



## COVID-19 VIRUS - MESSAGE TO ALL CLUBS AND STATES 24 September 2020

Good Afternoon Everyone,

While it may seem that life is starting to head back to somewhat 'normal', and it is to a degree, however, there is still a long way to go before we can comfortably safely say that we're over the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Karting Australia is continuing to monitor the advice from the various Governments closely and it all appears to be heading in the right direction for our sport.

I must thank all of the State and Club Administrators, Officials and Licence Holders for working with Karting Australia as we've managed through this Pandemic. It has been a significant amount of work for all involved to ensure that the wheels kept turning for the sport.

As restrictions continue to ease across the Country, it remains at very different levels depending on the Government Orders and Directions in each jurisdiction. As an example - there is no limit on the number of people permitted at venues in South Australia and Western Australia – provided they meet the density measurements. However, in New South Wales, Northern Territory and Queensland there is a maximum of 500 people permitted at venues – unless exemption is provided which Karting Australia has received for events being held at the Ipswich Kart Club that are likely to exceed this number.

We will continue to monitor the ongoing changes and work closely with the State Administrators and Clubs to navigate our way out. One of the common questions that we have been receiving recently is regarding Come and Try/Bring A Mate Days and the Junior Sprocket Program.

### **Come and Try/Bring A Mate Days**

Karting Australia has had contact from a few Clubs requesting the opportunity to be able to have Come and Try Days and Bring a Mate Days be able to held.

We understand that these are both important opportunities to be able to provide newcomers with an on track experience behind the wheel in a safe and controlled environment. We are currently working on being able achieve these goals in a COVIDSafe environment in the next month or two. There are several obstacles that we need to overcome so that we can be sure that all our Clubs can always conduct these activities in a COVIDSafe manner.

At this stage, we are planning on the SP Tools Junior Sprockets Program returning in January 2021 with a full schedule to be held throughout the year in various regions of the country.

### **Clarification for Regional Victorian Events**

#### **Limits on Class Numbers**

Several Regional Victorian Clubs have requested clarification regarding the maximum number of competitors permitted at upcoming events.

The reference to individual events are different to Team Sports and examples are provided in the Public Health Directions.

In the Directions it clearly states:

- *no more than the minimum number of members of the public required to conduct the sport participate in the activity;*
- *no more than 10 members of the public participate for individual events (for example, running).*

So for Karting, that means 10 per Class.

The Direction references an example of cricket for the team sport – which is the confusing part:

*a reference in this subclause to members of the public participating is not intended to apply to a referee or trainer or those required for supervision of young children or to support people with a disability, for example cricket may be played with two teams of eleven players and the necessary coaching personnel and umpires.*

We are following it closely and expect that this will change in the coming weeks.

As for the indoor areas permitted to be used, areas such as the Timing Area, Grid Box and Stewards Room are restricted areas and only the essential personnel should be in there. They are not to be used as a general thoroughfare.

The question has also been asked about the use of a Club canteen. In one section of the Direction it states that the only indoor area that should be open is the toilets and then another section it goes on to the following:

*A person who owns, operates or controls a food and drink facility that is not located inside a **food court** may operate that facility for seated service if that person:*

- *permits service of food or drinks only to members of the public who are seated; and*
- *complies with the **restricted area requirement**; and*
- *ensures not more than 10 members of the public are permitted in the facility per group booking; and*
- *for indoor spaces at the facility, limits the number of members of the public permitted in each indoor space at the facility to the lesser of:*
  - *the density quotient; and*
  - *10 persons,*

In short, the way it can be read is that you can have 10 people seated. Our recommendation is, that you can have the Canteen open but not have people seated and gathering inside, the safest aspect is to have food and drink to be consumed outdoors.

### **Travel to and from Melbourne**

In last week's communication, we outlined that travelling through Melbourne by residents of regional Victoria is clearly defined as permitted by the Victorian Government.

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This week, we have been asked about residents from regional Victoria who are permitted to work in Melbourne. In accordance with the advice from the Victorian Government, we have now updated the declaration form as follows:

*Have you visited Greater Melbourne for any reason other than for permitted work, to seek medical treatment, care and compassionate reasons, or shopping for necessary goods and services in the last 14 days?*

The Department of Health and Human Services is clear what they people can go into Melbourne for the specific purpose of work, and all workplaces in Melbourne are required to have very specific COVIDSafe plans. There are no additional requirements for these permitted workers. They basically can purely 'get in, do their work and get out!'

Karting Victoria will adjust the Supplementary Regulations accordingly over the coming days and we will continue to adjust them as the restrictions ease across Melbourne and regional Victoria.

### **NSW Updates on Spectators**

The NSW Chief Health Officer has today announced an update on the advice for spectator attendance at community sport – removing the one parent per child recommendation.

Clubs are required to adhere to the Public health Order and the COVID-19 Safety Plan requirements – including adhering to the 500-person limit for community sport activities (including participants, officials and spectators) and the one person per four square metre rule. Organisations and spectators must also ensure that physical distancing of at least 1.5 metres is maintained between people that do not come from the same household.

## Updated COVIDSafe Guides

Recently, Karting Australia has updated the Operations Manual for COVIDSafe Events along with the Attendee Guide, both documents can be found at <https://www.karting.net.au/administration/covid-19-information>. Any password required is KACOV1D19!

The main details that have been updated in these documents refers to:

- Updated Pro Forma Supplementary Regulations that are to be used
- Circuit entry acknowledgement signs
- Updated COVID-19 Declaration Form
- Reasons why wearing an approved face mask is a responsible thing to do at a Karting Activity at this time

## Best Regards and Stay Safe

Kelvin O'Reilly  
Chief Executive Officer