



**SPORT
NEW ZEALAND
IHI AOTEAROA**

Play, active recreation and sport in the Red Setting

—
COVID-19 Protection Framework
December 2021

1. Introduction

Your Setting will depend on where you are in New Zealand. The current Setting for your region can be found on the [COVID-19 website](#).

At **Red**, action is needed to protect at-risk people and protect our health system from an unsustainable number of hospitalisations.

Contact tracing, good hygiene and sanitation, and home isolation will continue as key tools to minimise the spread of the virus.

Localised lockdowns may be considered if there is a rapid growth in cases.

Mandatory activities at Red

- Record keeping and COVID-19 Tracer App scanning is required to ensure contact tracing can take place. This includes indoor and outdoor locations.
- Face coverings are mandatory on flights, public transport, in taxis, retail, some education settings, and public facilities (like council-owned facilities). Face coverings are encouraged whenever you leave the house.
- As always, you should stay home if you are unwell and call your doctor or Healthline on 0800 358 5433 for advice about getting tested.

Key aspects for sport, recreation and play at Red

School sport and recreation is subject to the same criteria as outlined in these guidelines, with the exception of curriculum-based activities held on school grounds, during school time, with no external personnel (for example other students, coaches/officials, or event deliverers). As schools are not subject to Gatherings rules, these activities can proceed with requirements set by schools.

Multiple gatherings of sport and recreation can take place at the same location if the groups always remain separated. For example, there can be multiple games of touch rugby on a field if each of the gatherings remain separated within their owned defined spaces.

- A defined space indoors is: a single space divided from other spaces by walls (temporary or permanent) that does not share direct airflow with another indoor space
- A defined space outdoors is: a single space divided from other spaces by walls (temporary or permanent) OR a space where all people are separated by at least two metres from other people outside that space.

This means that for outdoor locations and venues, it may be easy for spectators to be contained as a separate gathering away from players, coaches and participants.

There are no requirements for physical distancing while playing, participating or spectating at any level of the Covid-19 Protection Framework – Green, Orange and Red. This means that contact sports can take place and you do not need to wear a mask when taking part.

At **Red**, public facilities (like council-owned swimming pools and indoor recreation centres) have their own set of rules and can open with capacity limits. The capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the facility and allowing 1 m² per person. They can choose to check vaccine passes. However, if a public facility is hired for exclusive use, then the rules that generally apply to public facilities no longer apply. They must instead follow the rules for Events and Gatherings, which are subject to capacity limits based on allowing 1 m² per person and a total number of people. Local councils are able to set policies to require vaccination passes at their premises if they wish. More information about Gatherings and the capacity limits are provided below. More information about the rules that specifically apply to public facilities can be found on MBIE's [website](#).

It is okay for multiple gatherings in defined spaces to use the same entrances and share toilets/changing facilities so long as the risks of intermingling groups is limited as far as possible. Organisations will need to communicate this with visitors or users of their facilities. Queuing or congregating should not take place in common areas. Masks should be worn in common areas or facilities accessed by gatherings (like shared toilets).

Key principles of COVID-19 Vaccination Passes

- Businesses and organisations can choose to legally require visitors or customers, participants and supporters to show evidence that they have received two COVID-19 vaccinations through vaccination passes. This will allow them to operate more freely.
- Requiring vaccine passes does not remove the need for contact tracing.
- If a business, event or organisation does not wish to request proof of vaccination, they will have to operate inside more strict limits on capacity and space requirements.
- Groups of people that may contain vaccinated and unvaccinated people should be treated as if all participants were unvaccinated. Capacity limits include children and those who are unable to be vaccinated. However, the presence of children who are not old enough to be vaccinated does not trigger the application of unvaccinated capacity limits.
- Businesses and services may switch between requiring vaccination passes for some activities and not for others, provided that the groups are kept separated from each other and the premise/space is cleaned between groups.
- Where applicable, assuming vaccine passes are checked at a gathering, then:
 - organisers should seek confirmation from individual participants or team managers that they have a current pass wherever practicable.
 - spectators entering a space where vaccine passes are mandated should receive clear communication that vaccine passes are required, with checking taking place as best as is practical.

2. Events at Red

- Sport and recreation organisations will need to determine if their activity fits into the 'gathering' or the 'event' category because different rules apply to activities within these two categories. For the majority of circumstances, it will be clear whether something is an event or a gathering and you can follow the rules that apply.
- Indoor and outdoor sporting and recreational events at **Red** that check vaccine passes can have up to 100 people per defined space, as long as the facility/venue is large enough to allow enough space for at least 1 metre per person
- Indoor and outdoor sporting and recreational events at **Red** that do not require checking of vaccine passes cannot go ahead.
- Further guidance about Events can be found on MBIE's [website](#).

