hygiene and health protocols relating to COVID-19 at the workplace.
- b) develop a plan containing measures to ensure that the workplace meets the standards of health protocols, adequate space for employees and social distancing measures for the public and service providers, as required; and
- c) retain a copy of the plan for inspection, which plan must also contain the details of the COVID -19 Compliance officer.

2. The following amended clauses of Regulation 69 of the Government Gazette, 11 October 2021, No. 45297: Department of Co-Operative Governance are relevant:

**69** (10) Sporting events including both professional and non-professional matches, by recognised sporting bodies are allowed, subject to strict adherence of the times of operation as provided for in regulation 66 and the following:

b) Spectators and the venue of a sports event are permitted but limited to 750 persons or less for indoor venues and 2000 persons or less for outdoor venues and if the venue is too small to hold the prescribed number of persons observing a distance of at least one and a half meters from each other, then not more than 50 percent of the capacity of the venue may be used, subject to strict adherence to all health protocols and social distancing measures.

(11) An owner or operator of a sporting facility or an organiser of a sporting event referred to in sub regulation (10) must, when such sporting event takes place, ensure compliance with the limitation on the number of persons attending such a gathering contemplated in sub regulation (10) b.

Further to the directions provided above, all spectators attending a sporting event must show proof that they have been vaccinated.

All events should be categorized as medium risk as per existing SASREA legislation

## **Event Management Staff and Legislative Requirements**

1. The host venue needs to ensure the following dedicated staff members are appointed to oversee and event:
  - a. Certified Event Safety Officer - responsible for planning and oversight of the health and safety protocols at the event.
  - b. COVID-19 Compliance Officer – oversee and ensure the implementation and compliance to the venue COVID-19 risk mitigation plans
  - c. Training must be provided to event safety stewards (incl. ushers, marshals and FOH workers) who are responsible for the enforcement of safety protocols
2. Event specific COVID-19 protocols must be approved by SAPS, local authorities and Event Safety & Security Planning Committee (ESSPC).
3. All events should be categorized as medium risk as per existing SASREA legislation
4. In order to ensure you create a safe working environment for all your staff and a safe event for your spectators to attend all staff working at the event must be vaccinated. If a staff member is not vaccinated and it is critical for them to be at the event, then they need to either show proof of a negative PCR test no less than 48 hours from the start of the event, or they need to show proof of a negative Rapid Antigen Test done on the day of the event. If it is a multiday event the following is applicable: PCR test must be repeated every 48 hours or daily Rapid Antigen Tests. Need to show proof of a negative test.

## **Communication**

1. Clear and concise information must be made available to spectators before they consider attending any sporting event.
2. Use all available means of communication from national to local level-official websites, social media platforms, information on tickets and signage outside grounds and/or the specific venue for the darts event are just some of the ways that key information can be disseminated to spectators attending darts events. Important areas to address include:
  - a. Spectators should be aware that all the risks posed from Covid-19 cannot be eliminated, including attending games as spectators but that essential control measures have been put in place to reduce risks for them.
  - b. It must be communicated beforehand that any spectator that feels unwell, is ill or sick, or are concerned in any way regarding their health and well - being, or have any potential signs and symptoms, must not attend, and must remain at home or phone their medical Doctor and follow public health advice
  - c. Individuals that are considered high risk or are in close contact with others who are considered high risk should not attend games
  - d. Individuals must be informed that much of the responsibility for managing Covid-19 risk remains with themselves particularly in relation to social distancing, wearing of face mask covering both mouth and nose and sanitation
  - e. All spectators should be encouraged to bring their own hand sanitizer.
  - f. The use of face masks is compulsory for all spectators.
  - g. Spectators must not enter the playing venue at any time including pre-match, during breaks and other intervals and after end-of-play presentations.
  - h. Spectators should be advised to keep their own record of contacts at a match for potential tracing purposes. Where practical, all spectators and attendees must download the COVID Alert SA app, for contact tracing in the event of post-event infection.

- i. As minimum requirements, the Tournament Director and/or Match and Registration Secretary must define a communication plan to inform spectators about the COVID-19 mitigation measures.

