

MHI Blood Policy

Players and Officials registered with Maitland Hockey Inc need to be aware of, and implement, the following policy in relation to the safety of players and others who could be at risk of viral transmission of diseases and blood borne viruses.

This policy has been put in place as a Duty of Care to protect injured Players, their Team-mate and Opponent Players, Parents, Guardians, Caregivers, Volunteers, Club Personnel, Team Officials and Match Officials.

As a practical guide the following interpretation of safety is to be followed:

- During all games and training, officials must order any player who is bleeding or has an open wound, to leave the pitch.
- Before the player is allowed to return, the wound should be treated (no further bleeding) and the affected area completely and securely covered.
- If there is blood on a player's uniform, it should be changed (if possible). Prohibit the player from returning to the pitch with a blood-stained uniform, unless it has been soaked in the recommended solution for at least five minutes and thoroughly rinsed off with water.
- Play must cease until affected area is cleaned up.

Dealing with blood or blood affected items.

- Destroy the chance of HIV with a solution of 0.5% bleach and 2% detergent mixed with water and applied for five minutes.
- Equipment that has come in contact with blood must be replaced or thoroughly cleaned with the bleach and detergent solution.
- Blood spilt on the pitch should be cleaned thoroughly with the bleach and detergent solution and soaked up with paper towel.

A "Blood Kit" is available in the Tech/office area during competition.

The blood kit contains:

- 1 roll of paper towel.
- 1 box of disposable latex surgical gloves.
- resealable plastic bags for disposal of contaminated cleaning material.
- 1 Spray Bottle with 0.5% bleach and 2% detergent mixed with water. (Bleach must not be used past its use by date.)

Procedure

- wear gloves
- place a paper towel over the spill and carefully mop it up
- clean the surface with warm water and detergent or soap
- disinfect the area by wiping with bleach (use a bleach containing 5.25% sodium hypochlorite) and dry with a clean paper towel; and
- when finished, remove gloves and put them along with the used paper towels in a sealed plastic bag and place in rubbish bin
- wash hands with soap and water as soon as possible after gloves are removed

“It doesn’t matter if you are an elite athlete or if it’s the local footy game just down the street, you’ll have to know how to deal with the Blood Rule because you never know what viruses people have.” Dr. Ron McCoy, HIV & Hepatitis Specialist

Blood_rules OK:

https://www.vq.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Blood_rulesOK-booklet-1.pdf