For key definitions see: [Glossary](#)

- For a full list of definitions, see the [COVID-19 Public Health Response \(Protection Framework\) Order 2021](#).

3. Community sport at Red

For the purposes of this guidance, sport can be a team sport or individual sport, contact or close-proximity activity, or non-contact activity.

Indoor community sport

- Most indoor community sport should follow the rules for Gatherings.
- This is different for indoor community sport that takes place at a public recreation centre, which should follow the rules for Public Facilities in most cases (see below for more detailed guidance on indoors community sport at public recreation centres).
- There are no requirements for physical distancing while playing indoor community sport.
- Multiple groups can operate simultaneously if they remain separated within defined spaces. The capacity limits for these defined spaces depends on whether the indoor facility checks vaccine passes or not to enable entry.
- All parts of an indoor facility can open, but may need to follow different rules, such as cafes or swimming pools.
- Note: capacity limits are different for indoor public facilities like recreation centres if they are not hired for exclusive use. See below.

Indoor community sport at a private venue

Where <u>vaccine passes</u> are checked	Where <u>no vaccine passes</u> checked (or not everyone you are with are vaccinated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vaccine passes are checked, then the capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the venue and allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the facility is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 100 people. • Multiple groups (of up to 100 each) can participate in indoor active recreation if they can be separated by defined spaces. • Capacity limits include children. • Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass. • Capacity limits do not include workers of the indoor facility. • Attendees do not have to physically distance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ultimate capacity limit for the venue is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the facility allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the facility is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 25 people. • Attendees do not have to physically distance from others in their group. • Multiple groups (of up to 25 each) can participate in indoor active recreation if they can be separated by defined spaces. • Capacity limits include children. • Capacity limits do not include workers of the indoor facility.

- Checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable.

Indoor community sport at a public recreation centre

- The capacity of a public recreation centre is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the facility with an allowance of 1 metre of space per person. There is no maximum number of people allowed.
- This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass.
- This capacity limit does not include workers.
- Attendees do not have to physically distance.
- Public recreation centres can choose to check vaccines, but this does not increase the number of people allowed in the facility.
- Note, capacity limits are different for public facilities if they are not hired for exclusive use. If the venue is hired for exclusive use, they must follow the rules for Gatherings listed above (see Indoor community sport at a private venue).

Outdoor community sport

- All outdoor community sport should follow the rules for Gatherings.
- There are no requirements for physical distancing while playing outdoor community sport.
- Multiple groups can operate simultaneously if they remain separated within defined spaces. The limit for these defined spaces depends on whether vaccine passes are checked.
- All parts of an indoor facility that is linked to an outdoor sport can open (for example, the bar at a bowls club), but may need to follow different rules, such as retail or hospitality.

Where <u>vaccine passes</u> are checked	Where <u>no vaccine passes</u> checked (or not everyone you are with are vaccinated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vaccine passes are checked, then the capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the location and allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the space is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 100 people. • Multiple groups (of up to 100 each) can participate in outdoor community sport if they can be separated by defined spaces. This might include the players and coaches being one gathering, and having spectators separated as other gatherings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vaccine passes are not checked, or not everyone you are with is vaccinated, then the capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the facility allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the facility is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 25 people. • Multiple groups (of up to 25 each) can participate in outdoor community sport if they can be separated by defined spaces. This might include the players being one gathering, and having spectators and coaches separated as other gatherings. • This capacity limit includes children.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass.• This capacity limit does not include workers of the outdoor venue.• Attendees, including spectators, do not have to physically distance but defined gatherings do need to remain distanced outdoors.• Checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This capacity limit does not include workers of the outdoor venue.• Attendees, including spectators, do not have to physically distance but defined gatherings do need to remain distanced outdoors. |
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4. Active recreation at Red

Active recreation includes walking, swimming laps at the pool or going to the gym.

At **Red**, the rules managing active recreation depend on whether the activity is inside or outside and what facilities are allowed to open:

- If you are participating in active recreation with others follow the rules for Gatherings.
- If you are participating in active recreation at a council-owned recreation centre, follow the rules for Public facilities.
- Guidance for activities in swimming pools – indoor and outdoor – is provided in the tables below.
- Guidance for accessing gyms is provided in the tables below.
- You can use playground equipment and benches in public spaces for active recreation and exercise.
- There are no requirements for physical distancing from other people within your gathering while doing active recreation indoors or outdoors.
- These rules may be particularly important for public facilities run by local government (such as swimming pools or indoor recreation centres), who are able to elect to use vaccine passes to allow entry to their facilities. Note: capacity limits are different for indoor public facilities like recreation centres if they are not hired for exclusive use. See below.
- Multiple groups can operate simultaneously if they remain separated within defined spaces. The capacity limits for these defined spaces depends on whether vaccine passes are checked to enable entry.
- All parts of an indoor facility can open (for example, a café or shop), but may need to follow different rules, such as those relating to retail or hospitality. See MBIE's [website](#) for more information.
- You are able to drive outside your region for active recreation as long as there are no relevant regional boundary restrictions in place.

