



PNGSF PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Date: WEDNESDAY 21st April, 2021

SPORTS UPDATE GOING FORWARD 2021

The PNGSF has been in discussions with the NCC in preparing a return to sports strategy going forward for 2021. It is important to note that these discussions are continuous, and outcomes are dependent on the current state of the pandemic in the community. So, decisions may change without notice.

The PMC has endorsed the following 4 phase approach to Return to Sport Strategy going forward for 2021.



Currently we are in the Red Phase 1 with only elite athletes and representatives exempted to train. We have made progress into getting other sporting entities toward moving up into Yellow Phase 2. The Pandemic Management Committee (PMC) has been successful in paving a way forward with the NCC and have some tasks to complete in the next week before we achieved Yellow Phase 2.



PNGSF PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

CURRENT PROPOSALS APPROVALS GAINED AND UNDER REVIEW:

1. International Boxing Event – Title fight – **APPROVED**, strict C19 protocols enforced, no spectators (VIP exemption), SJGS.
2. Elite Athletes (Olympic and PNG/Provincial Representative athletes) – **APPROVED TO TRAIN**, adhere to the strict sporting federation approved C19 Protocols.
3. PNGNRL and PNGNSL franchises (numbers gathering restriction lifted) – **APPROVED TO TRAIN**, must adhere to their strict approved C19 Protocols.
4. **Currently Under Review** - PNGNRL DIGICEL Competition under strict Banis protocols and covid-safe compliance requirements – no spectators allowed.

SPORTS WITH ELITE ATHLETES THAT HAVE BEEN GRANTED APPROVAL TO TRAIN ONLY (no restrictions on numbers gathering but strict application of their COVID19 Protocols and Niupela Pasin at training is expected; monitoring at training venues will be conducted):

LIST Of Sports with Athletes involved in Olympics and rep training:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. Athletics | 9. Rugby League |
| 2. Boxing | 10. Sailing |
| 3. Cricket | 11. Shooting |
| 4. Football | 12. Swimming |
| 5. Golf | 13. Table Tennis |
| 6. Powerlifting | 14. Tennis |
| 7. Pro Boxing | 15. Triathlon |
| 8. Rugby Union | 16. Weightlifting |

WORK IN PROGRESS...

Whilst the Elite athletes mentioned are in Yellow Phase 2 we are hoping to get all the other sports up to that level as well. However, it will require assurance of compliance from the federations to keep their associations in check.

The Deputy Controller has advised that those sports that have approved C19 Protocols by the PNGSF will have to submit their strategy on how they plan to implement and ensure compliance by their affiliates to follow and comply to their protocols.



PNGSF PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The PMC is tasked to review all sporting protocols submitted by the federations and will be contacting the federations individually to work on this strategy. The aim of the strategy will be to have mechanisms in place to guarantee compliance.

It will only be after this consultation and guarantee of compliance that the Controller will allow all athletes of other sports to graduate to the Yellow training phase. Following this, our aim will be to graduate to the Green competition phase.

THESE ARE THE CURRENT SPORTS THAT HAVE GAINED PNGSF APPROVAL BY WAY OF THEIR SUBMITTED C19 PROTOCOLS. THE PMC WILL BE IN CONTACT SOON TO WORK ON YOUR STRATEGY GOING FORWARD:

- **AFL**
- **Archery**
- **Athletics**
- **Badminton**
- **Basketball**
- **Bowls**
- **Boxing**
- **Canoeing**
- **Cricket**
- **Football (Soccer)**
- **Golf**
- **Gymnastics**
- **Hockey**
- **NCD Darts Association**
- **Netball**
- **PNG American Football**
- **POM Softball**
- **Powerlifting**
- **Pro Boxing & OFP**
- **Rugby League**
- **Rugby Union**
- **Swimming**
- **Table Tennis**
- **Tennis**
- **Touch Football**
- **Triathlon**
- **Volleyball**
- **Weightlifting**

Those Sporting Federations that are yet to send in their COVID19 Protocols for approval to allow their athletes to train and associations to run competitions are encouraged to do so immediately.

EVENTS PLANNERS PLANNING TO USE PNGSF FACILITIES...

The use of the facilities for events will not be available unless there is direct approval from the Controller on an exemption on the increase gathering number for your event (Current Pandemic Measure 9, Sec16). This will be in effect until the Controller's measures change and/or special exemptions are granted.



PNGSF PANDEMIC MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MONITORING...

The NCC Surveillance and Compliance Manager Dr Gideon Kendino has allocated staff that will be scrutinizing sports federations and report on their compliance. Failure to comply with total disregard for the sports protocols to adhere to the Niupela Pasin will mean the sport will be blacklisted and competition ceased.

The PMC will also be monitoring sports and working with Federations and Associations to ensure compliance.

The Controller is very stern about sporting competitions breaching the current measures. **Under the National Pandemic Act 2020 the penalties are K50,000 for an individual and K500,000 for an organization. Defaulting could land you a possible 5 year jail term.**

This should be taken seriously, and sports federations must take control of their sport community or risk suspension of your competition for the rest of the Pandemic.

COVID19 VACCINATIONS...

**ALL ATHLETES AND OFFICIALS IN SPORT SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO BE VACCINATED!
BY VACCINATING YOURSELF, YOU ARE PROTECTING THOSE AROUND YOU.**

There is a lot of misinterpreted information about the COVID19 vaccinations on social and mainstream media that have made many people worried about taking the vaccine. Sporting federations and athletes are encouraged to seek proper medical opinion from competent medical personnel before following widespread unsupported claims.

The sports community is a powerful force and covers a large part of the population. It is our duty to do our part to protect the community. Although it is not mandatory now to be vaccinated, it is our only effective means to fight this disease until a cure is found. Everyone should be encouraging vaccination; the more people we have vaccinated in the community the better chance we have of defeating this dreaded disease.

For any further information please contact the PMC Chairman Dr Kapua Kapua, drkapua@gmail.com or V/Chairman David Aua daua@pngsfvmt.com.

Yours in Sport,

DR KAPUA KAPUA
PNGSF Chief Medical Officer
PNGSF Pandemic Management Committee Chairman

