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# COVID-19 SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE GUIDE FOR CAPITAL FOOTBALL AFFILIATED CLUBS

# Message from CEO Phil Brown

The COVID-19 outbreak has had a profound and far reaching impact on our everyday lives. For the global Football community, this unprecedented situation has resulted in a shutdown of all football activities. As an organisation Capital Football has had to make significant operational adjustments to ensure we remain financially viable and sustainable. We recognise that our clubs also face challenges with regards to maintaining their financial sustainability and staying connected with their members.

This Guide outlines stimulus and relief opportunities that have been released by the Federal, ACT and NSW Governments to support community organisations impacted by COVID-19. It also provides Football resources which will help keep the Football community connected as well as some valuable wellbeing and health resources.

The COVID-19 pandemic and Government's management of it is constantly evolving and changing. The information presented in this Guide, therefore, reflects available information and is current at the time of development. Clubs should also note that not every measure may apply to them and they should investigate each opportunity independently.

**PHIL BROWN**  
**CEO**

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# Federal Government Support

## 01. JobKeeper Payment

Businesses impacted by coronavirus will be able to access a subsidy from the Government to continue paying their employees. Affected employers will be able to claim a fortnightly payment of \$1,500 per eligible employee from 30 March 2020, for a maximum period of 6 months. The payment aims to help organisations retain staff and business to re-start when the COVID-19 crisis ends.

Find out more information, including eligibility requirements [here](#)



02.

## Cash Boost for Employees

Up to \$100,000 will be provided to eligible small and medium-sized business and not-for-profits that employ people. The payment is designed to assist organisation to keep operating, pay bills and retain staff.

Find out more information, including eligibility requirements [here](#)

03.

## Temporary Relief for Financially Distressed Business

Relief measures rolled out by the Government include increasing the threshold at which creditors can issue a statutory demand, and temporary relief for Directors from personal liability while trading insolvent.

[Click here](#) for more information

04.

## Australian Tax Support

Several stimulus initiatives have been released by the ATO which may be relevant to Clubs. These include but are not limited to payment deferrals, changing from quarterly to monthly GST reporting and the remission of interest and penalty charges.

Find more information [here](#)



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# NSW Government Support

01.

## Summary of Financial Support Guide

NSW Government have developed a comprehensive Guide which provides an overview of financial and stimulus measures available to various NSW sport and recreation organisations and businesses. The Guide aims to assist organisations manage the impact of COVID-19 public health measures.

The information is structured in an easy to follow format and also includes a list of 'useful links' so individuals can obtain additional information on each opportunity and source of support can be obtained.

You can access the guide [here](#)



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# ACT Government Support

The ACT Government is delivering an [Economic Survival Package](#) to support the ACT community during the COVID-19 pandemic, components of which are summarised below.

## 01. Six Month Waiver of Payroll Tax

All businesses whose operations are directly affected by the '[prohibited activities list](#)' will be eligible to receive a six-month waiver of payroll tax from April to September 2020. Businesses will need to complete an [online application form](#) to confirm their eligibility.

## 02. Payroll Tax Deferral

ACT businesses with Australia-wide wages of up to \$10 million can defer their 2020-21 payroll tax, interest free, until 1 July 2022. Eligible businesses will need to lodge their payroll tax returns as normal but will not be required to make the associated payment at the usual time. If the deferred amount is paid before 1 July 2022, no interest will be charged. Interest will be applied to any outstanding deferred amounts from 1 July 2022. [Click here](#) for more information.



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## Commercial General Rates

Commercial property owners with an Average Unimproved Value below \$2 million on their property are eligible for a rebate on their commercial rates fixed charge. Commercial rate payers will receive a credit to their 2019-20 general rates, in quarter four. This will be applied automatically.

Where rate payers have paid in full or have a quarter bill less than the credit, this will be rolled over to the next bill.

Commercial property owners will also not receive an increase on their 2020-21 Fire and Emergency Services Levy.

