

# Infectious Diseases Policy

August 2016



The WADCC will separately publish its detailed policy and recommended practices of Sports Medicine Australia.

Clubs hosting games should be aware of these minimum requirements:

- Clubs should provide disposal drinking cups or glasses that are washed between uses;
- Dressing rooms must be clean and tidy with adequate soap, paper hand towels, brooms, refuse disposal bins and disinfectants at all times;
- All clothing equipment and surfaces contaminated with blood should be treated as potentially infectious.
- There should be no sharing of towels, razors, face washers and drink containers.
- If possible, players should be vaccinated against Hepatitis B.
- Any player with prior evidence of Hepatitis B should obtain confidential advice and clearance from a doctor prior to participation;
- Club linen cleaning procedures should be at least that routine cleaning is undertaken, and gloves should be worn when handling or washing soiled linen.
- Gloves should be discarded and replaced if there is any evidence of deterioration.
- Water containers should be available for each individual player and not shared by players.

Umpires and officials should be aware of these minimum requirements:

- In the case of bleeding, all contaminated clothing and equipment must be replaced prior to the player being able to resume play.
- If bleeding cannot be controlled and the wound securely covered, the player must not continue in the game.
- To minimise the low possibility of HIV or viral hepatitis involving direct bodily contact or where bleeding may be expected to occur, those attending to bleeding players or blood-stained clothes should wear non-utility gloves (e.g. disposable latex or vinyl gloves) which must never be re-used, and should be changed and discarded as soon as they are torn or puncture and after contact with each player.
- Hands must be washed after removal and disposal of gloves.
- Where there is additional concern about infection, medical advice should be sought from a physician or clinic where there is experience in the management of HIV or viral hepatitis infection.
- Any broken skin should be immediately cleaned with soap and water only. Leave contact lenses in eyes until it has been adequately irrigated with water or normal saline for several minutes.