

PHYSICAL DISTANCING: CALCULATING CAPACITIES

A key component of any COVID-19 Management Plan is managing physical/social distancing between guests at your event, in a facility and within other spaces.

You need to consider movement within your event and the type of patrons that will be attending, including how many individuals versus family patrons.

Here are some guidelines to help your organisation account for physical distancing.

1. Identify realistic capacities and distancing measures to allow for 1.5 metres between individuals. The requirement of capacity is no more than 1 person per a 4sqm space. When calculating capacities, it is better to be conservative on your initial estimates, monitor guest flow, resolve problem areas, and adjust your plan frequently.
2. You **must only account for publicly accessible space** (pavilions, grandstands, amenities, BBQs, and Bars etc).
This means that you cannot use the measurements of the whole ground/facility to work out your capacity. It is an individualised per public area calculation. Do not include spaces that cannot be accessed.
3. To calculate capacities, divide your total square meterage in a specific publicly accessible area by the number of square meters required per person.
For example, if you have 46,000 square meters of guest-accessible space and you are required to use at least 2 metres as the recommended physical distance between people (which therefore requires 4 square meters per person), divide 46,000 by 4 and your capacity would be 11,500 people. Please refer to the NSW Governments restrictions of attendance for major events: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/industry-guidelines/major-recreation-facilities-stadiums-showgrounds-racecourses>
4. Many guests attend an Ag Show with their family and/or others living in the same household. If that is the case, those family members can be closer to each other. Just be sure each individual or party from another household is separated by the physical distancing requirement of 1.5 metres.
5. Keep in mind that limiting queues and area specific capacities, like Pavilions, may increase the number of people in common areas.
6. As health conditions improve, you may be able to gradually increase your capacities. Be sure to include your local health authorities in those decisions to ensure alignment.
7. If you cannot adhere to the social distancing requirements, then you are unable to proceed. As health conditions improve, and restrictions upon attendance is reduced, you may be able to gradually increase your capacities and hold events. Keep a close eye on all announcements by the authorities and follow any instructions

For further information please see the following website

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules/four-square-metre-rule>