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## Return to Red and Omicron variant

Hi all

Following the government announcement yesterday and subsequent move to Red level for the whole country, I wanted to quickly touch base with you all to reiterate what that means for community cricket.

The positive is that we have been here before and have delivered cricket under Red level. We know that all cricket can continue to be delivered and meet government guidelines around maximum gathering limits of 25 without the need for vaccine passes.

However, what we need to be mindful of is the increased transmissibility of the Omicron variant and what that means if we have a case within our club and what close or casual contacts are required to do.

Auckland Cricket's position remains that they feel we can continue to deliver competitions under Red level that ensures a safe environment for participants. The most important messaging that we all need to reinforce with all those involved with cricket is to follow basic Covid prevention protocols and the process for close and casual contacts.

## **General Covid protocols**

- o Regularly wash and thoroughly dry your hands or use hand sanitiser.
- Sneeze and cough into your elbow.
- o Keep your distance from people you do not know.
- Clean or disinfect shared surfaces often.
- o If you have cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms, stay home and get a test.
- o Scan in with the NZ Covid tracer app wherever you go
- Wear a mask when in any indoor environment or when you cannot maintain physical distancing

## **Actions for contacts**

The following actions now apply to all contacts regardless of whether vaccinated against COVID-19 or not.

Contact	Description	Actions for the contact
Close Contact	People who may live or work with or have been in the same place at the same time as someone infectious with COVID-19.	<ul> <li>Isolate/quarantine, either at home or in a managed facility, for 10 days from last exposure.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Test immediately, and on day 5 and on day 8 after last exposure.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>If <u>COVID-19 symptoms</u> develop, get an additional test immediately.</li> </ul>
Casual Contact	People who have been in the same place at the same time as someone infectious with COVID-19 but may not have been near the person.	<ul> <li>Self-monitor for <u>COVID-19</u> <u>symptoms</u> for 10 days.</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>If COVID-19 symptoms develop, get tested and <u>stay at home</u> until negative test result is received.</li> </ul>

• For more information on close and casual contacts, please click Here

The next few weeks will be a new chapter in our Covid journey and may well be quite different to what we have experienced previously. I encourage all of you to keep communicating with myself, Garuav and Mabel, as well as with each other, to ensure we stay as connected and informed as possible and learn collectively from our experiences.

We also realise that Omicron will present different challenges and questions that we may need to face about delivering club cricket. We will continue to keep in touch with Auckland Cricket as the situation develops and keep you involved with changes that might need to be made.

Ngā mihi,



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