The government will reduce pressure on commercial property owners by deferring the issuing of commercial general rates notices for 2019-20 quarter 4 instalments by four weeks. Notices will be payable a month after the date of issue.

The ACT Revenue Office will also allow rates charges to be deferred (interest free) up to October.

For more information [click here](#)

04.

## Commercial Tenancy Relief

The government has taken steps to develop a scheme that provides relief for business tenants and owner-operated commercial properties.

Support is being provided through ensuring that the deferral or waiver of rates is targeted based on need which is determined using specific criteria.

Landlords and tenants will need to work together to reach a mutually supportive understanding. The ACT Government will also appoint a Commercial Tenancy Mediator (Business Commissioner) to support and encourage commercial landlords and tenants to engage and negotiate mutually agreeable outcomes.

05.

## Rental Relief for Community Organisations using ACT Government Properties

From 1 April 2020 a six-month waiver of rent and hire fees for community groups using ACT Government properties will be available. This mechanism has already provided an \$80,000 rental reduction to relevant sporting organisations.

The ACT Government will also review rent charges for commercial tenants of ACT Government properties whose operations have been significantly impacted by COVID-19.



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06.

## Food Business Registration, Outdoor Dining and Liquor Licensing Fees

Relevant off licenced venues and licenced venues will receive a 12-month waiver of their food business registration and liquor licencing fees from 1 April 2020. Outdoor dining fees for 2020-2021 will also be waived.

In cases where food business registration has been prepaid for more than one year in advance, an additional 12 months will be added to the license.

Businesses do not need to contact Access Canberra or the Health Protection Service for this waiver to occur. This support will be applied automatically as part of the normal annual fee licencing process.

07.

## Electrical Rebates

Additionally, amendments will be made to relevant legislation to allow payment of award wages to staff to be claimed as community contributions where an emergency declaration has been made and provide incentives for clubs to prepare food for the vulnerable.

*Clubs should note that there are other components of the Economic Survival Package that may be of interest to individuals. These include: access to portable long service leave, support for the Vocational Education and Training sector and opportunity for ACT Public Servants to gain short-term contracts.*

*In addition to seeking Government support, Clubs are also encouraged to contact their Bank, many of which are providing meaningful financial support and guidance to individuals and organisations.*



## 08. Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP)

Important changes to the Working with Vulnerable People Act 2011 have been made in response to the COVID-19 health emergency.

Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) registrations held by workers expiring on or after 16 March 2020 will be automatically extended for a period of up to six months after the cessation of the declared health emergency. WWVP registration holders will be provided with an automatic extension. If the expiry date is on or after 16 March 2020 the person is considered to be registered, regardless of the date on the card. A confirmation notice will also be provided to registration holders advising them of this extension.

### **What does this mean for our club?**

You should familiarise yourself with the above changes, but you do not need to do anything additional to the standard management controls you have in place. If any of your staff hold a registration card that expires on or after 16 March 2020, it is considered registered regardless of the expiry date. You can further check the status of a person's registration by asking them to show you the confirmation notice they would have received confirming extension to their registration.

If you would like to discuss these amendments or have any questions, please contact Narelle Bramwell, via email at [narelle.bramwell@act.gov.au](mailto:narelle.bramwell@act.gov.au) or on 02 6205 3706





# Sport and Recreation Sector

There have been a number of mechanisms rolled out that are specifically designed to assist the Sport and Recreation sector in supporting employees, reducing costs and ensuring the sector re-emerges in the strongest possible position. For a detailed outline, [click here](#).

Sport and Recreation have also created an FAQ document which provides responses to key questions regarding COVID-19 specific to sport and recreation in the ACT.

01.

## Bringing Forward the 2021 Sport and Recreation Grants Program

The Program will be brought forward by more than six months to enable the release of these funds early in 2020/21. Applications will be invited in the first half of 2020 for sector capacity (re)building projects and smaller capital works.