## **Entry and exit of the venue**

2. There needs to be a dedicated, single-access, control point for the Venue, where spectators have to enter the venue.
  - a) Before entering the venue, all spectators need to present the following documents to the person(s) controlling entry into the venue:
    - I. a valid original Identification document
    - II. their vaccination certificate, either digital or a printed one
    - III. must confirm that they have no signs or symptoms of COVID - 19, and their temperature must be checked and comply to the health safety protocols:
  - b) Temperature checks - Those with readings higher than 37.5 degrees Celsius must be sent home as per above
  - c) Masks - All spectators are always required to wear masks prior to, during the event
  - d) Hand sanitizer - Adequate hand-sanitiser bottles and stations must be available outside and inside the venue. Attendees are further encouraged to bring their own hand sanitiser, as this may limit costs, and improve sanitisation.
  - e) Social distancing - Always adhere to a metre and half distance (1.5m) between spectators prior to, during and after the event. Spectators are furthermore required to enter and vacate the premises as quickly and efficiently as possible and are not allowed to loiter at the Venue.
3. Queuing instructions and guidance using posters, signs, channels and floor markings, including reminders to maintain social distancing, wear masks and use hand sanitisers.
4. Indications of maximum occupancy in restrooms, hospitality areas and lifts.
5. Reminders of all playing venue rules, including assigned seating, social distancing and mask wearing, using posters, public announcements and/or images on giant screens and/or venue TV.
6. Information on procedure if spectators have COVID-19 symptoms.
7. Match organisers are advised to dedicate staff to instruct spectators to comply with all hygiene measures and social distancing while entering the playing venue, during the match and when exiting the playing venue.
8. The venue ushers will be responsible to show spectators where to go and sit.
9. Egress must be managed by the usher to ensure that social distancing is maintained and that the correct dedicated entry and exit points are utilised.

## **Capacity**

1. A maximum gathering of 2000 spectators is permitted in outdoor events and 750 for indoor events.
2. The figures exclude staff, volunteers, players, backroom staff, media and contractors,

3. The number in attendance should be recorded by the hosting team to ensure that government guidance has been fully complied with. A designated person should be appointed to carry out this task as per Clause 79(1) of the regulations

## **Contact Tracing**

1. All practical measures should be taken to inform spectators attending to restrict contact with individuals and groups outside their own household once inside the ground e.g. through public announcements, signage and stewards.
2. Ground management will be responsible for the contact tracing records of staff, volunteers, players and officials. Ground management are not responsible for the contact tracing records of spectators
3. Where practical, all spectators and attendees must download the COVID Alert SA app, for contact tracing in the event of post-event infection.
4. Arrangements should also be put in place to support track and trace efforts by collecting sufficient written information from spectators to allow for spectators to be contact them if necessary
5. All third-party contractors and media must have their own contact tracing measures in place and avoid any close contact with spectators where possible

## **Ticketing**

1. Tickets must be purchased in advance of the game online or at a location away from the ground entry point if on the day sales are necessary
2. The ticket allocation for spectators must be determined from the maximum capacity
3. Key information should be available to prospective spectators before they purchase a ticket to ensure they understand the specific Covid-19 risks involved in match attendance. Code of Conduct – T&C's will be provided for the use of the ticket including spectator behaviour expectation
4. Ticketholder risk Assessment – Spectator risk & information (a ticket will be issued to every person for a reserved seat in a specific area)
5. Know your ticketholder – Validated individual identity per ticket
6. Event day notification and engagement
7. Post event engagement.
8. Stadium Management must work with their ticketing service provider to ensure that the following process can be implemented: Social Distancing ticket layout – Pods of one, two, three and four persons can be purchased with the social distancing (1,5m) framework between seat allocations.

## **Sanitation and Toilets**

1. Grounds staff must ensure that there are adequate male and female toilet facilities available for the expected attendance
2. Ensure toilets are well ventilated and there is a robust documented cleaning regime in place
3. 70% alcohol content hand sanitizer stations should be located at entry points and at other key touch-point areas where hand washing facilities are not available

4. Restrooms must be planned and allocated according so that overcrowding does not occur, and that social distancing can be maintained. This process will also need to be controlled by the ushers.

## **Food and Beverage**

1. If food and beverage is permitted to be sold it must be done so via well planned and allocated stalls
2. so that overcrowding does not occur, and that social distancing can be maintained. This process will also need to be controlled by the ushers.
3. Currently No Alcohol is permitted at sports matches

## **Players, Team Management and Match Officials**

1. All players, team management and match officials should follow the screening/testing guidelines and protocols that Darts South Africa issued for the return of matches. These guidelines were approved by DSAC and the NICD.

## **Medical Protocols**

1. Should any patron present to staff or stewards with any symptoms of Covid-19 either before entering or whilst in the ground they should be advised to go home immediately and contact their Medical Doctor.
2. In the unlikely event that a patron presenting with symptoms is not able to go home, grounds should ensure there is a room available for that person to isolate whilst waiting for medical attention.

## **Ancillary Activity**

1. Consideration should only be given to the operation of catering, merchandising and Programme concessions if suitable controls are in place to minimize the risk to staff and spectators as per Covid-19 specific risk assessment
2. For matches that are broadcast on TV or online ensure that broadcast crews complete their own site specific Covid-19 risk assessment, noting that broadcast crew had to ensure that they wear a mask and maintained social distancing at all times

## **Documents/Protocols/Plans**

All clubs must prepare and keep on record the following:

1. Covid-19 operational plan with content as per the above matters
2. Spectator Risk assessment plan

Further to this, Provinces, Districts, Associations, Clubs that are planning to host events and until further notice need to do the following:

1. Submit Covid-19 operational plan with content as per the above matters

2. Submit a Spectator Risk assessment plan

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## **Non-compliance**

Spectators will be removed from a venue for failure to comply with the host team's COVID -19 protocols