

# COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

## Orienteering Tasmania

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**Responsibility for updating: Julian Roscoe**



This Safety Plan is provided to assist Tasmanian orienteering organisers and participants return safely to orienteering competition under the latest Tasmanian State govt guidelines. The plan will be updated, published and widely communicated, to reflect any changes in permitted levels of activity or required measures as they apply to Orienteering. This may occur at short notice.

Latest update (18 Feb 2022) Tasmania Public Health Services allows community sport and recreation activities, according to the following rules:

Maximum of 500 persons in undivided space outdoors

All participants and spectators are required to maintain physical distancing of 1.5 metres.

Maintain hand hygiene, frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection, use of own equipment where possible and minimise sharing of equipment.

Comply with current government requirements.

### Plan Goals

The health and safety of all (both orienteers and the general public) must be paramount.

Efforts to prevent the spread of the virus must be sustained.

All organisers, volunteers and participants must adhere to the relevant government guidance.

### Existing Safety Plans

This plan is in addition to (and where necessary supersedes) existing safety practices and plans. Refer 'Event Safety Policy - Aug 2019' and 'Return to Play Plan - OT20200624'

### Communication

This and subsequent Return to Sport plans will be communicated to Orienteering Tasmania members, participants, event organisers, volunteers, and key stakeholders via:

OT website <https://tasorienteering.asn.au>

OT Facebook groups

O-News weekly e-bulletin

Email to all club secretaries for distribution to members

Eventor (event entry system)

Additionally, personal hygiene and physical distancing messages will be reinforced through the above channels.

## Organisation

The OT COVID-19 Safety Co-ordinator will report on compliance to each meeting of the OT Board  
Each club will appoint a COVID-19 safety officer to ensure compliance with the plan.

## Risk Assessment

The OT risk assessment is predicated on the following factors:

1. All sporting activity is outdoors
2. Numbers are generally a maximum of 200 persons
3. Activity is generally limited to one or two occasions each week each of a 2 hour maximum duration
4. Travel arrangements are the responsibility of individuals
5. The sport involves no physical contact and generally physical isolation during the activity is desirable - starts are staggered to reduce the chance of 'bunching'.
6. In the table below P/V/O refers to Participants, volunteers and organisers at events

Risk factor	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating
Entry points	Outdoors so no formal entry points	Low	Low
'High risk' tasks performed	None - all activity outdoors with no physical contact	Low	Low
How well Safety Plan reduces risk of transmission	Low given Safety Plan controls rigorously applied	Low	Low
What level of P/V/O vaccination exists in your organisation	Not known for privacy reasons but presumed to be consistent with the population average	Low	Low
What type of contact do P/V/O need to have	No physical contact	Low	Low
Presence of vulnerable P/V/O in your organisation	No vulnerable people	-	-
P/V/O attending multiple facilities	Not relevant	-	-
Use of masks and physical barriers to reduce close contacts	Masks used by organisers when in confined space (trailer)	Low	Low

Risk factor	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk rating
Effective case or outbreak management plan	Use of QR code to identify potentially impacted persons	Low	Low

## Conditions of Entry

**For all organisers, participants and spectators - you must NOT attend any orienteering event or organised activity if:**

you are unwell, even if you only have very mild symptoms

you have been in close contact of a confirmed case of COVID-19 until the required isolation period is over

you have travelled overseas in the past 14 days

you are awaiting a COVID-19 test result

you have been advised to stay at home by a health professional.

**If in doubt - stay away**

Please consider personal risk, particularly if you are older, or have a chronic health condition.

Organisers can refuse a map and start to any participant who has symptoms consistent with Covid-19. Such participants will be directed to leave the event and contact a health provider immediately. The entry fee will be refunded for those participants obliged to withdraw from an event to comply with the instructions above.

All entries will be by pre-entry through the Eventor system or in limited cases 'entry on the day' using a credit card only (no cash).

OT strongly prefers that all participants (competitors and spectators) over the age of 16 yrs be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Regardless of your vaccination status please ensure you scrupulously respect social distancing and hygiene requirements.

## **FOR PARTICIPANTS**

### **at Tasmanian orienteering events and organised activities**

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#### **ENTERING AN EVENT**

- All entries and payment are by pre-entry online through Eventor
- Consider buying your own P-card (\$20) through Eventor or SI e-stick through Ossieogear.com
- Make sure you use the correct SI e-stick number when entering online – update your Eventor profile to make it the default.
- Read the 'Event Info' available on Eventor - there will be no sample maps or instructions displayed at the event.

#### **HYGIENE AND CLEANING**

- Wash or sanitise your hands thoroughly immediately before and after the event, before and after using toilets, and after touching hard surfaces and shared or common equipment.
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve while coughing/sneezing. No spitting.
- Bring and use your own hand sanitiser. Additionally, please use provided hand sanitiser as requested particularly at the download area.
- Avoid touching tables, computer equipment or other surfaces at registration, start or finish.
- Avoid touching control units, plates, flags etc as much as possible.
- If renting or borrowing an SI e-stick, do not let anyone else use or handle it. Return it to the separate disinfectant container provided, as soon as you finish.
- Bring your own drinking water and container. Do not share water bottles or cups. Drinking water will not be provided on the course or at the assembly area.
- Bring your own lunch/snacks. No catering will be provided
- Look after your own keys and other personal items. There will be no central location to leave belongings.
- Take your map home after finishing. Do not let another participant reuse or handle it.

