

- Entry and exit will be through one gate in the western corner of the area as indicated by the gate location
- Players will come ready to train and will not require the use of changing sheds. Portable toilet facility to be installed

RTI RELEASE

Training Facility Plan

Sunshine Coast Falcons



Prior to the commencement of any training, players and staff will be temperature tested and screened for symptoms (daily)

Training Field

- Bus will enter into Sunshine Coast Stadium precinct via gate off Main Drive
- Players will come ready to train and will not require the use of changing sheds. Toilet facility located in the gymnasium (indicated by dumbbell)
- Indicated field will be fully fenced as depicted by the red rectangle
- Additional red lines indicated precinct fencing
- Entry and exit will be through one gate in the NW corner of the field as indicated by the bus location (less than 10 metres)
- Teams will not utilise the same field at the same time
- Ground staff will only carry out any essential maintenance at times when no players or staff are present and will be equipped in full PPE

Gymnasium

- Bus will enter into Sunshine Coast Stadium precinct via gate off Main Drive
- Exclusive use of gymnasium (dumbbell)
- Access and egress will be less than 5 metres from the bus door
- Each team will utilise the gym facility for an allocated period of time as required and not be in the venue while other groups are present

- Players and staff will wipe down all surfaces after use
- Professional cleaning to occur at the conclusion of each day of facility use

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Appendix: Additional Materials

RTI RELEASE



Appendix Two
Example of zone signage


NOVOTEL
HOTELS & RESORTS
SUNSHINE COAST
RESORT

STOP
YOU ARE NOW
ENTERING A
DIRTY ZONE.

FACE MASK & PPE
REQUIRED.

Enquiries to: Kate Coehn
Executive Lead
COVID-19 Compliance
Telephone: 07 [REDACTED]
File Ref: C-ECTF-21/10842

Queensland Health

Mr Jaymes Boland-Rudder
Head of Government and Community Relations
National Rugby League Ltd
Rugby League Central, Driver Ave
MOORE PARK NSW 2021

Email: [REDACTED]@nrl.com.au

Dear Mr Boland-Rudder

I write in response to your request for approval of the Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan (the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan) for the proposed NRL Hub located at the Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort facility, 270 Ocean Drive, Twin Waters, Sunshine Coast QLD 4564 (Novotel Twin Waters Resort) and the identified training facilities located at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort and Sunshine Coast Falcons (Sunshine Coast Stadium).

I understand your request is to relocate 12 NRL teams (players, officials, and essential support staff) from declared COVID-19 hotspots in New South Wales in order to continue the 2021 NRL Season (NRL Personnel). The NRL Personnel proposed to be based at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort in accordance with the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan from 14 July 2021 are:

1. Newcastle Knights
2. Penrith Panthers
3. Sydney Roosters
4. Manly Warringah Sea Eagles

As you are aware, the New South Wales (NSW) Government is currently managing an outbreak of COVID-19 within NSW including locations such as Greater Sydney, Wollongong and Central Coast. Queensland has subsequently declared the Local Government Areas for these locations as hotspots under the *Declared Hotspots Direction*.

I refer to the exemption I granted to these NRL teams on 14 July 2021 to enter Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot, pending the further assessment and approval of the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan.

In order to continue to facilitate this exemption and the relocation to Queensland, I have assessed and approve the Sunshine Coast Plan, subject to the following conditions:

1. Implement and comply with the Sunshine Coast Plan.
2. For absolute clarity, this approval permits the NRL Personnel to access the identified training facilities and the match-day venues during the 14-day quarantine period.

3. The NRL has provided a full list of the names, residential addresses, date of birth, contact phone numbers and email addresses of NRL Personnel who will be entering Queensland as part of the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan.
 - a. Should there be any change to the identified individuals, the NRL must immediately email an updated list (including latest COVID-19 test results) to COVID-19.Compliance@health.qld.gov.au.
4. All players, officials or essential support staff are to continue to monitor the list of interstate exposure venues and notify COVID-19.compliance@health.qld.gov.au immediately if any of the NRL Personnel have been at these venues at the nominated day and time.
5. All transportation of the teams within Queensland is to be undertaken using an Endorsed Transport Provider.
 - a. For further information, go to <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions/covid-19-testing-for-quarantine-facility-workers/endorsed-transport-providers>.
6. All NRL Personnel must complete a Queensland Border Declaration Pass prior to entering Queensland. For further information, go to <https://www.qld.gov.au/border-pass>.
7. There must be no close contact between NRL Personnel and non-quarantined persons including, but not limited to, members of the public, media, transport providers, training facility staff and Accommodation Hub staff.
 - a. Access to training facilities must have a similar set-up as the Accommodation Hub with established red and green zones and processes.
8. In the event that NRL Personnel are required to leave the Sunshine Coast Hub for medical treatment or testing, the ambulance service and receiving hospital are to be notified in advance that the Personnel is in quarantine. Prior to leaving the hub the public health unit is to be informed at EOC_SCPHU@health.qld.gov.au.
9. A schedule of all training and match-day venue movements must be developed in accordance with the Accommodation Hub and these venues and if requested supplied to the public health unit at EOC_SCPHU@health.qld.gov.au.
10. If any NRL Personnel or Accommodation Hub staff develops symptoms related to COVID-19, they must immediately isolate until they receive a negative COVID-19 test result.
11. The NRL are responsible for ensuring all NRL Personnel comply with the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan including, but not limited to:
 - a. adhering to all schedules developed and implemented by the Accommodation Hub staff such as mealtimes, access to transition zones and access to entry/exits.
 - b. ensuring meal areas, common areas, and rooms are all cleaned and disinfected between use.
 - c. cleaning of any spills and breakages.
 - d. Strict adherence to the processes for accessing and staying within:
 - i. Red zones
 - ii. Transition Zones
 - iii. Green Zones
12. At a minimum, there must be 24/7 security positioned at each entry and exit point to the Accommodation Hub for the duration of the quarantine period.
13. The NRL must work with the Accommodation Hub staff to develop and implement scheduled and staged mealtimes to ensure all NRL Personnel are not in the meal area at the same time.