Indoor active recreation at a private facility or venue

Where <u>vaccine passes</u> are checked	Where <u>no vaccine passes</u> checked (or not everyone you are with are vaccinated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vaccine passes are checked, then the capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the venue and allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the facility is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 100 people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ultimate capacity limit for the venue is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the facility allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the facility is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 25 people.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple groups (of up to 100 each) can participate in indoor active recreation if they can be separated by defined spaces. • Capacity limits include children. • Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass. • Capacity limits do not include workers of the indoor facility. • Attendees do not have to physically distance. • Checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendees do not have to physically distance from others in their group. • Multiple groups (of up to 25 each) can participate in indoor active recreation if they can be separated by defined spaces. • Capacity limits include children. • Capacity limits do not include workers of the indoor facility.
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Indoor active recreation at a public recreation centre

- The capacity of a public recreation centre is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the facility with an allowance of 1 metre of space per person. There is no maximum number of people allowed.
- This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass
- This capacity limit does not include workers of the public recreation centre.
- Attendees do not have to physically distance.
- Public recreation centres can choose to check vaccines, but this does not increase the number of people allowed in the facility.
- Note, capacity limits are different for public facilities if they are not hired for exclusive use. If the venue is hired for exclusive use, they must follow the rules for Gatherings listed above (see Indoor active recreation at a private facility or venue).

Outdoor active recreation

Where <u>vaccine passes</u> are checked	Where <u>no vaccine passes</u> checked (or not everyone you are with are vaccinated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vaccine passes are checked, then the capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the venue and allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the facility is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 100 people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vaccine passes are not checked, or not everyone you are with is vaccinated, then the capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the facility allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the facility is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 25 people.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple groups (of up to 100 each) can participate in outdoor active recreation if they can be separated by defined spaces. • This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass. • This capacity limit does not include workers of the outdoor venue. • Attendees do not have to physically distance. • Checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attendees do not have to physically distance from others in their group. • Multiple groups (of up to 25 each) can participate in outdoor active recreation if they can be separated by defined spaces. • This capacity limit includes children. • This capacity limit does not include workers of the outdoor venue. |
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Active recreation at an Indoor or outdoor swimming pool

- If you are undertaking pool-based active recreation at a public swimming pool (indoor and outdoor), then you should follow the rules for Public facilities. Public swimming pools can open at **Red** with no capacity limits but the number of people allowed is based on giving 1 metre of space per person.
- Guidance for private swimming pools (indoor and outdoor) is that at **Red**, if vaccine passes are used, the private pool can have up to 100 people based on the size of the facility and allowing 1 metre of space per person. Private pools cannot open at **Red** without using vaccine passes.
- Attendees do not have to physically distance.
- All parts of a swimming pool can open, but may need to follow different rules, such as cafes or gyms. See MBIE's [website](#) for more information about businesses.

Active recreation and exercising at a gym

- If you are doing active recreation inside a gym or other indoor exercise facility, then you need to follow the specific rules for Gyms, which vary depending on whether vaccine passes are checked or not.
- Any gym that checks vaccine passes can open at **Red** with up to 100 people. The capacity limit applies to each 'defined space', so you can have multiple gatherings if they can remain separate.
- Any gym that does not check vaccine passes cannot open at **Red**.
- Council-owned gyms also must follow these rules for Gyms.
- The rules are the same for a standalone gym or a gym inside another facility (e.g. a part of a swimming pool). These rules also include other parts of the gyms like saunas.
- All parts of the gym can open, but may need to follow different rules, such as cafes or swimming pools.

Where <u>vaccine passes</u> are checked	Where <u>no vaccine passes</u> checked (or not everyone you are with are vaccinated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the gym checks vaccine passes, then the capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the facility and allowing 1 metre of space per person. • For example, if the facility is 50m², then the gym could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 100 people. • This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass. • This capacity limit does not include workers at the gym. • Attendees do not have to physically distance. • Checking of vaccination passes are required as best as reasonably practicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the gym does not check vaccine passes, then gyms are not able to open or operate.

5. Outdoor water-based activities at Red

This includes all water-based activities that do not take place at an indoor or outdoor swimming pool, such as sailing (per boat), or close-contact ocean swimming and kayaking in groups.

- All casual, unorganised or organised water-based activities should follow the rules for Gatherings.
- Further guidance about what kind of organised water-based activities meet the threshold for Events will be drafted soon.
- The number of people who can attend the gathering depends on whether vaccine passes are checked or not. However, you do not need to check vaccine passes of other groups who are also doing unorganised water-based activities near you. You should remain two metres away from all other gatherings of people to remain in defined spaces.
- Participants do not need to maintain physical distancing while playing or participating.