#### **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

- Follow any specific instructions provided by the organiser.
- At the event, maintain a physical distance of at least 1.5 metres at all times from volunteers and other participants, including when queuing for registration, start, finish and download, and toilets.
- Move quickly away from controls to allow others to approach, and maintain at least 1.5m distance.
- Printed times/splits will be available at the download station but there will be no results board
- Prepare as much as possible at home; be prepared to start as soon as possible after arriving.
- After finishing, be ready to depart as soon as possible.
- There will be no catering, results display or presentations.
- No entry to work spaces (eg finish tent, trailer) or taped off areas. Follow directions and signs.

# FOR ORGANISERS

## of Tasmanian orienteering events and organised activities

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### COMPLIANCE WITH ENTRY CONDITIONS

*Organisers must:*

- o Ensure that events comply with current instructions issued by the Tasmanian Government.
- o Use the latest version of the 'Event Info Flyer' template from the Organisers Toolkit to ensure entrants receive full and up to date safety information
- o Refuse to allow any participant who has noticeable symptoms consistent with Covid-19 to start; withhold their map, and direct them to leave the event and contact a health provider immediately.
- o Refund entries paid by any participant who needs to withdraw in order to comply with the Entry Conditions.

*Note: Tasmanian events held in the period that this plan applies to will be set up in Eventor to facilitate acknowledgement of entry conditions and inclusion of contact details.*

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### VOLUNTEERS

*Organisers must:*

- o Fully brief volunteers on hygiene procedures, and ensure they are comfortable to perform their roles.
  - o Ensure volunteers maintain physical distance while working, that they adhere to timing for shifts, and that proper handovers occur between shifts. They must leave the work area immediately after their shift ends.
  - o Keep volunteer shifts short, and rotate them between tasks, particularly where they are public facing.
  - o Ensure hand sanitiser is easily accessible and used frequently by volunteers.
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### CLEANING AND ENHANCED PERSONAL HYGIENE

*Organisers must:*

- o Promote and reinforce enhanced personal hygiene practices, including regular and thorough hand washing, and covering mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve while coughing/sneezing.
- o Ensure posters encouraging appropriate social distancing and hygiene are prominently displayed
- o Ensure tables, computer equipment and other hard surfaces used at registration, start and finish are cleaned and disinfected before, during and after every event, and whenever volunteers change shifts.
- o Provide disinfectant spray and disinfectant wipes, and ensure they are easily accessible where needed.
- o Provide hand sanitiser for volunteers and participants to use before downloading. Set up a table or use the auto dispenser next to the download unit.
- o Erect plastic sides on tents or gazebos, if used,, to provide a barrier between participants and volunteers.
- Volunteers in the trailer to wear masks
- o Ensure control units are cleaned and disinfected before and after every event.
- o If public toilets are in use – participants are responsible for ensuring they wash their hands thoroughly and follow enhanced personal hygiene practices. Provide hand wash or sanitiser.

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## SHARED AND COMMON EQUIPMENT

### *Organisers must:*

- o Check which participants require rental SI e-sticks before the event, and ensure there will be sufficient supplies for one use per person. Pre-allocate and enter them in the event database.
- o Ensure all rental SI e-sticks, are disinfected between events.
- o Ensure each rental item is used only once during an event, cleaned immediately after use, and returned to a container with disinfectant. Set this up on a table next to the download unit, and use solely for returned items. Do not mix used and unused rental items.
- o Minimise the number of volunteers handling common equipment during setup and pack-up.
- o Advise participants that they must bring and carry their own water. Do not provide drinking water, cups or shared water bottles at the assembly area or on courses.
- o Do not collect maps from participants. Do not allow participants to handle or reuse a map used by another person.
- o Do not provide key buckets. Participants are responsible for their own keys and other personal items.
- o Limit handling of maps and control descriptions. Control descriptions MUST be printed on all maps.
- o Times and splits will be printed at the download unit but not Results stickers

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## CONTROLS AND PUNCHING

- o Do not position controls on or near playgrounds or play equipment
- o Place SI controls securely on stands on even ground. Only use hanging controls if they can be secured in a firm position, not swinging or requiring participants to handle them in order to punch. Locking controls can be placed on the ground.
- o Clear, Check, Start, Finish and Download control units to be wiped with disinfectant regularly

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## PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Orienteering by its individual nature ensures natural distancing during competition. However, physical distancing must be maintained while assembled, before starting and after finishing the event.

### *Organisers must:*

- o Only accept online pre-entry and pre-payment; no entry or payment at the event.
- o Ensure posters encouraging appropriate social distancing and hygiene are prominently displayed
- o Ensure non-participants adhere to physical distancing and hygiene measures. Non-participants include parents, guardians, carers, spouses/partners; coaches, or essential volunteers (while on duty).
- o Ensure physical distancing of 1.5 metres (2 arms lengths) is maintained at all times while assembled or queueing, including at registration, start, finish or toilets. Distance markers may be used for queues.
- o If using electronic timing, ensure download unit is physically distanced from computer. If dealing with a problem, remove participant from queue.
- o Ensure results are provided online (Live Results, Eventor, Winsplits) either during or immediately after the event.

- Ensure there is no catering, results display, presentations or other reasons to encourage people to remain after finishing the event.
- Enforce start window and course closure times.
- Do not display sample maps and instructions on tables at events. Publish online prior to the event as part of 'Event Info' link
- Take particular care to maintain physical distancing when instructing newcomers. Limit the number of volunteers doing this, and the time each volunteer spends.

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## **CASE OR OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT**

When Orienteering Tasmania is advised of an individual case, cases or outbreak of COVID impacting a person or persons at an event the equipment officer will be required to disinfect:

- the following components of the trailer:
  - all shelf and table surfaces
  - download units and printers
- all surfaces of the portaloo
- all start/finish/control units