- a. It is suggested this is in dedicated “seatings” of 45 minutes with adequate time scheduled between seatings to ensure the refill of food by Accommodation Hub staff can occur without any NRL Personnel in the area.
14. All Accommodation Hub areas and training facilities (including gymnasiums) that are accessible to the NRL Personnel are to be exclusive use.
- a. Exclusive use means for the sole purpose of the NRL Personnel for the duration of the 14-day quarantine period. There must be no access by any other persons to these areas other than in an emergency.
15. For absolute clarity, the laundry of personal items conducted by NRL Personnel is only permitted in the red zone. All laundry of items outside the red zone must follow the laundry process outlined below and in the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan.
16. Laundry and linen must be laundered by a Laundry which meets the Australian Standards (AS/NZS 4146:2000 Laundry Practice) for commercial laundries.
17. No cleaning of accommodation rooms, dining areas, training facilities or any other facility or location is permitted by Accommodation Hub staff or any other cleaning contractor throughout the duration of the quarantine period, the quarantine period being up to and including the return of negative day 12 COVID-19 test results for all NRL Personnel and all Accommodation Hub staff. Cleaning must be in accordance with requirements as outlined in the [Queensland Health COVID-19 cleaning, disinfection and waste management policy](#).
- a. NRL Personnel must clean all equipment prior to and on completion of use at training facilities, including designated training facilities at the Accommodation Hub and any other external training facility.
18. If Accommodation Hub staff enter a Red Zone or there is an interaction with a NRL Personnel, then the Public Health Unit must also be notified of the incident.
19. NRL is responsible for ensuring any private members of the public who are owner-occupiers of units and/or property at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort are not permitted entry or access to the Accommodation Hub for the duration of the quarantine period. The Public Health Unit must be notified immediately of any breach of this condition.
20. Clarify that when wheelie bins are to be positioned in the Transition Zones for the collection of waste, all high touch points on the bins are to be thoroughly cleaned prior to the wheelie bins being moved by the Accommodation Hub Staff.
21. In the event that an individual reports symptoms, the individual is not to be sent off-site for assessment, without first consulting with the Public Health Unit.
22. All individuals must adhere to PPE requirements in accordance with the *Mandatory Face Masks Direction* (No. 2), effective from 22 March 2021 or its successor including:
- i. A person at a **Queensland airport** must:
1. carry a **face mask** at all times; and
 2. wear a **face mask** in all areas of a **Queensland airport**, including a passenger waiting area, at all times when at the airport; and
 3. wear a **face mask** where required to do so in accordance with any other Public Health Directions in effect under section 362B of the *Public Health Act 2005*.

Note: A face mask must be worn in all indoor and outdoor areas at a Queensland airport.

23. The *Restrictions for Impacted Areas Direction* (No. 8) took effect from 3 July 2021 and includes the Sunshine Coast Local Government Areas (LGA) as an impacted area. Noting the locations proposed by NRL for accommodation, training and matches are located within this LGA, all individuals must comply with requirements stated in the *Restrictions for Impacted Areas Direction* (No. 8) until revoked, including:

- a. All persons who are in or have been in an impacted area at any time from 1.00am on 29 June 2021 must carry a face mask at all times; and wear a face mask covering the nose and mouth at all times if they are in an indoor space or an outdoor space. Noting that these requirements do not apply to a person in an outdoor space, including a workplace, if the person can maintain physical distance from people who are not members of their household; or to a person in an indoor space that is a residence, temporary accommodation.
 - b. For professional sporting codes, elite sport and elite athletes, occupant density requirements do not apply on the field of play, however physical distancing applies off the field of play to the extent possible.
24. All NRL Personnel and Accommodation Hub staff are required to comply with requirements outlined in the *Restrictions on Businesses, Activities and Undertaking* (No. 21) or its successor.
 25. The NRL, NRL Personnel and Accommodation Hub staff must maintain ongoing communications with and follow any Direction given by the local Public Health Unit, including an Emergency Officer (General) within designated timeframes.
 26. Strict adherence is required by all NRL Personnel in completing and submitting a *Daily Health Confirmation* in accordance with the Player & Club Protocol. Strict adherence is required by all Players and Club Officials in completing and submitting a *Daily Whereabouts Confirmation* in accordance with the Player & Club Protocol.
 27. All teams within the NRL 2021 Season that are not within a Hub arrangement must continue to operate under the Level 4 Apollo Match-Day Protocol and the Level 4 Apollo Player and Club Protocol 2021.
 28. NRL must provide the name and contact details of a designated NRL Personnel member responsible for actively monitoring compliance with the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan.
 29. Any breach of the requirements to the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan, unintentional or otherwise, must be immediately reported to Sunshine Coast Public Health Unit.
 30. All COVID-19 test results be provided to Queensland Health via Compliance@health.qld.gov.au. Test results are to be provided to Queensland Health within 8 hours of their receipt by the NRL.
 31. Upon confirmation of Day 12 COVID-19 test result being negative for all Accommodation Hub staff and NRL Personnel, the Accommodation Hub may return to delivering normal hotel services to the NRL Personnel.
 - a. There must be no hotel services provided to any other persons until the 14-day quarantine has been completed.
 32. The Queensland Health contact person for the Sunshine Coast Plan is:
 - a. Greg Bennett, [s\[redacted\]@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:s[redacted]@health.qld.gov.au).
 33. Queensland Police Service are to be immediately informed of all breaches of quarantine to Andrew Massingham at [\[redacted\]@police.qld.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@police.qld.gov.au)
 34. At all times physical distancing must be maintained as much as practicable.
 35. At all times hand and respiratory hygiene are to be encouraged
 36. An amended Sunshine Coast Hub Plan that incorporates the conditions of this approval must be provided to [\[redacted\]@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:[redacted]@health.qld.gov.au) within 3 business days of this approval.
 37. Where inconsistencies exist between the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan and the Chief Health Officer approved conditions, the approved conditions take precedence.

