

Sporting Clubs and Players Face Vaccination Dilemma



As the grace period comes to an end for Covid unvaccinated NRL and AFL players, state borders open and the Omicron variant outbreak threatens to bring masks back into a fixed part of our daily lives, the lack of consistent policy in Australian sporting clubs has created wildly different expectations on how to handle unvaccinated players and staff. While The NRL has not made vaccination mandatory, the AFL's policy of no jab, no play for the 2022 season was clear.

Last week The Guardian reported that the NRL had "dithered" around players who tested positive resulting in a parting of ways for clubs and players not willing to vaccinate. EPL Managers Steven Gerrard and Patrick Vieira now say they will take vaccination status into account when considering new signings.

So how can sporting clubs manage vaccination status and what can Australia learn from their UK counterparts, who are further into the longer-term challenges of the pandemic? The latest approach for the English Premier League is to use daily rapid antigen testing for all players, staff, and other visitors to club environments, as the English Premier League attempts to avoid a shutdown. Seven clubs have now reported positive tests this month, with two games already postponed. In the USA, several clubs in the NHL and the NFL have had to try and manage players and staff with CoVid in multiple outbreaks and are struggling with trying to cover the loss of players, as games are being forced to be delayed or moved with concurrent losses of revenue.

"vaxxvault", an Australian designed CoVid testing and vaccination management software provider has the ideal solution for sporting organisations dealing with these challenges. Purpose built and crated created by experts in e-health technology, the solution was created with these sporting testing and vaccination management challenges in mind. It does what many company systems can't, managing highly

sensitive personal information privately and securely via secure digital records of staff and contractor vaccinations and testing results at scale. By recording the vaccination status and testing of players and the wider organisations that support teams, not only does it provide a release from the administration burden of current testing methods, it allows sporting clubs to manage the risk of outbreaks within their organisation.

The solution offers fast, affordable, scalable technology to solve the complex and constantly evolving challenges of Covid. With leading edge functionality such as alerts, booster vaccination recording and the ability to handle massive amounts of tests as well it also adds value with data led insights. It helps to facilitate better business decisions, such as where to focus on Covid compliance within your workforce and proactive risk analysis. Most importantly, the data is protected by the highest standards of encryption and is not exposed to the usual IT on premise vulnerabilities of many existing HR and OHS solutions.

To learn more, contact info@vaxxvault.com for a demo or visit www.vaxxvault.com