Where <u>vaccine passes</u> are checked	Where <u>no vaccine passes</u> checked (or not everyone you are with are vaccinated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vaccine passes are checked, then the maximum number of people allowed to participate in outdoor water-based activities is 100 people. • This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass. • Multiple groups can participate in an outdoor water-based activity if the groups can remain separated by 2 metres at all times. • Attendees do not have to physically distance. • Checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If vaccine passes are not checked, or not everyone you are with is vaccinated, then you can meet up to 25 people. • Attendees do not have to physically distance from others in their group. • This capacity limit includes children. • Multiple groups can participate in an outdoor water-based activity if they can remain separated by 2 metres at all times.

6. Play at Red

This advice covers informal play in homes, neighbourhoods and playgrounds.

At the **Red** setting, if you are meeting whānau, friends or others to play together at a home or public place then you should follow the rules for Gatherings.

- The number of people who can attend the gathering depends on whether vaccine passes are checked or not. There can be multiple gatherings at one venue. Each gathering needs to remain in a defined space while playing.
- However, it is not expected that you need to check vaccine passes of other groups who are at the park or public place. You should remain two metres away from all other gatherings of people to remain in defined spaces.
- All outdoor parks, fields and playgrounds are open for play.
- You are able to drive outside your region to play in a public space if there are no regional boundary restrictions.

Where <u>vaccine passes</u> are checked	Where <u>no vaccine passes</u> checked (or not everyone you are with are vaccinated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you check vaccine passes at this gathering, then the capacity limit is determined by how many people can fit based on the size of the location and allowing 1 metre of space per person. For example, if the facility is 50m², then you could host up to 50 people. • The maximum number of people allowed to meet is 100 people. • Multiple groups (of up to 100 each) can play outdoors if the groups can remain separated by 2 metres at all times. • This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass. • Attendees do not have to physically distance. • Checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you don't check vaccine passes at this gathering, or not everyone you are with is vaccinated, then you can meet up to 25 people based on allowing 1 metre of space per person. • Attendees do not have to physically distance from others in their group. • This capacity limit includes children. • Multiple groups can play outdoors if they can remain separated by 2 metres at all times.

7. Commercial activities at Red

This includes facilities or venues that sell merchandise or run bar/café facilities.

At **Red**, sports and recreational facilities will need to consider all the relevant rules for the various activities that occur within the commercial premises that they run.

- Retail facilities can open with capacity limits based on allowing each person 1 metre of space.
- Working from home may be appropriate for some staff.
- Individual businesses should follow [MBIE](#) and [WorkSafe NZ](#) advice.

Where <u>vaccine passes</u> are checked	Where <u>no vaccine passes</u> checked (or not everyone you are with are vaccinated)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality venues can have up to 100 people in their venue based on allowing each person 1 metre of space. All customers must be seated and separated. • This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass • Any close contact businesses who are in the facility must have public health requirements in place. See MBIE's website for more information about close contact businesses. • Checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitality venues can only operate as a takeaway service, following the retail rules. • Any close contact businesses who are in the facility cannot operate.

8. Glossary of definitions

For a full list of definitions, see the [COVID-19 Public Health Response](#) (Protection Framework) Order 2021.

Setting	Definition
Gathering	Means people who are intermingling in a group but excludes people who remain at least 2 metres away from each other, so far as reasonably practicable. It includes gatherings to undertake voluntary or not-for-profit sporting, recreational, social or cultural activities.
Event	Means an activity organised by a business or service that is held at commercial premises or private premises, publicly owned premises for the purpose of the activity, or an outdoor area where a group of customers and clients is accompanied or supervised by a worker providing services to that group (for example, a guided tour). Entry is controlled through ticketing, fees, registration or by any other means. It excludes any activities at a private home.
Defined space	Means any single indoor space or outdoor space. An indoor space is a single space if there are walls (permanent or temporary) that substantially divide each space, and the space does not share direct airflow with another indoor space. An outdoor space is a single space if there are walls (permanent or temporary) that substantially divide each space or all people in that space are separated by at least 2 metres from other people who are outside that space.
Public facility	Means premises that are owned or managed by central or local government, and used for recreational, social, community, or cultural activities and services, and are open to the public general (including premises where fees are charged for entry). They can be a mix of indoor or indoor and outdoor premises. Public facilities exclude premises used exclusively for an event or gathering and excludes recreation facilities that require membership to enter (for example, gyms).
Gym	Means an indoor exercise facility operated by a business or service for which access is either limited to members, or otherwise controlled by the facility (through ticketing, fees, registration, or other means). Gyms do not include exercise facilities that are available for use only by residents of a premises on which the exercise facility is located.