This approval does not include media and broadcast personnel who are intending to arrive in Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot for the 2021 NRL Season. Any exemption request will be considered as a separate application and assessment to this approval.

Please note that this approval may be revoked or varied if Queensland, New South Wales and/or Australia experiences an increasing number of COVID-19 cases, there is an outbreak(s) of COVID-19 or further COVID-19 hotspots are declared.

Should you require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact Ms Kate Coehn, Executive Lead, COVID-19 Compliance, on telephone (07) [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]@health.qld.gov.au.

Thank you for the high level of engagement between the NRL, Queensland Health and other Queensland Government Departments. This high level of cooperation and coordination demonstrates that you are taking your responsibilities for managing COVID-19 risks to the NRL and the broader community seriously. I wish you all the best for the continuation of the 2021 NRL Season.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young PSM
Queensland Chief Health Officer
Deputy Director-General
/ /

RTI RELEASE

Prepared by: Andrea Henning Cruickshank
(Author) Senior Public Health Officer
COVID-19 Compliance

[REDACTED]
14 July 2021

Cleared by: Chris Wold
(Director) Team Lead
COVID-19 Compliance

[REDACTED]
14 July 2021

Cleared by: Kate Coehn
(Executive Director) Executive Lead
COVID-19 Compliance

[REDACTED]
14 July 2021

RTI RELEASE

From: [Jeannette Young](#)
To: [CHO COVID](#)
Cc: [Kyle Fogarty](#)
Subject: HPE CM: RE: FOR APPROVAL - C-ECTF-21/10742 - CD 12 JUL 2021 - COVID-19 - CHO BA - NRL Apollo Player & Club and Match-Day Protocols 2021 – Level 4
Date: Wednesday, 14 July 2021 11:05:37 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Approved and I am happy to use my e signature for the brief and the letter



Dr Jeannette Young PSM
 MBBS (Sydney), MBA (Macq), DUni (Griffith),
 DUni (QUT), FRACMA, FFPH, FCHSM(Hon)
 Chief Health Officer and Deputy Director-
 General
 Queensland Health

P (07) [redacted]
E [redacted]@health.qld.gov.au
W [health.qld.gov.au](#)
A [33 Charlotte Street, Brisbane QLD 4000](#)

campaign image



Queensland Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land across Queensland, and pays respect to First Nations Elders past, present and future.

From: CHO COVID [redacted]@health.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 July 2021 10:37 AM
To: Jeannette Young [redacted]@health.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Kyle Fogarty [redacted]@health.qld.gov.au>; CHO COVID [redacted] - [redacted]@health.qld.gov.au>
Subject: FOR APPROVAL - C-ECTF-21/10742 - CD 12 JUL 2021 - COVID-19 - CHO BA - NRL Apollo Player & Club and Match-Day Protocols 2021 – Level 4

Good morning Dr Young
 Please see attached CHO brief for your review and approval.
 Reviewed by Rachel Hoffman, CHO COVID.
 Do you approve the brief and use of your e-signature?
 Thank you.
 Kind regards

Amanda



Amanda Dagger
Senior Correspondence Officer
 Executive Correspondence and
 Liaison
 CHO COVID
 Office of the Chief Health Officer |
 Queensland Health

P (07) [redacted]
E [redacted]@health.qld.gov.au
W [health.qld.gov.au](#)
A [Level 7, 33 Charlotte Steet, Brisbane 4000](#)

campaign image



Queensland Health acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land across Queensland, and pays respect to First Nations Elders past, present and future.

From: [CHO COVID](#)
To: [redacted]@nrl.com.au
Cc: [CHO COVID](#); [Kyle Fogarty](#); [COVID-19 Compliance](#); [Kate Coehn](#); [Chris Wold](#)
Subject: C-ECTF-21/10870 - CHO Letter - NRL Exemptions
Date: Wednesday, 14 July 2021 11:03:00 AM
Attachments: [20210714 - NRL exemptions - CHO Letter.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[Attach 1 - Exemptions - NRL - FINAL.pdf](#)

Good morning,
 Please see attached, letter from Dr Jeannette Young, Queensland Chief Health Officer and Deputy Director-General, Queensland Health dated 14 July 2021.

Kind regards,

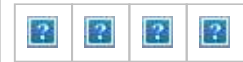
YJ



Ying Juin Yip (YJ)
Senior Correspondence Officer
 Executive Correspondence and Liaison
 CHO COVID
 Office of the Chief Health Officer
 and Deputy Director-General
 Queensland Health

E [redacted]@health.qld.gov.au
W [health.qld.gov.au](#)
A [GPO Box 48, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

campaign image



Queensland Health acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

RTI RELEASED

Enquiries to: Kate Coehn
Executive Director
COVID-19 Compliance
Telephone: (07) [REDACTED]
File Ref: C-ECTF-21/10870

Queensland Health

James Boland-Rudder
Head of Partnerships
National Rugby League Ltd
Rugby League Central
Driver Avenue
MOORE PARK NSW 2021

Email: [REDACTED]@nrl.com.au

Dear Mr Boland-Rudder

I write in response to your submission of the National Rugby League (NRL) request to enter Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot to facilitate the continuation of the NRL 2021 Season.

