

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACT 2005 (WA)

### Sections 67, 70 and 72A

#### PROFESSIONAL SPORTSPERSONS DIRECTIONS

The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

On 15 March 2020, the Minister for Emergency Services declared a state of emergency with effect from 12 am on 16 March 2020 in respect of the pandemic caused by COVID-19 pursuant to section 56 of the *Emergency Management Act 2005* (WA) (**Act**) (**State of Emergency**). The State of Emergency applies to the State of Western Australia.

I, Christopher John Dawson, Commissioner of Police and State Emergency Coordinator, now give the following directions pursuant to my powers under sections 67, 70 and 72A of the Act.

#### PREAMBLE

1. These directions set out the requirements that apply to certain **professional sportspersons** and **support persons** and are for the purpose of limiting the spread of COVID-19 in Western Australia and facilitating the safe management of those people coming into, and going out of, Western Australia for **sporting events**.

#### CITATION

2. These directions may be referred to as the Professional Sportspersons Directions.

#### COMMENCEMENT

3. These directions come into effect at 12.01 am on 3 March 2022.

#### OPERATION OF THESE DIRECTIONS

4. These directions apply to, and modify the operation of the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions in relation to, a person who is:
  - (a) a professional sportsperson; or
  - (b) a support person,and who:
  - (c) is an **interstate arrival** or an **indirect international arrival**; and
  - (d) does not meet the **vaccination requirements** because the person has not been administered with a **booster vaccination**.

*Note: these directions only apply in relation to a professional sportsperson or support person who enters Western Australia from another State or Territory who does not meet the vaccination requirements because they have not had a booster vaccination and are not ineligible or exempt. For example, a person who meets the vaccination requirements because they produce evidence that they are **booster ineligible** will not fall under these directions.*

## **DIRECTIONS**

5. Unless stated otherwise, a **relevant person** must comply with these directions and not the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.

### **Entry and Vaccination Requirements for Relevant Persons**

6. A relevant person may only enter Western Australia if the person:
- (a) complies with the **entry requirements**; and
  - (b) has had administered to them a **full course** of an approved COVID-19 vaccine and produces **accepted proof of vaccination** to an **authorised officer**; and
  - (c) is a:
    - (i) professional sportsperson and enters Western Australia for the purpose of **participating** in a sporting event in Western Australia as a professional sportsperson; or
    - (ii) support person for a relevant person referred to in paragraph (c)(i) and enters Western Australia in that capacity.

### **Quarantine Requirements for Relevant Persons**

#### *Self-quarantine requirements*

7. A relevant person must:
- (a) as soon as possible after entering Western Australia, travel to:
    - (i) **suitable premises**; or
    - (ii) a training venue in accordance with paragraph 8; or
    - (iii) the **competition venue** in accordance with paragraph 9,

by the most direct route available and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel or rest; and

(b) subject to paragraph 10, as soon as possible after arriving at suitable premises, remain in the suitable premises for the **self-quarantine period** unless otherwise **directed** by an authorised officer or leaving for the purpose of:

- (i) participating in training in accordance with paragraph 8; or
- (ii) participating in a sporting event in accordance with paragraph 9; or
- (iii) leaving Western Australia in accordance with paragraph 10; and

(c) while at the suitable premises, not allow any person to access their suitable premises unless the person:

- (i) is a **relevant officer**, or a person assisting a relevant officer; or
- (ii) accesses the suitable premises for medical or emergency purposes; or
- (iii) is required to access the suitable premises for the purpose of performing critical and time-sensitive maintenance; or
- (iv) is acting in compliance with a **direction** or **instruction** given by a relevant officer; or
- (v) usually resides at the suitable premises,

provided that no more than two persons access the suitable premises at any one time if they access the suitable premises in accordance with paragraph 7(c)(i) to 7(c)(iii); and

(d) immediately inform an authorised officer or an **emergency officer** if the person develops or has recently experienced any **symptoms**; and

(e) comply with the **infection control measures**.

### ***Training***

8. Unless otherwise directed, a relevant person may **participate** in training during their self-quarantine period provided that the relevant person:

- (a) is not displaying symptoms; and

- (b) complies with the infection control measures; and
- (c) travels:
  - (i) to any training venue; and
  - (ii) from the training venue to the suitable premises at the end of training,by **private vehicle**, taxi or rideshare service, by the most direct route available and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel.

### *Sporting Event*

9. Unless otherwise directed, a relevant person may participate in a sporting event during their self-quarantine period provided that the relevant person:
- (a) is not displaying symptoms; and
  - (b) complies with the infection control measures; and
  - (c) travels:
    - (i) to the competition venue; and
    - (ii) as soon as possible after the end of their participation in the sporting event, from the competition venue to the suitable premises, or to the departure terminal for the purpose of leaving Western Australia in accordance with paragraph 10,by private vehicle, taxi or rideshare service, by the most direct route available and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel.

