



## COVID-19 VIRUS - MESSAGE TO ALL CLUBS AND STATES 20 MARCH 2020

### ITS TIME FOR SOME POSITIVE NEWS AND THOUGHTS!

Good Evening Everyone,

We are now a week into the COVID-19 crisis management program. I am sure that you can see that we have been working overtime to manage the information flow, and advice, to members at all levels – States, Clubs and Individuals. This information flow and advice has included measures that we have implemented and recommended procedures for all Clubs based on Federal Government advice and specific motorsport advice from our Chief Medical Officer.

Our objectives are to:

1. **Keep everyone in the Karting Australia Family properly and responsibly advised** with fact-based information – not news reports and social media spin. We are relying upon firsthand Government sources and advice from our Chief Medical Officer. If a National or State Chief Medical Officer or the government doesn't say it, we won't rely on it.
2. **Protect our Members** – particularly those who are most vulnerable
3. **Keep the wheels spinning** at our Clubs.
4. **Plan and Prepare** so the we are ready to Proceed with Power once the crisis passes.

I would like to thank each State Association for speaking with Lee and I as required and seeking our advice during the past week about the things that we are advising you to do to protect those most vulnerable, while trying to keep the wheels spinning at our Clubs.

The challenges that we individually and collectively face are unprecedented. There is no manual to follow in how to manage this thing. All we can do is take the best advice possible, follow the lead and instructions of our Governments and as a sport to remain disciplined and consistent so that we meet our objectives.

It is important that we continue to work together and it is important that we continue to follow (as best that we can) the advice of the Government and of course all regulations and restrictions that they apply. There will naturally be variations around the approaches that are taken in different places as you factor in local circumstances, such as the ages and health conditions of Officials and so on.

I would make the comment that this situation does not present the opportunity for “look at me moments” that some people below State Association level have decided to take. This is disappointing, is less than helpful and is also disrespectful to our State Associations who are all doing their best to help us manage this situation.

### CONTINUING THE UPDATES

We will continue to update everyone with the latest information as and when anything changes as inevitably it will.

We will provide the updated data from the **Travel Register and Isolation Form** on a regular basis. We have **updated yesterday's information provided to all State Associations today** following receipt of a significant number of forms overnight. We have followed up directly with those persons who, because of some of the answers provided are not eligible to attend any kart track at the moment.

We are relying on each State's Secretary to provide the information on permitted and restricted persons to each Club. Thank you for doing that.

## KARTING AUSTRALIA OFFICIALS ACADEMY

Today, we launched the **Karting Australia Officials Academy Powered by Rosche Paper**.



I want to thank Damian Flack for helping us bring the Academy to life.

You can access it through our website: <https://karting-australia-officiating.coursepath.com/library>

There are five courses currently available for Online Learning. Included in those five courses are the **three Core Course modules that potential Officials will need to complete before being eligible to obtain their Grade 4 Licence**.

The courses are simply done using either a computer, tablet or smart phone. They are designed to give Officials the general knowledge to commence officiating at Karting events.

We are also starting to push the message that **“YOUR CLUB NEEDS YOU”** more now than ever before – Enrol Now To Become a Karting Official and Lend a Hand.

We have brought the launch of the Academy forward from our intended April launch so that we are (with the assistance of some of our younger club members) able to respond more rapidly to fill some of the officiating vacancies – initially under supervision, that have been caused by the virus.

Initially we are asking people who are interested in helping out to send their Name, Club, State and email address to [OfficialsAcademy@karting.net.au](mailto:OfficialsAcademy@karting.net.au) so that they can be enrolled in the Academy and commence their courses. Those emails will come to me and I will enrol them in the Academy. This is a short-term approach as it is intended to give each State access to do that and to manage their own State’s online training of their Officials.

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## KEEPING THE WHEELS SPINNING AT CLUBS – GIVE KART FUN SESSIONS A GO!

