COVID-19: Pilot Resumption of Team Sports under Vaccination Differentiated SMMs (VDS) + Antigen Rapid Test (ART) Protocol

Dear Students,

1. On 10 November, in OSHE’s Circular 37 (Ref: Part 1e. Team Sports) pilot for groups of 10 fully vaccinated students was announced. The SMMs required in this pilot has also been outline in Annex A of OSHE’s circular. OSA has also announced this pilot in our CCA Circular on 10 November.

2. This document outlines the activities and SOP on the implementation of this pilot.

3. Overview

From 6 December 2021, up to 10 fully vaccinated persons (including players, umpires, linesmen, etc.) are allowed to play together in controlled settings and designated venues under this pilot. All other supervisory staff (e.g., coaches, staff advisors) should remain at least 2m away from the play area and 2m away from any of the participants.

4. Eligibility and Requirements of Participants

i) This pilot is only applicable for official trainings/games organised by NUS Student Groups.

ii) Only current students who are:

   a) fully vaccinated (have received the appropriate regimen of World Health Organisation Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) vaccines including their respective duration post-vaccination for the vaccine to be fully effective and have their vaccination records ingested in MOH's national IT systems (ie. HealthHub and TraceTogether App), and

   b) those who have recovered from COVID-19,

   can participate in this pilot.

iii) All participants will be required to produce a valid negative self-administered ART result taken on-site to show to the Authorised IC\(^1\) prior to the start of the training/game. If participants are taking part in more than one training/game at NUS

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\(^1\) Authorised IC can be the appointed student leader or coach responsible for the session.

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on the same day, the same negative ART result, taken on-site at the first training/game on that day can be used for the second training/game onwards. (Ref: Point 7 on On-site Screening).

5. **Safety Management Measures**

   i) Authorised IC and overseeing department will need to:

      a) Screen and ensure that all participants are eligible as stated in point 4 and see through point 7 for on-site screening before the commencement of the activity. Any participant that shows symptoms or tested ART positive on-site are to observe OSHE’s Protocol and leave the venue.

      b) Ensure that prevailing SportSG SMMs for sport and physical exercise and activities are adhered to.

      c) Allow for a minimum of 15 minutes between each training/game session and/or put in place separate routes if there are multiple training/game sessions at a time, to prevent inter-mingling and mixing between players of different training/game sessions.

6. **Team Sports and Venues**

   i) As a start, only the following team sports will be included in this VDS+ART Pilot on NUS campus:

      1) Basketball
      2) Netball
      3) Tchoukball
      4) Volleyball
      5) Sepak Takraw
      6) Futsal / Football

   ii) For facilities under the care of Sports and UTown Management Unit (SUU), SUU has designated the following venues for this pilot:

      1) USC Hall (Basketball / Netball)
      2) UT Hall 1 and 2 (Volleyball / Tchoukball)
      3) MPSH 6 (Sepak Takraw)
      4) Outdoor Multi-Purpose Courts 14 to 17 (Futsal / Football)

   iii) Student Groups who are interested to participate in this pilot at the designated SUU venues, may apply to be part of the pilot with SUU by completing this form, 1 week before the scheduled activity. Student groups must already have an existing approved REBOKS booking in the respective venues before applying for the pilot.

   iv) List of team sports and venues for this pilot may be updated as the pilot progresses.

   v) Team sport formats in other unsupervised settings such as informal and unofficial social activities will continue to adhere to the prevailing national group size.
7. **On-site Screening**

i) Authorised IC to screen on-site that all participants are fully vaccinated by checking each participant’s vaccination status on TraceTogether or uNivUS app.

ii) Authorised IC to supervise that all participants conduct a self-administered ART test on-site. Authorised IC will need to identify a space for participants to do so on-site with the SMMs in place (eg. safe distancing of 2 meters between adjacent persons doing the test).

iii) Once the ART shows a negative result, participants are to show their ART kit result to the Authorised IC. Note that this testing is independent of the current NUS FET requirements and results of this test must not be uploaded into the uNivUS app.

iv) After results of the test have been verified, each participant must bag his/her used test kit into one plastic bag and seal it. Authorised IC will provide a bigger plastic bag for participants to dispose their individual bags into.

v) Authorised IC will then seal the bag with all the used test kits with a rubber band or cable tie, ensuring that the bags are tightly tied to protect the community. Authorised IC will then throw the sealed bag into the rubbish bin immediately.

vi) Authorised IC will only grant entry into the field of play after verifying that the participant is fully vaccinated and has a negative ART result.

