

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

7 August 2020

Good Afternoon Everyone,

The challenging time of COVID-19 activities continue in many parts of the country and we all feel for our Victorian members and Clubs right now. The painful certainty of what the Victorians are facing right now is a very salient reminder to us all of just what can happen if even a very small percentage of the community do the wrong thing or do not take enough care (even when it looks like the virus has gone.)

This will be with us for a long time yet. We must adapt to this new COVID normal and constantly be on guard to maintain and when required enhance our control and prevention measures. We are currently updating our "COVIDSafe Karting Events Guides" and the "Attendees Guide" to reflect the latest information. We will release new versions of these documents shortly.

Our Clubs have done wonderfully well so far and you are to be congratulated in what you have been able to do for your members. Karting Australia's objective is to do everything possible to ensure that, when we are allowed by our Governments to use our race tracks and our clubs, that you have everything that you need – information, resources, and strategies to ensure that you can provide karting activities to your members in a COVIDSafe manner.

Our objectives have remained the same from day 1 of the pandemic. We said then, and we say it again now:

### "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 that we are ready to Proceed with Power once the crisis passes." 1

Right now, there is a heightened level of uncertainty, fear and trepidation in the community because of the actions of a few that has caused a second wave of the virus in Victoria. That is completely understandable. We will never ask or encourage our Clubs, Officials, or Members to take unnecessary risks for the sake of our sport – particularly in relation to COVID-19.

## The Position in Victoria

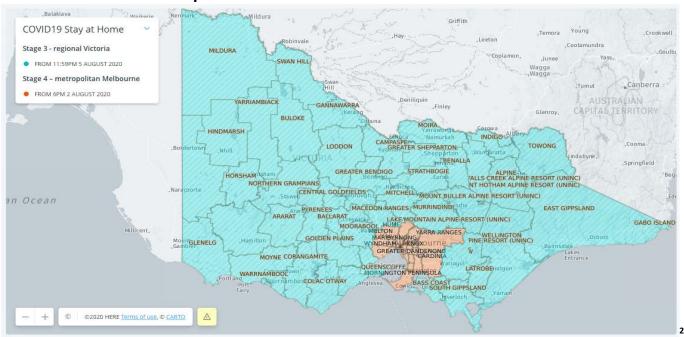
The position that Melbourne is in at the moment is terrible and our thoughts are with all of our members and clubs in the Stage 4 lockdown area. Our collective hopes are that the Stage 4 lockdown will work and that within a few weeks the virus will be back under control in those areas and that life as most of us currently know it will return to those areas.

For other areas of the country, while ever the Federal Government or your State Government allows activities such as Karting to take place, we can see no reason why, within the COVIDSafe limits that we have established, that our sport should not continue at both Social/Recreational and Competition levels.

It should be noted that NO Karting Competition of any sort is permitted in any part of Victoria now.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> COVID-19 Virus – KA Message To All Clubs And States - 20 March 2020

## **Victorian Restrictions Map**



Earlier this week, Karting Victoria released a statement informing their Clubs that all activities were no longer allowed to operate. This was based on the media statement issued by Premier Daniel Andrews on August 2.

The good news for most of Victoria is that the Directions that have now been published **DO allow Social/Recreational karting to take place at Clubs in the regions that are currently under Stage 3 Restrictions** (shown in blue shading in the map above) but this is only for people who reside in those regions and under very strict conditions.

These are the same as the restrictions that applied to Go-Kart Club of Victoria, Eastern Lions and Oakleigh from 9 July until earlier this week (and are lower than those levels that were permitted as the State emerged from the first lockdown.)

Competition is NOT permitted, but these restrictions do allow those Victorian Clubs to offer Social/Recreational karting in limited numbers to their members if their members are permitted to travel to their Club.

See below for the applicable extracts from the most up to date <u>Directions that have been issued for Regional</u> Victoria.<sup>3</sup>

Karting Victoria has this morning distributed a revised set of Pro-Forma Supplementary Regulations to all Clubs to enable those Clubs who wish to hold limited Social Karting Activities, can do so.

## **Relevant Sections From The Current Victorian Restrictions**

#### 6 Physical recreational facilities

- (1) A person who owns, controls or operates a **physical recreational facility** in the Relevant Area must not operate that facility during the restricted activity period.
- (2) A **physical recreational facility** means any of the following, whether operated on a for profit or not-for-profit basis:
  - (a) a facility used predominantly for outdoor sport or physical recreation;

Examples: golf club, tennis club, basketball centre, go kart track, rifle range, equestrian centre, mini golf, paint ball, lawn bowling, outdoor swimming or water skiing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/202008/Restricted%20Activity%20Directions%20%28Non-Melbourne%29-06082020.pdf

#### Permitted operations — outdoor activities

- (3) **Despite subclause (1)**, a person who owns, controls or operates a facility under subclause (2)(b) (outdoor sport or physical recreation facility) or (2)(c) (personal training facility) in the Relevant Area may operate that facility if:
  - (a) its services are provided in an outdoor space; and
  - (b) the number of members of the public to whom its services are provided is:
    - i. not more than 2 in any group; or
    - ii. more than 2 in a group, if all persons have the same ordinary place of residence; and
    - iii. not more than 10 in total at the facility at any one time, except where a distance of at least 100 metres between groups can be maintained at all times; and

Example: at a golf course, there may be more than 5 groups of 2 people, so long as a distance of at least 100 metres between all groups can be maintained at all times.