With many Clubs cancelling or postponing events, it has left a large hole in the lives for many of our dedicated Members – many of which will still be looking to get on track in a safe environment at their local track. The Victorian Chief Medical officer mentioned the psychological benefit of sport in these sorts of very low times.

So long as restrictions applied by the Government allow, I think that we should be encouraging our members to keep participating in our sport at Club level or at organised race meetings if Clubs and States want to offer them.

Club Karting does not always have to be about championships and points. Sometimes it should be about just having some fun and blowing out the cobwebs.

We are encouraging our Clubs that don’t feel inclined to run a race meeting at the moment to **start running some Kart Fun Sessions**. These are just for fun, just for your members, - it’s social so an E Grade licence works as well. **They are properly organised, able to be run by just 2 or 3 people and are fully insured**. It’s short, sharp karting fun.

**Newcastle Kart Club are running KART FUN next weekend**. Checkout their completed Supplementary Regulations here: <http://www.kansw.com.au/eventdocs/36093/NKRC-Kart-Fun-Approved-Supp-Regs---March-2020.pdf>

The Kart Fun section from the KA Manual is available to download here: <https://www.karting.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Kart-Fun-Sessions.pdf>

The Pro-forma Supplementary Regulations for Kart Fun Sessions can be found here: <https://www.karting.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/2020-Pro-Forma-Kart-Fun-Sessions-Supplementary-Regulations-FINAL.docx>

## PREPARING FOR WHEN THE COVID-19 CRISIS IS OVER

It's not an overstatement to say that the world is in a mess at the moment unlike any that we have ever seen before. No one knows how long this will last or how bad it will get. We do know though that **it will get better – that is certain.**

We need our State Associations and our Clubs to take some time in the next few weeks to **plan and prepare to proceed at full noise** once the crisis passes.

With the possibility of limited race meetings in the next few months or so, it brings your Club an incredible opportunity to hit the reset button and do some serious planning so that you are primed and ready to go when the virus is under control.

We are planning for that time right now. One of those plans is to help you plan to proceed at full noise.

This is what we have under way or in the planning stage at the moment so that we are prepared to proceed at full noise later in the year:

1. We have just launched the **KARTING AUSTRALIA OFFICIALS ACADEMY POWERED BY ROSCHE PAPER** to more easily and better train and recruit Officials;
2. Kevin Davis and his team at **Torini Engines** has made a special offer to help Clubs boost their membership and build the low-cost end of the sport at Club level.
  - For all Karting Australia Clubs, Torini has subsidised the price for engines to be used specifically for Come and Try Karts.
  - This heavily reduced price is EXCLUSIVE to Karting Australia Clubs for the purpose of being fitted to Come and Try Karts.
  - You will receive an email on how to take advantage of this offer tonight.
3. **Make KART FUN sessions a priority** (make it our Barefoot Bowls) and an essential component in Clubs karting
4. We have started work on a **simplified Step by Step approach to our Karting Awareness Month** program so that it can be brought forward from its planned date to be immediately implemented when the crisis passes
  - The same applies to our **Welcome to Karting Program**
  - This massive glitch in event scheduling gives us the opportunity to run a truly **National Open Day** program across all of our Clubs
5. We are working with our club development partner Sports Community to implement a remote development program (through video conferencing) to help our Clubs and States **Plan and Prepare to Proceed** at full noise as soon as we are able to. I will be able to give you more details about that next week.

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**My team at Karting Australia are prepared and have already started to do the heavy lifting when it comes to planning for and preparing the things that you will all need to make things happen.**

What we urge you all to do is to keep the wheels spinning at your clubs – give KART FUN A SERIOUS GO, let us try to help you get ready for when things start to return to normal and develop the re-emergence plan so that we hit full noise straight away..

Together we will get through this.

Let's take this as a challenge and an opportunity.

One last thing for tonight. Please make sure that you share this information with your Committees.

**Best Regards**

Kelvin O'Reilly  
**Chief Executive Officer**