02.

## **Waiver of the ACT Government Sportsground Hire Fees**

The waiver from the Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate (TCCS) will apply for the 2020 winter season, starting mid-March to end of September, with all existing booking/s reserved.

03.

## **Suspension of All Outstanding Invoice Payments for ACT Gov. Sportsground Hire Fees**

The suspension of payments from TCCS will apply for an initial period through to 1 July 2020.

04.

## **Waiver of Facility Hire Fees from the ACT Education Directorate**

The waiver will apply for an initial three-month period effective 14 March through to 14 June 2020, with all existing booking/s reserved.

05.

## **Greater Flexibility for AGMs**

The ACT Revenue Office will also allow rates charges to be deferred (interest free) up to October.

*In addition to the measures outlined above the ACT Government is providing an immediate financial injection of \$700,000 to ACT peak sport and recreation bodies to help support cash flow, and early access to the 2021 Sport and Recreation Grants Program, allowing the 28 Triennially funded organisations to receive their 2021 funding allocation from 1 July 2020.*



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# Football and Sport Connect Resources

01.

## FFA Play Football Hub

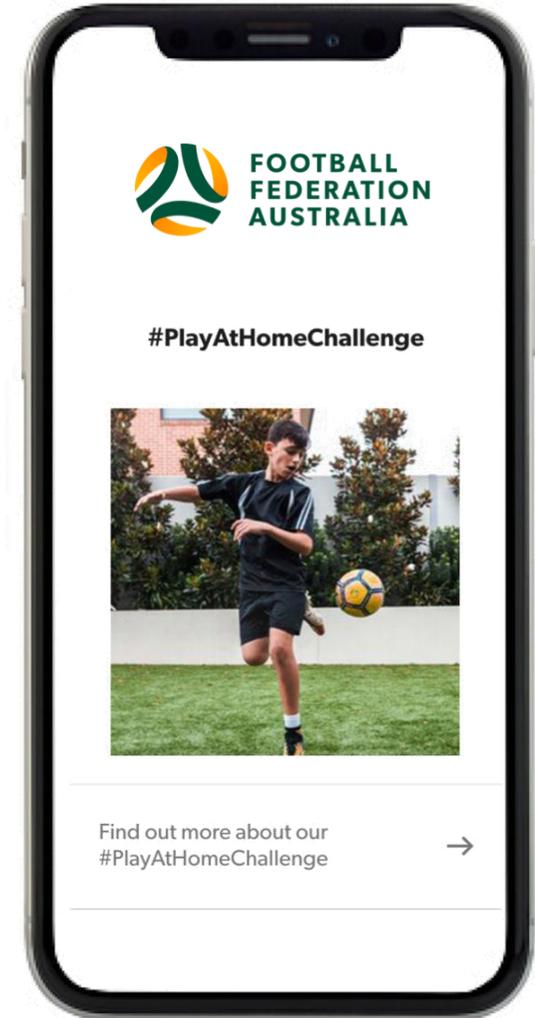
FFA recently launched an online 'skills hub', developed in association with each of the Member Federations and allowing players to progress through a series of football skills and take part in a weekly challenge. Access it [here!](#)

02.

## Opportunities for Referees and Aspiring Referees

The [entry level referee course](#) (Level 4), originally scheduled for 3 May, is being repackaged as an online training course and there are still places available, so if you have thought about getting into refereeing with Capital Football, now is a great time!

Additional referee education and development opportunities, including referee upgrading opportunities, will be rolled out by Capital Football soon. Contact [Mark](#) or [Adam](#) for more information.



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## Coach Development

[From the Sideline](#) is a series of online Q&As delivered weekly (Tuesday evenings), with each week featuring a different football guest. These sessions are open to everyone to participate in, and questions can be submitted prior to the session.

A series of online [Advanced Coach Workshops](#) are being organised by Capital Football, featuring a variety of topics to benefit our coaching community. These workshops contribute 10 re-accreditation points to participating coaches, to help them maintain their current coaching qualification.