In order to facilitate the continuation of the NRL 2021 Season, I am approving exemptions from the Public Health Directions, as outlined in the attached table. These exemptions are being granted on the basis that there are extreme exceptional circumstances, namely:

- due to the worsening COVID-19 situation in New South Wales the entire NRL 2021 season is in jeopardy
- the changing situation with COVID-19 has meant that the declaration of interstate locations as COVID-19 hotspots has a significant impact on the progression of the season
- the persons arriving in Queensland will quarantine, mitigating the public health risk that they pose to the community coming from a COVID-19 hotspot
- sport is vital to the mental health and wellbeing of the Queensland and Australian community, particularly as we continue to be in the midst of responding to the pandemic
- Queensland is an appropriate location for maintenance of the season, particularly given the experience in managing hubs and COVID-safe measures during the 2020 season
- the incoming persons will not place pressure on Queensland's quarantine capacity as they are able to be managed in an equivalent arrangement in nominated premises
- NRL will operate under the NRL Apollo Player & Club Protocols and the NRL Apollo Match-Day Protocols, Level 4, which is aimed at managing the risk of the spread of infection
- given the ongoing uncertainty of the situation, permitting entry into Queensland is an appropriate balance between continuing the NRL 2021 Season and managing the risk of infection from interstate

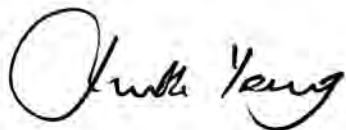
This exemption is subject to the approval of the Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan for the 3 x NRL Hubs in Queensland. These Plans are currently under assessment by Queensland Health and you will receive further correspondence once this assessment has been completed.

For clarity, this exemption applies only to the arrangements outlined therein.

Should you require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact Kate Coehn, Executive Director, COVID-19 Compliance, on telephone (07) [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]@health.qld.gov.au.

Thank you again for your ongoing commitment to the safety of Queenslanders.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jeannette Young
Queensland Chief Health Officer
Deputy Director-General
Queensland Health
14 July 2021

Enc.

RTI RELEASE

Appendix 1

Table of exemptions from the Public Health Directions for National Rugby League as at 14 July 2021

Exemptions

I, Dr Jeannette Young, Queensland Chief Health Officer, grant the following exemptions from the Public Health Directions to National Rugby League. These exemptions only apply to the extent that a person is operating in their capacity as part of the NRL 2021 Season. If a person is undertaking normal activities in daily life, then they must comply with the requirements of the Public Health Directions.

Direction	Requirement	Exemption
<i>Border restrictions Direction (no.26) or its successor Direction</i>	<p>Paragraph 4 – A person who has been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the 14 days prior to entering Queensland must not enter Queensland unless permitted under Part 2.</p> <p>Paragraph 18 – A person listed in column 1 of schedule 1 who enters Queensland must quarantine in accordance with the requirements in column 4 of schedule 1.</p> <p>Paragraph 20 – A person required to quarantine under this part will be quarantined for a further period of 14 days from the end of the quarantine period if the person is not tested for COVID-19 when requested to do so by an emergency officer (public health), including as soon as possible after arrival at the nominated premises, between day 5 and 7 and on day 12 or 13 of the person's quarantine period.</p>	<p>NRL players, staff, and officials from the 12 nominated teams are permitted to enter Queensland if they have been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the preceding 14 days provided in the entry is in their capacity as part of NRL 2021 Season.</p> <p>The exemption is granted on the condition they complete 14 days of quarantine in a nominated premise and in accordance with the NRL Quarantine Accommodation and Training Facility Management Plan (NRL Hub).</p>

From: [CHO COVID](#)
To: [Aimee Du Toit](#); [Bronwyn Nardi](#); [COVID19 Vaccination Taskforce](#); [Compliance](#); [Quarantine](#); [Dawn Schofield](#); [Direction Exemptions](#); [HDESCorro](#); [Corro](#); [Kate Coehn](#); [Kaylene Sutherland](#); [Kyle Fogarty](#); [Luke Humphreys](#); [Peter Aitken](#); [publichealthdirections](#); [Rachael Vowles](#); [Renaie Tesch](#); [Response Lead - Policy](#); [Response.Lead](#); [Response.Lead.Engagement](#); [Response.Lead.Reporting](#); [Rowena Richardson](#); [Scott Brown](#); [SHECC](#); [SHECC.XO](#)
Cc: [CHO COVID](#)
Subject: HPE CM: FOR NOTING: C-ECTF-21/10870 - CHO Letter - NRL Exemptions
Date: Wednesday, 14 July 2021 11:19:43 AM
Attachments: [20210714 - NRL exemptions - CHO Letter.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[Attach 1 - Exemptions - NRL - FINAL.pdf](#)

Good morning,
Please note the below email and attached has been sent this morning.
Kind regards,
YJ

Queensland Government



Ying Juin Yip (YJ)

Senior Correspondence Officer
Executive Correspondence and Liaison
CHO COVID
Office of the Chief Health Officer
and Deputy Director-General
Queensland Health

E [@health.qld.gov.au](#)
W [health.qld.gov.au](#)
A [GPO Box 48, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

campaign image



Queensland Health acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

From: CHO COVID [@health.qld.gov.au](#)>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 July 2021 11:04 AM
To: [@nrl.com.au](#)
Cc: CHO COVID [@health.qld.gov.au](#)>; Kyle Fogarty [@health.qld.gov.au](#)>; [.Compliance](#) [@health.qld.gov.au](#)>; Kate Coehn [@health.qld.gov.au](#)>; Chris Wold [@health.qld.gov.au](#)>
Subject: C-ECTF-21/10870 - CHO Letter - NRL Exemptions

Good morning,
Please see attached, letter from Dr Jeannette Young, Queensland Chief Health Officer and Deputy Director-General, Queensland Health dated 14 July 2021.
Kind regards,
YJ

Queensland Government



Ying Juin Yip (YJ)

Senior Correspondence Officer
Executive Correspondence and Liaison
CHO COVID
Office of the Chief Health Officer
and Deputy Director-General
Queensland Health

E [@health.qld.gov.au](#)
W [health.qld.gov.au](#)
A [GPO Box 48, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

campaign image



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RTI RELEASE

Enquiries to: Kate Coehn
Executive Director
COVID-19 Compliance
Telephone: (07) [REDACTED]
File Ref: C-ECTF-21/10870

Queensland Health

James Boland-Rudder
Head of Partnerships
National Rugby League Ltd
Rugby League Central
Driver Avenue
MOORE PARK NSW 2021

Email: [REDACTED]@nrl.com.au

Dear Mr Boland-Rudder

I write in response to your submission of the National Rugby League (NRL) request to enter Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot to facilitate the continuation of the NRL 2021 Season.

