



First aid assistance should be a matter of common sense. If no qualified first aid person is readily available at the time of injury or illness and if a non-qualified person can safely render assistance, this should be done. If there is doubt, medical assistance should be called for where appropriate.

REQUIREMENT

Given that basketball is considered a low injury risk sport, it is not necessary that medical or other persons qualified in first aid be present at all games conducted by Basketball Victoria or any of its affiliated associations.

Affiliated Associations must encourage and assist basketball coaches, managers and referees to seek to become first aid qualified and to maintain that qualification.

All affiliated associations shall ensure that sufficient first aid equipment adequate to allow the rendering of basic first aid to a person suffering an illness or injury during any game conducted by the association is readily available.

FIRST AID EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE AT GAMES MUST BE:

- Easily located;
- Within its recommended date of use;
- Properly maintained and stocked;
- Stocked with such equipment and in such quantity as is recommended by a local first aid trainer having regard to the number of people using the basketball facility.

In most circumstances persons with proper first aid training should only render first aid. Where it appears that a person injured or suffering an illness requires medical attention, the person should be referred to a medical practitioner or urgent assistance by way of ambulance, or medical practitioner should be called for without delay.

ASSOCIATIONS SHOULD TAKE REASONABLE MEASURES TO ENSURE THAT:

- By way of signage or otherwise, persons attending or playing in games are aware of first aid facilities provided and their location, availability and location of telephones for emergency use, the identity of any first aid qualified person available at the venue and the telephone numbers and addresses of ambulance, nearest hospitals and medical practitioners; and
- At all times emergency access is available at games venues for ambulances, stretchers and other emergency equipment.
- Venue supervisor will have evacuation exit details.

RESPONSIBILITY

Associations and stadium management should ensure there is first aid equipment available at all playing and training venues always. If players are playing at a venue that is not under the association's control, such as at a school, and there is no readily available place to safely store the equipment between playing days, a responsible person should be provided with a portable kit to take to each session.

The Internet has a range of first aid kits available for sale. They range from small household or car kits to kits suitable for industry that comply with industry health and safety requirements. An industry kit would be preferable for stadiums where staff are employed so that occupational health and safety requirements are met. Similarly, St John Ambulance has a range of kits available. These can be ordered online at www.sjaa.com.au. Obviously, in the basketball environment, ice should be always be available.

The availability of and how to access the equipment should be prominently displayed at all venues. There is no point in having equipment locked away in a cupboard that can't be readily accessed always.