

# **COVID-19 VIRUS - MESSAGE TO ALL CLUBS AND STATES**

29 May 2020

Good Afternoon Everyone,

After a big week that included webinars with Clubs from across the country, I look forward to seeing karts on track this weekend at tracks all over Australia.

Already we're hearing some great reports from the past few weeks about people coming away from their time at the track with smiles all round and 'falling in love with the sport again'. Now is the time for Clubs to evolve into 'more than just a place to race', it's about engaging your members, ensuring that their passion for the sport continues as we drive on the road out of the Pandemic.

Some Clubs are really starting to embrace some of the new technologies like TEAM APP to easily engage and communicate with their members. Unquestionably, the use of new technologies like Team App, WhatsApp and TryBooking will set your Club up for better engagement with your members in the long term.

During this week's four webinars, we have enjoyed some great collaborative thoughts from the Club and State representatives where people have been able to share their experience from the COVID-19 Social Karting Activities at their Clubs while working towards the common goals of the sport in a safe environment.

While the feeling of some in the broader community is starting to trend towards the belief that the pandemic is almost over and life should soon be back to normal with the restrictions eased, I think that is far for the reality that we are all facing.

During the week the South Australian Government released a statement that I think places the progressive easing of restrictions in different jurisdictions into context. It outlines the six key principles of why the general community (which includes all sports and our Kart Clubs) need to continue to apply principles that limit the ability of COVID-19 to be transmitted and spread.

It is an easy read so please take the time to read it here <a href="https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/recovery/step-2-principles">https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/recovery/step-2-principles</a>
The Principles are based on the COVID-19 Series of National Guidelines developed by the Communicable Disease
Network Australia — it is not just a South Australian centric justification but ought to be considered as being applied nationally and that it underpins so many of the different governments current directions.

The Governing Principles approach identifies the key ways to decrease the risk of COVID-19 transmission and spread.

- Its application allows businesses and sports to restart in a safe way.
- It recognises that we all have an obligation to stop the spread of COVID-19.
- For our sport, this means responsibly operating our sport and our Clubs to meet the requirements.
- For individuals, this means how we behave social distancing and hygiene.

#### **Western Australia**

The Western Australian Premier has this afternoon announced an acceleration of the easing of the current restrictions in that state with effect from 6 June.

He has flagged the return of competitive contact sport and that non-work indoor and outdoor gatherings of up to 100 people will then be permitted.

No written Directions are currently available and as always, the specific details in those Directions will be essential. We will advise our Western Australian Clubs further once they have been published.

In line with the recommencement stages that need to be followed that we have previously flagged, it is appropriate for the <u>immediate focus on competition in Western Australia to be on Club Competition</u>. Karting WA will continue to assess the major events calendar for the remainder of the year and will be able to advise its members as decisions on that have been made.

#### **DIRECTIONS**

The current Direction from Karting Australia states that **No Karting Australia Organising Permits can be issued for any Competition scheduled to be conducted prior to 1 June 2020.** 

This Direction is now **extended until 12 June 2020**, after which time Organising Permits for any Competition will be assessed by Karting Australia together with our Member States on a Club by Club basis that will depend on the Orders and Restriction that apply in each State and Territory and the completion of the COVIDSafe requirements by each Club.

## KARTING AUSTRALIA DIRECTIONS - Effective 29 May 2020 and that REMAIN IN PLACE

## RACING ACTIVITIES AT CLUBS THAT REQUIRE A KARTING AUSTRALIA ORGANISING PERMIT

No Karting Australia Organising Permits can be issued for any Competition scheduled to be conducted prior to 12 June 2020.

For the sake of clarity:

- An Organising Permit is defined in the Rules as:
  - "A document issued by KA or the SKA authorising the organisation of a Competition under these Rules."
- A Competition is defined in the Rules as:
  - "An Event in which a Kart takes part, and which has a competitive nature or is given a competitive nature by the publication of results."

This means that it is not currently permitted for a Club or a Promoter to organise a Race or a Race Meeting prior to 12 June 2020. After that date Organising Permits will be assessed on a Club by Club basis.

#### ACTIVITIES AT CLUBS THAT DO NOT REQUIRE A KARTING AUSTRALIA ORGANISING PERMIT

The situation related to the use of your Club's facilities for activities that do not require an Organising Permit <u>must</u> <u>be decided by each Club</u>. Normal arrangements for these activities including hire to third parties.

At all times Clubs must respect the regulations governing maximum numbers of people, density and social distancing.

## NON-RACING ACTIVITIES AT CLUBS THAT REQUIRE A KARTING AUSTRALIA ORGANISING PERMIT

When State and Federal Government Restrictions on non-essential movements, mass gatherings, social distancing and density requirements allow karting activities to recommence either in your State or nationally, Clubs will be required to properly control activities at your Club facilities and Track during such Activities.

<u>Until further notice</u>, ALL social karting activities including private practice will be required to be conducted under a set of approved <u>COVID-19 Supplementary Regulations</u> that must be approved by either a State Karting Association of Karting Australia. This ensures that the full level of Karting Australia Insurance is in place for the Activity and provides an appropriate level of enforcement by Clubs should it be needed.

We have made several revisions to the current COVID-19 Social Supplementary Regulations following discussions that took place during the Webinars this week.

#### Note:

<u>The revised Pro-forma COVID-19 Supplementary Regulations</u> (in Word format) that contain specific COVID-19 restriction and mitigation requirements can be <u>downloaded here.</u>

A pdf that shows the changes made can be downloaded here.