In order to facilitate the continuation of the NRL 2021 Season, I am approving exemptions from the Public Health Directions, as outlined in the attached table. These exemptions are being granted on the basis that there are extreme exceptional circumstances, namely:

- due to the worsening COVID-19 situation in New South Wales the entire NRL 2021 season is in jeopardy
- the changing situation with COVID-19 has meant that the declaration of interstate locations as COVID-19 hotspots has a significant impact on the progression of the season
- the persons arriving in Queensland will quarantine, mitigating the public health risk that they pose to the community coming from a COVID-19 hotspot
- sport is vital to the mental health and wellbeing of the Queensland and Australian community, particularly as we continue to be in the midst of responding to the pandemic
- Queensland is an appropriate location for maintenance of the season, particularly given the experience in managing hubs and COVID-safe measures during the 2020 season
- the incoming persons will not place pressure on Queensland's quarantine capacity as they are able to be managed in an equivalent arrangement in nominated premises
- NRL will operate under the NRL Apollo Player & Club Protocols and the NRL Apollo Match-Day Protocols, Level 4, which is aimed at managing the risk of the spread of infection
- given the ongoing uncertainty of the situation, permitting entry into Queensland is an appropriate balance between continuing the NRL 2021 Season and managing the risk of infection from interstate

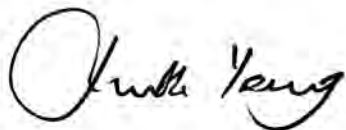
This exemption is subject to the approval of the Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan for the 3 x NRL Hubs in Queensland. These Plans are currently under assessment by Queensland Health and you will receive further correspondence once this assessment has been completed.

For clarity, this exemption applies only to the arrangements outlined therein.

Should you require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact Kate Coehn, Executive Director, COVID-19 Compliance, on telephone (07) [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]@health.qld.gov.au.

Thank you again for your ongoing commitment to the safety of Queenslanders.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jeannette Young
Queensland Chief Health Officer
Deputy Director-General
Queensland Health
14 July 2021

Enc.

RTI RELEASE

Appendix 1

Table of exemptions from the Public Health Directions for National Rugby League as at 14 July 2021

Exemptions

I, Dr Jeannette Young, Queensland Chief Health Officer, grant the following exemptions from the Public Health Directions to National Rugby League. These exemptions only apply to the extent that a person is operating in their capacity as part of the NRL 2021 Season. If a person is undertaking normal activities in daily life, then they must comply with the requirements of the Public Health Directions.

Direction	Requirement	Exemption
<i>Border restrictions Direction (no.26) or its successor Direction</i>	<p>Paragraph 4 – A person who has been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the 14 days prior to entering Queensland must not enter Queensland unless permitted under Part 2.</p> <p>Paragraph 18 – A person listed in column 1 of schedule 1 who enters Queensland must quarantine in accordance with the requirements in column 4 of schedule 1.</p> <p>Paragraph 20 – A person required to quarantine under this part will be quarantined for a further period of 14 days from the end of the quarantine period if the person is not tested for COVID-19 when requested to do so by an emergency officer (public health), including as soon as possible after arrival at the nominated premises, between day 5 and 7 and on day 12 or 13 of the person's quarantine period.</p>	<p>NRL players, staff, and officials from the 12 nominated teams are permitted to enter Queensland if they have been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the preceding 14 days provided in the entry is in their capacity as part of NRL 2021 Season.</p> <p>The exemption is granted on the condition they complete 14 days of quarantine in a nominated premise and in accordance with the NRL Quarantine Accommodation and Training Facility Management Plan (NRL Hub).</p>

From: [CHO COVID](#)
To: [\[redacted\]@nrl.com.au](#)
Cc: [CHO COVID](#); [Kyle Fogarty](#); [COVID-19 Compliance](#); [Kate Coehn](#); [Chris Wold](#)
Subject: HPE CM: C-ECTF-21/10842 - CHO Letter - NRL HUB - Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort
Date: Wednesday, 14 July 2021 3:00:59 PM
Attachments: [20210714 - CHO Letter - NRL HUB - Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort.pdf](#)
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[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[Attach 1 - NRL HUBS - OMP - Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort v1.0 140721.pdf](#)

Good afternoon,

Please see attached, letter from Dr Jeannette Young, Queensland Chief Health Officer and Deputy Director-General, Queensland Health dated 14 July 2021.

Kind regards,

YJ



Ying Juin Yip (YJ)

Senior Correspondence Officer

Executive Correspondence and Liaison

CHO COVID

Office of the Chief Health Officer

and Deputy Director-General

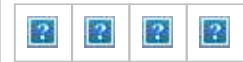
Queensland Health

E [\[redacted\]@health.qld.gov.au](#)

W [health.qld.gov.au](#)

A [GPO Box 48, Brisbane QLD 4001](#)

campaign image



Queensland Health acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

RTI RELEASED



Enquiries to: Kate Coehn
Executive Lead
COVID-19 Compliance
Telephone: 07 [REDACTED]
File Ref: C-ECTF-21/10842

Queensland Health

Mr Jaymes Boland-Rudder
Head of Government and Community Relations
National Rugby League Ltd
Rugby League Central, Driver Ave
MOORE PARK NSW 2021

Email: [REDACTED]@nrl.com.au

Dear Mr Boland-Rudder

I write in response to your request for approval of the Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan (the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan) for the proposed NRL Hub located at the Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort facility, 270 Ocean Drive, Twin Waters, Sunshine Coast QLD 4564 (Novotel Twin Waters Resort) and the identified training facilities located at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort and Sunshine Coast Falcons (Sunshine Coast Stadium).