Capital Football will be piloting online delivery of Part 1 of the theory component of the FFA B-Licence Course later in the year. FFA's plan is to deliver C Licence Courses online in 2021. More information to come.

Contact Coach Development Manager [Phil Booth](#) for more information on coach education opportunities

04.

## Pararoos Undefeated Resource

A quote taken from the Pararoos' *Undefeated At Home* website is particularly relevant in today's environment:

*"Life is not about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning how to dance in the rain."*

The website provides drills and a training structure to support the physical and emotional needs of athletes with a disability.

To test yourself with some drills or find out more information on the Pararoos [click here](#)

05.

## Walking Football Hub

The PlayFootball Walking Football Hub provides information for participants as well as access to skills and drills.

The Walking Football Play at Home Activity Guide includes a number of activities for individuals that are easy to set up and can be undertaken at the local pitch or park or the backyard.

[Click here](#) to see what all the fuss is about or for more information on Walking Football head to the [Capital Football website](#)



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04.

## Capital Football Communications

To help keep the local football community connected during this time of isolation, Capital Football is sending weekly E-Newsletters and keeping participants informed via their social media handles.

Sign up to the weekly newsletter [here](#) and check our social media accounts for regular news



05.

## Play By The Rules (PBTR)

Now is a great time to upskill yourself on a range of issues around providing fair, safe and inclusive sport environments.

PBTR provides Member Protection Information Officer training as well as training on child protection, harassment and discrimination, complaint handling and inclusion coaching.

They also offer 'mini-courses' on a range of ethical and integrity issues in sport, so you can knock one or two over in an hour!

To brush up on your knowledge or for more information [click here](#)



# Wellbeing and Mental Health

Some members of our community may be struggling to manage the social isolation restrictions in place and the significant changes to their daily lives brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. At these times it is important that we look out for each other and take care of our own emotional health.

01.

## Beyond Blue

Beyond Blue provides many support services and programs, communication activities and works to breaking down the stigma around mental health. They also have COVID-19 specific information.

Check out [their website](#) for more information or if you are worried about yourself or someone else



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02.

## Head to Health

A range of digital mental health resources, services and practical tips are provided to maintain positive mental health and wellbeing. [Their website](#) contains information on mental health, access to services, and information for parents

03.

## Australian Psychological Society

As the peak body for psychologists in Australia, the Australian Psychological Society provide a range of advocacy and support services for members. They have also published a series of Information Sheets on managing mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic and how to access psychological assistance via telehealth. [Click here](#) for more information.

04.

## Black Dog Institute

Football Federation Australia has announced a new partnership with Black Dog Institute to provide mental health education and support to the grassroots football community. The new initiative will see FFA share Black Dog's extensive range of mental health resources across its digital properties and large football network, as the Australian football family continues to assist the slowdown of the spread of COVID-19 by practicing social isolation and social distancing. Head to the [FFA website](#) or the [Black Dog Institute](#) website for more information or to access resources.



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# COVID-19 Helplines

The National Coronavirus Helpline provides general information on coronavirus. This line operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week on [1800 020 080](tel:1800020080).

The ACT Government has set up a new helpline for information about COVID-19 and how to access services. Call 02 6207 7244 between 8am and 8pm daily.



New COVID-19 Helpline **(02) 6207 7244**. Call between 8am and 8pm daily.

For health questions, including information on symptoms, call [Healthdirect](tel:1800022222) on [1800 022 222](tel:1800022222).



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# Waiver

Information provided in this Guide is general in nature and is not intended to be legal or financial advice. As such Capital Football is not liable for any loss arising from reliance on this Guide.

Every reasonable effort has been taken to ensure the information provided is correct at the time of publication and Capital Football believes that the sources accessed have provided accurate information. It is important to note, however, that information around COVID-19 and the stimulus measures rollout are constantly changing.