### *Leaving Western Australia*

10. A relevant person must take all reasonable steps to leave Western Australia via Perth Airport as soon as possible after the end of their participation in the sporting event, unless otherwise directed, orally or in writing, by a **police officer** acting at or above the rank of Inspector, and the relevant person must:
- (a) when travelling to the departure terminal, travel by the most direct route available and without stopping except as necessary for fuel; and
  - (b) board their flight when it is possible for the person to do so and remain on the flight until it takes off.

### ***Immediate Threat to Safety***

11. Notwithstanding anything in these directions, a relevant person may leave a **relevant place** during their self-quarantine period to escape an immediate threat to their safety provided that the relevant person:
- (a) goes no further from the relevant place than is necessary to escape that threat; and
  - (b) returns to the relevant place as soon as it is safe to do so; and
  - (c) if unable to return to the relevant place within an hour of leaving, telephones the police on 131 444 and informs them that the relevant person is subject to a quarantine direction and had to leave the relevant place.

### ***Urgent Medical Treatment***

12. Notwithstanding anything in these directions, a relevant person may leave a relevant place during their self-quarantine period:
- (a) to seek urgent medical treatment at a **hospital** or other treatment facility when it is necessary to leave the relevant place in order for that treatment to be provided; or
  - (b) if the relevant person is also a support person, to accompany another relevant person leaving the relevant place under paragraph (a),
- provided that the relevant person:
- (c) prior to leaving the relevant place:
    - (i) notifies the relevant hospital or treatment facility that the relevant person is subject to these requirements; and
    - (ii) obtains approval from the relevant hospital or treatment facility to attend for treatment at the relevant hospital or treatment facility,provided that a relevant person will not breach this paragraph if they are, or are accompanied by, a relevant person within paragraph (b) and one of the relevant persons has so informed the ambulance service or the hospital or other treatment facility; and
  - (d) after obtaining the approval referred to in paragraph (c)(ii) and as soon as reasonably practicable, contacts an authorised officer and informs the

authorised officer that they have approval to attend the relevant hospital or treatment facility for treatment; and

- (e) goes to the hospital or other treatment facility by ambulance or by the most direct and practicable route available and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel; and
- (f) complies with any direction or instruction given by a relevant officer; and
- (g) unless otherwise directed or **instructed** by a relevant officer, returns to the relevant place as soon as possible after the urgent medical treatment has been provided by the most direct and practicable route available and without stopping except as required by law or necessary for fuel.

### **Infection Control Measures**

13. If a person must comply with the infection control measures, the person must:

- (a) at all times take all reasonable steps to:
  - (i) avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person; and
  - (ii) limit interactions with other persons,except in circumstances where the person is participating in training or a sporting event, or travelling to or from a training venue or competition venue, and the other person is also a person participating in the same training or sporting event; and
- (b) at all times when coughing or sneezing do so into the person's elbow or a tissue; and
- (c) wash their hands often with soap and water or using alcohol hand rub, particularly before and after eating and after attending a bathroom; and
- (d) wear a **face covering** when in public unless one or more of the **face covering exceptions** applies to them at the time.

## Testing Regime for Relevant Persons

14. A relevant person who enters Western Australia by disembarking from an **affected aircraft** must:
  - (a) be able to provide acceptable evidence of a rapid antigen test for the person taken within the 12 hour period since entering Western Australia; or
  - (b) present for a **PCR test** within 12 hours of entering Western Australia.
15. A relevant person who enters Western Australia other than in the manner referred to in paragraph 14 must:
  - (a) be able to provide acceptable evidence of a rapid antigen test for the person taken within the 24 hour period since entering Western Australia; or
  - (b) present for a PCR test within 24 hours of entering Western Australia.

*Note: a person who receives a positive test result or is advised that they are a **close contact** after they enter Western Australia, or becomes a close contact after they enter Western Australia, will be required to comply with the COVID Transition (Testing and Isolation) Directions (No 3).*

## INTERPRETATION

16. Unless specified otherwise, any reference in these directions to any other direction made by the State Emergency Coordinator is deemed to be a reference to that direction as amended or replaced from time to time.

## DEFINITIONS

17. **Accepted proof of vaccination** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.
18. **Affected aircraft** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.
19. **Authorised officer** has the same meaning that it has in the Act.
20. **Booster ineligible** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.
21. **Booster vaccination** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.

22. **Close contact** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Testing and Isolation) Directions (No 3).
23. **Competition venue**, in relation to a sporting event, means the venue where the sporting event is held.
24. **Direction** includes any direction given under the Act or the *Public Health Act 2016* (WA), whether the direction is given orally or in writing, and **directed** includes directed by way of a direction under the Act or the *Public Health Act 2016* (WA), whether the direction is given orally or in writing.
25. **Emergency officer** has the meaning that it has in the *Public Health Act 2016* (WA).
26. **Entry requirements** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.
27. **Face covering** means a disposable surgical covering or fitted cloth covering that covers the nose and mouth (but does not include a face shield).
28. **Face covering exceptions** means any of the following circumstances or situations that apply to the person at the relevant time:
  - (a) the person is a child 7 years of age or under; or
  - (b) the person has a physical, developmental or mental illness, injury, condition or disability which makes wearing a face covering unsuitable; or
  - (c) the person is communicating with a person who is deaf or hard of hearing and visibility of the mouth is essential for communication; or
  - (d) the nature of a person's work or the activity that they are engaging in means that clear enunciation or visibility of the mouth is essential; or
  - (e) the person is consuming food, drink or medicine; or
  - (f) the person is asked to remove the face covering to ascertain identity; or
  - (g) not wearing a face covering is required for emergency purposes (other than emergency preparation or emergency preparation activities, unless another exception specified in this paragraph applies); or
  - (h) the person is running or jogging or otherwise engaged in some form of strenuous or vigorous exercise or physical activity; or