I understand your request is to relocate 12 NRL teams (players, officials, and essential support staff) from declared COVID-19 hotspots in New South Wales in order to continue the 2021 NRL Season (NRL Personnel). The NRL Personnel proposed to be based at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort in accordance with the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan from 14 July 2021 are:

1. Newcastle Knights
2. Penrith Panthers
3. Sydney Roosters
4. Manly Warringah Sea Eagles

As you are aware, the New South Wales (NSW) Government is currently managing an outbreak of COVID-19 within NSW including locations such as Greater Sydney, Wollongong and Central Coast. Queensland has subsequently declared the Local Government Areas for these locations as hotspots under the *Declared Hotspots Direction*.

I refer to the exemption I granted to these NRL teams on 14 July 2021 to enter Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot, pending the further assessment and approval of the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan.

In order to continue to facilitate this exemption and the relocation to Queensland, I have assessed and approve the Sunshine Coast Plan, subject to the following conditions:

1. Implement and comply with the Sunshine Coast Plan.
2. For absolute clarity, this approval permits the NRL Personnel to access the identified training facilities and the match-day venues during the 14-day quarantine period.

3. The NRL has provided a full list of the names, residential addresses, date of birth, contact phone numbers and email addresses of NRL Personnel who will be entering Queensland as part of the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan.
 - a. Should there be any change to the identified individuals, the NRL must immediately email an updated list (including latest COVID-19 test results) to COVID-19.Compliance@health.qld.gov.au.
4. All players, officials or essential support staff are to continue to monitor the list of interstate exposure venues and notify COVID-19.compliance@health.qld.gov.au immediately if any of the NRL Personnel have been at these venues at the nominated day and time.
5. All transportation of the teams within Queensland is to be undertaken using an Endorsed Transport Provider.
 - a. For further information, go to <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions/covid-19-testing-for-quarantine-facility-workers/endorsed-transport-providers>.
6. All NRL Personnel must complete a Queensland Border Declaration Pass prior to entering Queensland. For further information, go to <https://www.qld.gov.au/border-pass>.
7. There must be no close contact between NRL Personnel and non-quarantined persons including, but not limited to, members of the public, media, transport providers, training facility staff and Accommodation Hub staff.
 - a. Access to training facilities must have a similar set-up as the Accommodation Hub with established red and green zones and processes.
8. In the event that NRL Personnel are required to leave the Sunshine Coast Hub for medical treatment or testing, the ambulance service and receiving hospital are to be notified in advance that the Personnel is in quarantine. Prior to leaving the hub the public health unit is to be informed at EOC_SCPHU@health.qld.gov.au.
9. A schedule of all training and match-day venue movements must be developed in accordance with the Accommodation Hub and these venues and if requested supplied to the public health unit at EOC_SCPHU@health.qld.gov.au.
10. If any NRL Personnel or Accommodation Hub staff develops symptoms related to COVID-19, they must immediately isolate until they receive a negative COVID-19 test result.
11. The NRL are responsible for ensuring all NRL Personnel comply with the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan including, but not limited to:
 - a. adhering to all schedules developed and implemented by the Accommodation Hub staff such as mealtimes, access to transition zones and access to entry/exits.
 - b. ensuring meal areas, common areas, and rooms are all cleaned and disinfected between use.
 - c. cleaning of any spills and breakages.
 - d. Strict adherence to the processes for accessing and staying within:
 - i. Red zones
 - ii. Transition Zones
 - iii. Green Zones
12. At a minimum, there must be 24/7 security positioned at each entry and exit point to the Accommodation Hub for the duration of the quarantine period.
13. The NRL must work with the Accommodation Hub staff to develop and implement scheduled and staged mealtimes to ensure all NRL Personnel are not in the meal area at the same time.

- a. It is suggested this is in dedicated “seatings” of 45 minutes with adequate time scheduled between seatings to ensure the refill of food by Accommodation Hub staff can occur without any NRL Personnel in the area.
14. All Accommodation Hub areas and training facilities (including gymnasiums) that are accessible to the NRL Personnel are to be exclusive use.
- a. Exclusive use means for the sole purpose of the NRL Personnel for the duration of the 14-day quarantine period. There must be no access by any other persons to these areas other than in an emergency.
15. For absolute clarity, the laundry of personal items conducted by NRL Personnel is only permitted in the red zone. All laundry of items outside the red zone must follow the laundry process outlined below and in the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan.
16. Laundry and linen must be laundered by a Laundry which meets the Australian Standards (AS/NZS 4146:2000 Laundry Practice) for commercial laundries.
17. No cleaning of accommodation rooms, dining areas, training facilities or any other facility or location is permitted by Accommodation Hub staff or any other cleaning contractor throughout the duration of the quarantine period, the quarantine period being up to and including the return of negative day 12 COVID-19 test results for all NRL Personnel and all Accommodation Hub staff. Cleaning must be in accordance with requirements as outlined in the Queensland Health COVID-19 cleaning, disinfection and waste management policy.
- a. NRL Personnel must clean all equipment prior to and on completion of use at training facilities, including designated training facilities at the Accommodation Hub and any other external training facility.
18. If Accommodation Hub staff enter a Red Zone or there is an interaction with a NRL Personnel, then the Public Health Unit must also be notified of the incident.
19. NRL is responsible for ensuring any private members of the public who are owner-occupiers of units and/or property at the Novotel Twin Waters Resort are not permitted entry or access to the Accommodation Hub for the duration of the quarantine period. The Public Health Unit must be notified immediately of any breach of this condition.
20. Clarify that when wheelie bins are to be positioned in the Transition Zones for the collection of waste, all high touch points on the bins are to be thoroughly cleaned prior to the wheelie bins being moved by the Accommodation Hub Staff.
21. In the event that an individual reports symptoms, the individual is not to be sent off-site for assessment, without first consulting with the Public Health Unit.
22. All individuals must adhere to PPE requirements in accordance with the *Mandatory Face Masks Direction* (No. 2), effective from 22 March 2021 or its successor including:
- i. A person at a **Queensland airport** must:
1. carry a **face mask** at all times; and
 2. wear a **face mask** in all areas of a **Queensland airport**, including a passenger waiting area, at all times when at the airport; and
 3. wear a **face mask** where required to do so in accordance with any other Public Health Directions in effect under section 362B of the *Public Health Act 2005*.

