

VNZ – Rapid Antigen Test Policy

Tuesday, 3 May 2022

Mission: To lead, enhance and celebrate volleyball across Aotearoa New Zealand

Vision: To be the leading participation sport in Aotearoa New Zealand

Values: Collaboration, Integrity, Wellbeing, Accessibility



Background

Rapid antigen tests (RATs) are currently Aotearoa's primary testing tool for people with COVID-19 symptoms or household contacts. RAT results are available quickly – usually in about 20 minutes.

The use of rapid tests can help reduce the spread of COVID-19 by identifying individuals early before they spread the virus to members of our community.

Volleyball New Zealand RAT test process

Prior to involvement in any Volleyball NZ (VNZ) event or programme (except where specified directly in pre-event communication), all participating athletes, coaches and referees **must complete a RAT test in the 24 period prior to travelling** for the event or programme.

Where participants are competing in Regional Association or Club Teams, it is the responsibility of the Regional Association or Club to ensure all players, coaches, and referees (if applicable) have completed a RAT test and returned and communicated a negative result prior to travelling.

For all VNZ events and programmes, VNZ will require evidence of your RAT test result prior to involvement in the event or programme. Details on how to supply the results will be provided in communication prior for each event or programme.

Aligned to Covid-19 guidelines, VNZ advise all members of the volleyball community to be tested if they have cold or flu symptoms or any of the [Covid-19 symptoms](#).

RAT test Results – what do I do if...?

- My RAT test result is negative?
 - o If you get a negative RAT test result you can travel and continue to participate in the event or programme
- My RAT test is positive?
 - o If you get a positive rapid antigen test result, you must:
 - Self-isolate at your place of accommodation – click [here](#) for information on Self Isolation
 - If you are in a VNZ camp or programme, if you are not returning home to self-isolate, the self-isolation accommodation used will need to be separate from or outside the immediate team accommodation environment
 - Follow all COVID-19 public health measures
 - Contact Healthline for any COVID-19 health advice on 0800 358 5453
 - o If I test positive while travelling or in camp – click [here](#) for information on what to do
 - For clarity, if you test positive while in a domestic international team camp or domestic tour, it will be the responsibility of the player and/or parent to arrange travel home or to organise appropriate accommodation to complete isolation requirements in the location of the camp
 - o If you still have symptoms after your seven-day isolation period has ended, you are advised to stay at home until 24 hours after symptoms resolve.
 - o Most people should not repeat their rapid antigen test again (for 28 days) after they have tested positive. The result may continue to be positive, but this doesn't necessarily mean that you're still infectious. If you have completed your isolation period since begin infected and are still inside the 28 period from your initial positive test, you will still be eligible to participate in any VNZ event or programme. You must inform team management if this is the case.
 - o If you develop new cold, flu or COVID-19 symptoms a month (28 days) or more after you have previously tested positive, you should have a rapid antigen test.

International Team Camp environments

- If a player, coach or member of team staff is showing symptoms of Covid-19, they should be tested immediately using the team allocation of RAT tests supplied by VNZ
- If that test is positive, the team management should begin rotational RAT testing (several members of squad per day) of squad members from this point, including anyone feeling or displaying symptoms. VNZ will advise all parents of players involved in U-19 teams or younger if there has been a positive test in a camp environment.
- Following negative tests communicated pre-arrival in camp aligned with the above, **if a camp or tour exceeds five days**, team management must begin rotational testing of all members of the squad/touring party from day five onwards using the team allocation of RAT tests supplied by VNZ
- If a team/squad camp is impacted by multiple positive RAT tests team management will discuss status of the camp with senior VNZ staff before a decision is made and communicated regarding the status of the individual camp/tour

Further resources

- [Ministry of Health – How to take a Rapid Antigen Test](#)
- [If you have Covid-19](#)
- [How to report your RAT results](#)
- [Volleyball NZ Covid-19 Resources – including VNZ programme guidelines](#)