- (i) the person is travelling in a **motor vehicle** and is the sole occupant of that vehicle; or
- (j) the person is undergoing emergency medical or dental care or treatment to the extent that such care or treatment requires that no face covering be worn; or
- (k) the person is directed by a judicial officer or tribunal member in proceedings in a court or tribunal to remove their face covering to ensure the proper conduct of those proceedings; or
- (l) not wearing a face covering is otherwise required or authorised by law; or
- (m) wearing a face covering is not safe in all the circumstances,

provided that, where a person is relying on an exception under paragraph 28(c) to 28(m), that person resumes wearing the face covering as soon as reasonably practicable after the person no longer falls within the relevant exception.

- 29. **Full course** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.
- 30. **Hospital** has the same meaning that it has in the *Health Services Act 2016* (WA).
- 31. **Indirect international arrival** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.
- 32. **Infection control measures** means the requirements of paragraph 13.
- 33. **Instruction** means an instruction given for the purposes of this approval which is not a direction, whether the instruction is given orally or in writing, and **instructed** means instructed by way of an instruction, whether the instruction is given orally or in writing.
- 34. **Interstate arrival** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.
- 35. **Motor vehicle** has the same meaning that it has in paragraph (b) of the definition of "motor vehicle" in section 4 of the *Road Traffic (Administration) Act 2008* (WA).
- 36. **Paid** means receives remuneration of financial or in-kind payments of a more than nominal sum.

37. **Participate** means to:
- (a) undertake or engage in; or
  - (b) organise,
- and **participating** has a corresponding meaning.
38. **PCR test** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.
39. **Police officer** means a person appointed under Part I of the *Police Act 1892 (WA)* to be a member of the Police Force of Western Australia.
40. **Private vehicle** includes a charter bus or other charter vehicle that has been hired for the exclusive use of persons participating in the same sporting event.
41. **Professional sportsperson** means a person who is **paid** for their time competing and training in sport at a national or international level of competition.
42. **Relevant officer** means:
- (a) an authorised officer; or
  - (b) an emergency officer; or
  - (c) a **responsible officer**.
43. **Relevant person** means a person to whom these directions apply in accordance with paragraph 4.
44. **Relevant place** means each of the suitable premises, any training venue and a competition venue.
45. **Responsible officer** means:
- (a) an officer, employee or contractor of the Department of Health; or
  - (b) an officer, employee or contractor of a health service provider, as that term is defined by section 6 of the *Health Services Act 2016 (WA)*; or
  - (c) any other person authorised by the Chief Health Officer orally or in writing to perform a function for the purposes of these directions.
46. **Self-quarantine period**, in relation to a relevant person, means seven (7) days after the date and time that the relevant person enters Western Australia.

47. **Sporting event** means a match or competition held in Western Australia in a sport at a national or international level of competition.
48. **Suitable premises** means premises which meet the following criteria:
- (a) they are suitable for the person to reside in for a period of up to seven (7) days after the day on which the person enters Western Australia; and
  - (b) if the person is or is likely to be required by a direction to present for testing, they are close enough to a place where testing can occur in accordance with a direction to enable the person to comply with that direction; and
  - (c) they enable the person quarantining there to have access to a bedroom, and preferably a bathroom, without the need to share them with any other person who is not also quarantining there; and
  - (d) food and medication can be delivered to them as required without the need to come into contact with the person quarantining there.
49. **Support person** means a person:
- (a) whose presence is necessary or reasonably incidental to the participation of a professional sportsperson in a sporting event; or
  - (b) approved as a support person in writing by a police officer acting at or above the rank of Inspector.
50. **Symptoms** means any one or more of the following:
- (a) a fever of 37.5 degrees or above; or
  - (b) a recent history of fever; or
  - (c) symptoms of acute respiratory infection (including, but without limitation, shortness of breath, a cough or sore throat); or
  - (d) a loss of smell or taste.
51. **Training** means exercise and physical conditioning undertaken in connection with competing or preparing to compete in a sporting event.
52. **Vaccination requirements** has the same meaning that it has in the COVID Transition (Interstate and International Border) Directions.

**PENALTIES**

It may be an offence to fail to comply with any of these directions, punishable by imprisonment for up to 12 months or a fine of up to \$50,000 for individuals and \$250,000 for bodies corporate.



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**Christopher John Dawson**  
Commissioner of Police and State Emergency Coordinator

2 March 2022 2054 hours