



Use of Personal Defibrillators in Organised Sports

Important: This document does not relate to the protection of facilities and is limited to the protection of those individuals who have access to a defibrillator (Automated External Defibrillator /AED) that is carried by hand and not in a fixed or permanent location (Personal Defibrillator). Facilities are covered under the Defibrillator Guidelines 2nd edition. A Registered Defibrillator means a defibrillator registered with the AED Deployment Registry see (see www.aeddr.com)

What is a defibrillator?

A defibrillator is a medical device that administers defibrillation therapy to a person in cardiac arrest. While training is ideal, it is not a requirement as defibrillators are very user friendly and only deliver a shock if it's required.

Why are defibrillators needed?

Early defibrillation is critical to cardiac arrest survival. Cardiac arrest is the leading cause of sudden death in Western society. For each minute in delay of defibrillation therapy the patient's chance of survival diminished by ten percent.

Why should each defibrillator be registered?

Studies show as many as 1 in 5 defibrillators fail. Registration ensures that the defibrillator can be traced to its owner and managed more effectively, especially as there are numerous recalls and safety advisories affecting defibrillators.

Why should the defibrillator be inspected daily?

To make sure the defibrillator is operable and to conform to manufacturers' specifications.

How do you know if the defibrillator is not operable?

Health indicator on the defibrillator is red or marked with a cross.

How do you know if the defibrillator is not registered?

There is no current AED Deployment Registry label on the defibrillator.

What happens if the defibrillator is not available, not operable or not registered?

This is a policy matter for the body responsible for refereeing or umpiring the event. Abandonment of the event could be an option considered by the official.

Implementation of Personal Defibrillators at Clubs

Each club should conduct its own risk assessment to determine the number of defibrillators it requires.

The club President or a person delegated by the President should take responsibility for the management of all the defibrillators owned by the club.

Role of the Defib Person

A person should be appointed to take custody and responsibility for each defibrillator ("the Defib Person") including:

- 1) Participation in annual defibrillator training;
- 2) Daily inspection of the defibrillator;
- 3) Transporting of the defibrillator to and from each game, event or training session;
- 4) Positioning the defibrillator in a prominent visible location during each game, event or training session.
- 5) Care and protection of the defibrillator.

The Defib Person should have a regular back up person in the event they are unable to fulfill this role.

Record keeping

An annually updated record should be kept of:

- 1) Each defibrillator and the Defib Person who has custody and responsibility of it;
- 2) Registration and maintenance date of each defibrillator including expiry dates;
- 3) Those persons who have participated in annual defibrillator training.

Training

Officials, team coaches, managers, captains and players should all participate in annual defibrillator training.

Reporting

A Post Incident Form (available at www.aeddr.com) should be completed and submitted to the AED Deployment Registry after each incident where the defibrillator is used.

A sample implementation

- 1 Registered Defibrillator allocated to the team manager of each senior team;
- 1 Registered Defibrillator allocated to the ground manager at each main event.