



Guidance Note for COVID-19 safe camping at events

Camping at events is assessed under the *Framework for COVID-19 Safe Events and Activities in Tasmania* which is in place to ensure activities with large numbers of people are conducted safely and do not increase the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Event organisers have a duty of care to help prevent COVID-19 from entering and spreading at an event. This guidance note is provided to assist event organisers understand the general public health principles that are applied when events that include camping are assessed by public health.

It is noted that approval for event camping is on a case-by-case basis and is generally by exception.

What is event camping?

Event camping for any Tier 1, 2 or 3 event under the Events Framework means to *temporarily reside in a tent, caravan, cabin, vehicle, trailer or motorhome on private property, at an approved campsite, caravan park or a public space such as a recreational ground or crown land where camping is permitted.*

Why is event camping assessed?

Event camping is assessed because it is different to regular camping. This is due to larger numbers of people and associated activities with high-risk behaviours and the shared use of facilities which all contribute to increased COVID-19 risk.

What information should I provide in my application to assess event camping?

Key factors public health assessors need to consider when determining the risk profile of event camping are:

- The total number of campers onsite at any one time
- The total number of patrons over the course of the event
- The total space available for campers in square metres – this is to ensure the one person per two square metre density requirement can be applied
- Activities that are considered high risk behaviours for the spread of COVID-19, such as dancing, alcohol consumption, singing and cheering
- The duration of camping – one day or multiple days
- How campers will access or prepare food – through food vendors, self contained cooking facilities within motorhomes, outdoors at individual campsites or communal cooking facilities
- The type and number of sanitary facilities - this means the number of permanent and/or temporary toilets, hand washing facilities, and showers onsite
- Details of access to drinking water onsite (potable water and sufficient quantity of water).



Are there specifications for campsite areas?

As the landscape and space available for event camping varies, public health does not provide specifications for how campsite areas should be arranged.

How much information should I provide about campsite areas?

Public health assessors need to be satisfied that there is adequate space within and between individual campsite spaces. To help public health assessors understand the site-specific aspects for your event, this is the type of information you should seek to provide:

- Total area available (must meet the one person per two square metre density rule)
- Total number of campers
- Size of individual campsites eg 9m x 9m
- How many people per campsite eg 8-10
- How campsites will be allocated eg in rows
- Will corridor spaces be used between campsites and what size eg 4m
- Will corridor spaces be marked eg cones or ground markings
- Will walkways between campsites be used and what size eg 1.5m
- Expected number of family groups.

What may lead to my application for event camping not being approved?

Based on previous approvals and experiences with event camping in Tasmania, the following may result in conditions being applied to the event or non-approval:

- Too many campers within the space available
- High risk behaviours at the event such as alcohol consumption over a long period of time, dancing, singing
- If the event is in a regional or remote area where there is limited or no access to health services or police support
- Lack of event planning
- Previous non-compliance or poor compliance by the event organiser
- Submission of application under the 30 day timeframe
- Established community transmission of COVID-19 at the time of the application.



How can I manage COVID-19 risk?

An event application must provide sufficient detail to show that COVID-19 risks for event camping will be addressed and be realistic about how the risks can be managed.

Below is a checklist to guide the type of information event organisers should consider and provide as part of their Event COVID-19 Safety Plan:

Managing campers	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communicate the message that if a camper is unwell to stay at home or leave and get tested 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register all campers and have their contact information readily available should it be required by Public Health – a separate Check in TAS QR code for the camping area is encouraged 	
Minimising contact between campers	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate camping areas from competition or performance areas, bar and eating areas and other facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Separate exit and entry points 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the use of motorhomes or caravans for patrons to use their own cooking and hygiene facilities rather than shared communal facilities 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit or prevent alcohol consumption and smoking as this helps to minimise people congregating and points of congestion 	
Reducing the risk of infection	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide additional cleaning during peak usage times such as mornings and evenings 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide running water and soap at sanitary facilities and/or hand sanitiser throughout the campsite – a preference for events over multiple days is to provide both 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor levels of soap and/or hand sanitiser 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear a face mask in common areas or when physical distancing cannot be achieved – noting that a face mask is required if there are more than 1000 patrons 	
Managing campsites areas	✓
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a plan to designate campsite areas with adequate space including corridor spacing between campsites 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have adequate toilet and sanitary facilities available for the number of patrons attending 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise communal and shared areas such as barbeques, kitchens and tables 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use clear signage to ensure people are aware how many people can occupy the campsite 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint COVID-19 Marshals or a person to help ensure COVID-19 safety requirements are followed, particularly if communal cooking and other facilities are used. 	