8. **Feedback and Queries**

Please refer to the FAQ section (Annex A). Should you have further questions, comments or feedback on this pilot, please email to sports@nus.edu.sg with the subject: Team Sports Pilot.

Thank you.

A/P Ho Han Kiat  
Dean of Students  
Office of Student Affairs

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**Stay updated:**
- NUS circulars, FAQs, emergency contact numbers, as well as useful links on the COVID-19 situation are available at emergency.nus.edu.sg.
- The latest NUS-related news, research and commentaries on COVID-19 are available here.
- Please refer to the Ministry of Health for the latest information on the COVID-19 situation in Singapore.
Annex A

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on Team Sports Pilot

1. **Qns: Who is included in the 10 pax per group?**
   
   **Ans:** The 10 pax in the group only includes players, linesmen, umpires, or referees who are expected to share the same field of play. All other persons, including coaches that are outside the field of play need to be 2m away.

2. **Qns: Does my coach need to take the onsite ART?**
   
   **Ans:** All sports coaches are required to be routinely tested under the Sport and Fitness sector. If your coach is on this routine test taken at any of the Quick Test Centres (QTC), he/she does not need to take the onsite ART. Coach needs to remain 2m away from the field of play.

3. **Qns: I am engaging an external referee/umpire for my matches. Must they take an on-site ART? Do I need to keep a record of their vaccination status and negative ART result?**
   
   **Ans:** Yes, they are required to take an on-site ART. As long as the individual is part of the group of 10 and will be sharing the field of play, an on-site negative ART result is required.

   There is no need to keep a record of their vaccination status and negative ART result. Authorised IC should screen all participants, including referees/umpires that they are fully vaccinated and have negative ART result before they are allowed to commence the session on the field of play.

4. **Qns: Can my external referee/umpire stay at the venue for more than 1 game session in a day?**
   
   **Ans:** Yes. If any participants in the group of 10 (including players, linesmen, referees/umpires) are playing consecutive game sessions, there must be a 15-min break between the game sessions.

5. **Will the ART test kits under this team sports pilot be provided by the University?**
   
   **Ans:** The University will be providing ART kits under this pilot, up to 2 trainings per week per Student Group. Student Groups interested in this pilot should approach their staff advisors for advice.

6. **Qns: Will the ART test kits under this team sports pilot be provided at the facility?**
   
   **Ans:** No. You will need to bring an unused ART test kit to the sports facility and administer the test on-site. Only after your ART test is negative on-site will you then be allowed by your Authorised IC to participate in team sports at that venue.
7. **Qns:** Can I do my ART test at home and produce evidence of the negative result (either by photo evidence, or by bringing the used test kit) when I reach the sports facility?

**Ans:** No. You will need to administer the ART test when you are at the venue under supervision of your Authorised IC.

8. **Qns:** I have a valid PET (pre-event test) result from an MoH recommended clinic / I have taken an ART at the Quick Test Centre (QTC) and the result is reflected in my HealthHub app. Will I still need to do an ART on-site for me to participate in team sports under VDS+ART?

**Ans:** If you are fully vaccinated, the valid PET result / ART result taken at the QTC may be used in lieu of the ART on-site. The negative result needs to be reflected in the TT/HH apps and within its 24-hr validity window till end of the training/game.

If you are unvaccinated, you are not allowed to participate even if you have a valid negative PET result. This includes those who are medically ineligible for vaccination and children 12 years and below who are not yet eligible for vaccination.

9. **Qns:** Who can be authorised to verify and check the ART result before the activity?

**Ans:** Student leader, captain or coach who is responsible for the scheduled session can be appointed by the overseeing department to verify and check the negative ART result.

10. **Qns:** I have more than one training/game session in one day. Do I need to do ART at the start of every training/game?

**Ans:** If trainings/games are on held on NUS facilities, you will only need to do the ART once before the start of your first training/game. You will need to take a photo of your ART negative result with a time stamp and your name or ID at your first training/game. This photo can be used to verify your ART negative result for subsequent training/games on the same day.

11. **Qns:** I want to play 5v5 basketball at the basketball court in USC hall but I have no prior REBOKS group booking. Is this allowed?

**Ans:** No, this is currently not allowed. Team sport formats in other unsupervised settings such as informal and unofficial social activities will continue to adhere to the prevailing NUS SMMs.

12. **Qns:** I want to play 5v5 football at the open-air field at the stadium but have no prior REBOKS group booking. Is this allowed?

**Ans:** No, this is currently not allowed. Team sport formats in other unsupervised settings such as informal and unofficial social activities will continue to adhere to the prevailing NUS SMMs group size.

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