Note: A face mask must be worn in all indoor and outdoor areas at a Queensland airport.

23. The *Restrictions for Impacted Areas Direction* (No. 8) took effect from 3 July 2021 and includes the Sunshine Coast Local Government Areas (LGA) as an impacted area. Noting the locations proposed by NRL for accommodation, training and matches are located within this LGA, all individuals must comply with requirements stated in the *Restrictions for Impacted Areas Direction* (No. 8) until revoked, including:
 - a. All persons who are in or have been in an impacted area at any time from 1.00am on 29 June 2021 must carry a face mask at all times; and wear a face mask covering the nose and mouth at all times if they are in an indoor space or an outdoor space. Noting that these requirements do not apply to a person in an outdoor space, including a workplace, if the person can maintain physical distance from people who are not members of their household; or to a person in an indoor space that is a residence, temporary accommodation.
 - b. For professional sporting codes, elite sport and elite athletes, occupant density requirements do not apply on the field of play, however physical distancing applies off the field of play to the extent possible.
24. All NRL Personnel and Accommodation Hub staff are required to comply with requirements outlined in the *Restrictions on Businesses, Activities and Undertaking* (No. 21) or its successor.
25. The NRL, NRL Personnel and Accommodation Hub staff must maintain ongoing communications with and follow any Direction given by the local Public Health Unit, including an Emergency Officer (General) within designated timeframes.
26. Strict adherence is required by all NRL Personnel in completing and submitting a *Daily Health Confirmation* in accordance with the Player & Club Protocol. Strict adherence is required by all Players and Club Officials in completing and submitting a *Daily Whereabouts Confirmation* in accordance with the Player & Club Protocol.
27. All teams within the NRL 2021 Season that are not within a Hub arrangement must continue to operate under the Level 4 Apollo Match-Day Protocol and the Level 4 Apollo Player and Club Protocol 2021.
28. NRL must provide the name and contact details of a designated NRL Personnel member responsible for actively monitoring compliance with the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan.
29. Any breach of the requirements to the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan, unintentional or otherwise, must be immediately reported to Sunshine Coast Public Health Unit.
30. All COVID-19 test results be provided to Queensland Health via [REDACTED]@health.qld.gov.au. Test results are to be provided to Queensland Health within 8 hours of their receipt by the NRL.
31. Upon confirmation of Day 12 COVID-19 test result being negative for all Accommodation Hub staff and NRL Personnel, the Accommodation Hub may return to delivering normal hotel services to the NRL Personnel.
 - a. There must be no hotel services provided to any other persons until the 14-day quarantine has been completed.
32. The Queensland Health contact person for the Sunshine Coast Plan is:
 - a. Greg Bennett, [REDACTED]@health.qld.gov.au.
33. Queensland Police Service are to be immediately informed of all breaches of quarantine to Andrew Massingham at [REDACTED]@police.qld.gov.au
34. At all times physical distancing must be maintained as much as practicable.
35. At all times hand and respiratory hygiene are to be encouraged
36. An amended Sunshine Coast Hub Plan that incorporates the conditions of this approval must be provided to [REDACTED]Compliance@health.qld.gov.au within 3 business days of this approval.

37. Where inconsistencies exist between the Sunshine Coast Hub Plan and the Chief Health Officer approved conditions, the approved conditions take precedence.

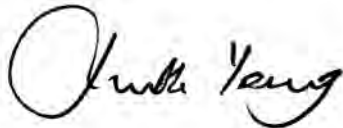
This approval does not include media and broadcast personnel who are intending to arrive in Queensland from a declared COVID-19 hotspot for the 2021 NRL Season. Any exemption request will be considered as a separate application and assessment to this approval.

Please note that this approval may be revoked or varied if Queensland, New South Wales and/or Australia experiences an increasing number of COVID-19 cases, there is an outbreak(s) of COVID-19 or further COVID-19 hotspots are declared.

Should you require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact Ms Kate Coehn, Executive Lead, COVID-19 Compliance, on telephone (07) [REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]@health.qld.gov.au.

Thank you for the high level of engagement between the NRL, Queensland Health and other Queensland Government Departments. This high level of cooperation and coordination demonstrates that you are taking your responsibilities for managing COVID-19 risks to the NRL and the broader community seriously. I wish you all the best for the continuation of the 2021 NRL Season.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jeannette Young PSM
Queensland Chief Health Officer
Deputy Director-General
Queensland Health
14 July 2021



Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan

NRL HUB – Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort

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NRL Hubs – Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan

1. Overview

1.1. Quarantine Management Plan

- 1.1.1. This Quarantine Management Plan is submitted to Queensland Health in support of exemptions sought to conduct quarantine accommodation and training facilities in the State of Queensland.
- 1.1.2. The actions set out in this Plan will be delivered by the NRL through its personnel and the Accor as the provider of accommodation and other facilities in accordance with this plan.

1.2. NRL Hubs

- 1.2.1. The NRL has established secure hubs in which its registered personnel may satisfy QLD Health quarantine requirements whilst training for and participating in the 2021 NRL Competition.
- 1.2.2. Each NRL Hub comprises two elements:
 - a. an **Accommodation Hub** at which personnel will reside;
 - b. a **Training Facility** at which personnel will prepare for matches.
- 1.2.3. This Quarantine Accommodation and Training Facility Management Plan sets out the procedures for management of both the Accommodation Hub and the Training Facility and the movement of personnel between them.
- 1.2.4. The Accommodation Hub to which this management plan applies is the Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort facility at Twin Waters, Sunshine Coast operated by Accor.

