

OVERVIEW OF THE EVENT

To provide clarity with regard to how COVID-19 isolation requirements might impact a Clubs' ability to field NBL1 Central teams each round and how these games will be managed during the 2022 NBL1 Central Season.

It is the view of the Competitions Department that COVID-19 isolation requirements are the equivalent to players being ill or injured i.e. unexpected events, in the sense that clubs will generally know beforehand how many players are impacted and unavailable each round.

CONSIDERATIONS

- Consideration of Clubs' ability to field teams due to COVID-19 isolations.
- District League Pre-season and Grading Competitions have shown that the number of teams having to forfeit or withdraw has been heavily impacted by close contact guidelines, however the removal of the '15 minutes in close proximity' with the increase to 4 hours should mitigate these circumstances to some degree.
- Players outside of the top 7 players impacted by isolation requirements will have a lesser impact to an NBL1 team's competitiveness and the NBL1 Central product.

APPROACH

CIRCUMSTANCE	MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
1-2 'Top 7' players in isolation	Scheduled game remains fixtured. No dispensations.
2-4 'Top 7' players in isolation	Scheduled game remains fixtured. Team may sign replacement player(s) for affected game (ie. injury waiver)
5 or more 'Top 7' players in isolation	The affected game will be cancelled and every attempt made to reschedule at a time agreed to by both affected Clubs and the League Manager. If no alternate solution can be achieved, the competitions committee will determine if this is reasonable, and if deemed reasonable, a no result will be recorded and the game will not be included in the end of season win/loss percentage.

- The top 7 players will be determined by average minutes played per game, as published on the NBL1 Central website.
- Clubs must provide evidence of a player's requirement to isolate e.g. SA Health directive and/or a statutory declaration to the League Manager explaining the players need to isolate.
- Notification must be provided to the League Manager no less than 24 hours before the scheduled game.



- If a Club reschedules a game stating COVID-19 as the reasons for the reschedule, but is found to have rescheduled for reasons other than COVID-19 isolation requirements, they will forfeit the match and receive a fine for the infraction.