**Guidelines** for the conduct of the Activity can be **downloaded here**.

We have prepared several <u>promotional resources</u> for your Club to use, including customisable email messages and Facebook graphics. They can be <u>downloaded here</u>. <u>Password</u>: KACOVID19!

#### THE KARTING AUSTRALIA COVID-19 DECLARATION FORM

All persons intending to attend a Karting Club/Activity must complete and submit the Declaration Form before attending the Club and a Karting Activity (on a weekly or activity basis and on every occasion that their COVID-19 circumstances have changed.)

#### **CLUB COVIDSafe PLAN**

The comprehensive full club plan (that covers all buildings to which people may have access during a Competition Event MUST be completed and submitt3ed to your State Association prior to the approval of the first Competition Supplementary Regulations and the issuing of the Organising Permit for the first COVIDSafe Race Meeting at your Club.

Note that many State Governments also require the completion of a COVID Safe Plan for your premises before the sporting competitions can commence.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS WITH MEMBERS**

With some Clubs having re-opened, and some others still preparing and others still waiting on permission from other State or Local council authorities it is imperative that Clubs communicate with their members to let them know where things are at. A quick email or message to your members telling them that the Club is doing everything it needs to do to get up and running with a COVID-19 Stage 1 Social Karting Activity will not go astray.

From the reports we've had all attendees abided by the processes the Clubs put in place last weekend. The only real thing that has been noticed has been a one-way process to the in and out grids to eliminate unnecessary gatherings.

#### COVIDSAFE HYGIENE PRODUCTS OFFER

Karting Australia sponsor *Rosche Paper* - Presenting Partner our Officials Academy, is a large supplier of hygiene and cleaning products for the retail and hospitality industries.

Damien Flack and his team at Rosche Paper has put together a **Cleaning and Hygiene Products Catalogue** at unbelievable prices specifically for Karting Australia Clubs to help you get back up and stay running in an affordable COVIDSafe environment.

The Catalogue and order form is attached to this email.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

At this stage, no State Government has provided permission for Sporting Competition (in our case, that means **Racing)** to resume but rest assured we are well advanced with our plans for when the restrictions are lifted to allow Racing to re-commence.

Now is the time for Clubs to assess their venues and complete the Karting Australia Assessment that is located here <a href="https://www.karting.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/ASSESSMENT-COVIDSafe-PLANNING-CHECKLIST-.docx">https://www.karting.net.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/ASSESSMENT-COVIDSafe-PLANNING-CHECKLIST-.docx</a> and familiarise yourself with the requirements in the COVIDSafe Events Operations Manual located <a href="http://www.buildingbetterkartclubs.com.au/covidsafe-karting-events-operations-procedures/">http://www.buildingbetterkartclubs.com.au/covidsafe-karting-events-operations-procedures/</a>

## CIRCUMSTANCES WHEN A PERSON MUST NOT ATTEND A KARTING CLUB OR ACTIVITY

- Anyone who, in the last 14 days has been in contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19.
- Anyone who has been overseas in the previous 14 days or had contact with someone who has been overseas in that time.
- Anyone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (even if mild) including:
- fever
   cough
   respiratory symptoms
   lack of taste
   shortness of breath
   lack of smell

must not attend a kart track or Karting Activity. They should attend a doctor in accordance with Public Health Authority guidelines, have COVID-19 excluded and be medically cleared by a doctor.

Anyone who is generally unwell should adopt a cautious approach and should attend a doctor in accordance with Public Health Authority guidelines.

## **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR A CLUB TO CONDUCT A KARTING ACTIVITY**

ALL KARTING ACTIVITY MUST BE CONDUCTED UNDER A KARTING AUSTRALIA ORGANISING PERMIT AND STANDARD KARTING AUSTRALIA COVID-19 SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS.

Standard Proforma COVID-19 Supplementary Regulations can be downloaded here.

ENHANCED COVID-19 CONTROL AND PREVENTION MEASURES MUST BE APPLIED ACROSS ALL CLUB FACILITIES BY THE CLUB in preparation for and during any Karting Activity.

Enhanced Control and Prevention Measures include but are not limited to:

Cleaning

- Social (Physical) Distancing
- Food Preparation

Sanitising

- Crowd Density Control
- Food Service

noting that Crowd Density and Social Distancing measures will be more stringent in a Club's indoor facilities than they will be outside.

The KARTING AUSTRALIA COVID-19 DECLARATION MUST BE SUBMITTED by every person intending to attend a Karting Activity before they attend the Karting Activity.

For the sake of clarity:

- 1. This includes but is not limited to, all Essential Persons and Permitted Persons.
- 2. This means that a new Declaration must be submitted for every Karting Activity that a person attends

#### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DIRECTIONS THAT ARE IN FORCE AND MUST BE FOLLOWED (Issued March)

At all times, Clubs must respect the regulations governing the maximum numbers of people, density and social distancing and hygiene measures including:

- Under NO circumstances should ANYONE with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 attend the circuit. This includes any fever, respiratory symptoms, shortness of breath, sore throat, cough, lack of smell or fatigue.
- Under NO circumstances should ANYONE who has been overseas in the previous 14 days or been in contact with a known COVID-19 positive, attend the circuit.
- Maintain social distancing measures. No group gathering, once finished for the session then they should pack up and leave. No use of indoor facilities (other than toilets).
- Only the driver and ONE other person can be in attendance per kart.
- There should be a clear area between pits (minimum of 5 metres).
- Hand hygiene must be available at any food service outlets, soap and paper towels must be available in the bathrooms. Drivers are strongly encouraged to bring their own hand wash/alcohol rub.
- Maximum numbers (can be based on a number or a density.)
- No sharing of any equipment, tools, or apparel.