1.3. NRL Personnel

- 1.3.1. NRL Personnel who are granted access to the Accommodation Hub and the Training Facility are:
 - a. NRL Players, Club Officials, Match Officials and Medical Service personnel necessary for the delivery of the 2021 NRL Competition;
 - b. permitted to enter the State of Queensland pursuant to exemption from Queensland Health;
 - c. required to observe **Quarantine** conditions in accordance with their exemption, this management plan and the applicable NRL Protocol.
- 1.3.2. These persons are referred to in this Management Plan as **NRL Personnel**.
- 1.3.3. Compliance with quarantine requirements form part of the NRL Apollo

NRL Hubs – Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan

Protocols which binds all NRL Personnel attending the NRL Hub.

1.4. Quarantine within the NRL Hub

- 1.4.1. All NRL Personnel will quarantine within the NRL Hub as required by the Health Order, this Management Plan and the applicable NRL Apollo Protocols.
- 1.4.2. No NRL Personnel may leave the Accommodation Hub without the prior approval of the NRL Hub Co-ordinator in consultation with NRL Apollo and Queensland Health.

1.5. Accommodation Hub Staff

- 1.5.1. Staff of the Accommodation Hub are referred to in this Management Plan as **Accommodation Hub Staff** and include:
 - a. administrative staff;
 - b. cleaning staff; and
 - c. security staff engaged or employed by Accor.

1.6. Monitoring, Breaches, Advice & Support

- 1.6.1. Compliance with this Management Plan must be actively monitored by NRL and Accor.
- 1.6.2. Breaches of this Management Plan must be reported to Queensland Health (COVID-19.Compliance@health.qld.gov.au) immediately for review and escalation if necessary.
- 1.6.3. Queensland Health should be contacted for advice and support:
CONTACT: Greg Bennett – scphu-oct@health.qld.gov.au

2. Quarantine

2.1. NRL Hub is a quarantine environment

- 2.1.1. The NRL Hub is operated as a quarantine environment in accordance with Queensland Health requirements.
- 2.1.2. NRL Personnel must comply with quarantine requirements whilst part of the NRL Hub.
- 2.1.3. No members of the community or other persons (including health professionals) are to enter the Accommodation Hub during the quarantine period. Queensland Ambulance Service should be called for urgent care.

NRL Hubs – Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan

2.2. Hygiene, Masks & Social Distancing

2.2.1. All NRL Personnel will be reminded to:

- a. Maintain physical distancing, where practical.
- b. Carry personal alcohol-based hand sanitiser or ensure they have ready access to hand sanitiser;
- c. Avoid touching their eyes, nose or mouth, shaking hands or making other forms of physical contact.
- d. Cover their nose and mouth with a tissue or their arm when coughing or sneezing, and put the tissue in the bin.
- e. Frequently wash their hands with soap and water for 20 seconds, or use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.
- f. Wear a face mask whilst in transit (e.g. airport transfers, in and around airports, on airplanes and ground transports) and suggested to wear otherwise in in the Accommodation Hub.

2.2.2. Masks should be changed if they are torn, damaged or soiled/moist. Personnel should always sanitise hands immediately before and after removing their mask.

2.3. Reasons to leave Quarantine

2.3.1. NRL Personnel may only leave the Accommodation Hub quarantine to:

- a. Obtain essential medical care.
- b. To avoid injury or illness or to escape a risk of harm.
- c. In the event of an emergency situation.
- d. As otherwise permitted by an emergency officer (public health).
- e. Train with other NRL Personnel at the Training Facility;
- f. Travel to and attend Match-Day in the 2021 NRL Competition.

2.4. COVID-Testing for NRL Personnel

2.4.1. Pre-Arrival Testing

- a. COVID-19 testing of all NRL Personnel who have been in a COVID-19 hotspot or identified COVID-19 exposure site in the previous 14 days must be undertaken 72 hours or less prior to arrival in Queensland.

NRL Hubs – Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan

- b. The results of the pre-departure COVID-19 tests results must be notified to Queensland Health.
- c. Any person who receives a positive COVID-19 result prior to departure should isolate and seek medical care from their local health authority.

2.4.2. Testing During Quarantine Period

- a. COVID-19 testing of all NRL Personnel must be undertaken on:
 - i. Day 1,
 - ii. Day 5,
 - iii. Day 12,
 - iv. Day 16, and
 - v. if symptomatic.
- b. All tests results must be provided to the local Public Health Unit within a timely manner.

2.4.3. Upon confirmation of negative results for all NRL Personnel from Day 12 nasal swabs, the Accommodation Hub can return to delivering normal hotel services. This must first be confirmed with NRL Apollo.

2.5. Testing to Leave Quarantine

- 2.5.1. A negative COVID-19 test result is required prior to being able to leave quarantine for any reason other than:
 - a. to avoid immediate injury or illness or to escape a risk of harm; or
 - b. an emergency situation; or
 - c. as otherwise required or permitted under a direction given to the person by an emergency officer (public health).

2.6. Vaccination

- 2.6.1. All NRL Personnel have been strongly encouraged to be vaccinated with the appropriate COVID-19 vaccine when it is available to them, in accordance with Australia's COVID-19 vaccine national roll-out strategy.

NRL Hubs – Quarantine Accommodation & Training Facility Management Plan

3. Accommodation Hub

3.1. Overview

- 3.1.1. The Accommodation Hub's normal business is an accommodation and conference venue. The management of the Accommodation Hub and any associated Training Facility (where that Training Facility is on the accommodation grounds) is provided by Accor.
- 3.1.2. It is a requirement of Queensland Health that Accor provide services in accordance with this Management Plan.
- 3.1.3. Further details of the Accommodation Hub's procedures and plans appear in the Appendix.

3.2. Street Address

- 3.2.1. The Street Address of the NRL Hub Accommodation is 270 Ocean Drive, Twin Waters QLD 4564.

3.3. Site Map of Accommodation Hub