- (c) the space available is suitable to ensure members of the public are reasonably capable of maintaining a distance of 1.5 metres from each other; and
- (d) the person complies with the records requirement; and
- (e) no equipment is made available by the facility for hire, or for communal or shared use.

Note: community sport cannot take place in Victoria regardless of whether it is in or outside the Relevant Area.

(4) Despite subclause (3), a person who owns, controls or operates a facility under subclause (2)(b) (outdoor sport or physical recreation facility) may operate that facility for the purposes of outdoor sport or physical recreation, but must not permit use of the indoor facilities, other than toilet facilities.

Examples: a golf or tennis club may operate to permit outside golf or tennis, although club rooms, indoor sitting areas, change facilities and showers are to remain closed.

## **OVERRIDING REQUIREMENTS FOR RUNNING ALL COVIDSAFE KARTING ACTIVITIES**

- 1. Government restrictions must always be complied with.
- 2. Karting Australia requirements must always be complied with. In particular:
  - Social/physical distancing always and at all places.
  - No massed briefings of Officials or Competitors anywhere, anytime, for any reason.
  - Hand Hygiene (washing and sanitising), coughing/sneezing etiquette always.
  - Food Service must be fully COVIDSafe always.
- 3. If a person is unwell or exhibits any COVID-19 symptoms, they must not attend a Club NO EXCEPTIONS!
- 4. The Club's COVIDSafe Action Plan must be complied with always.
- 5. All Social and recreational Karting Activities (Practice) will remain to be permitted under the COVID-19 Social Karting Activities and managed by a delegated Official from the affiliated Club.
- 6. All Competition Karting must take place under the latest COVIDSafe Supplementary Regulations and a COVIDSafe Organising Permit.
- 7. A **KA COVID-19 Declaration** is required to be completed by all Essential Personnel and Permitted Persons for each event/activity.

#### **Declaration Forms**

The online COVID-19 Declaration Form is even more important now that it has been at any time in the last 3 months. It is compulsory that it is completed and submitted by all Essential Personnel and Permitted People attending a Karting Australia venue prior to their attendance.

Each Club has their own dedicated Form that can be downloaded by the Race Secretary.

As various 'hot spots' have started to be identified in different areas within a State, we have been adjusting the declaration for Clubs within the specific catchment area for those Clubs so that persons who should not be in attendance at a Club can be easily identified. Any questions regarding the downloading of the details please email matthew@karting.net.au

#### **Updated COVID-19 Supplementary Regulations**

In light of the heightened state of COVID-19 alert in many jurisdictions, we have **updated all COVID-Safe Proforma Supplementary Regulations** to include the following acknowledgement by all Essential and Permitted Personnel:

#### "COVID-19 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND VOLUNTARY ACCEPTANCE OF RISK

By entering or participating in this Karting activity/event, all Essential Karting Personnel and Permitted Persons acknowledge that, even with rigorous capacity and control measures that Karting Australia requires the Organising Club to put in place at all Karting Australia sanctioned Karting activities/events, there remains an unquantifiable risk of transmission of viral illness including COVID-19 at a Karting activity/event at this time and you have considered that risk and your own personal circumstances, including any health condition or vulnerability that you may have or that of persons whom you will be in close contact with following your attendance at a Karting activity/event. You acknowledge that, for a small number of people, COVID-19 has very serious health consequences. By attending a Karting activity/event you (and any persons who attend the activity/event with you) acknowledge and accept these obvious risks."

The version that all Clubs will be required to use from this point forward shows the version number and the date '6 August 2020' in the heading.

#### **Addendum to Currently Issued Supplementary Regulations**

Member State Associations are advised to issue an Addendum to all currently issued Supplementary Regulations including this statement as it has been written.

#### **Circuit Signs**

We have prepared the COVID-19 Acknowledgement and Voluntary Acceptance of Risk Statement as artwork for a printable A3 sign that should be located at each entrance gate to your Club and also adjacent to the permanent Karting Australia Disclaimer signs that is on prominent display at your Circuit. The artwork can be **downloaded here (A3 Portrait and A3 Landscape)** in a PDF Format.

# COVID-19 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND VOLUNTARY ACCEPTANCE OF RISK

By entering this Karting circuit all persons acknowledge that, even with rigorous capacity and control measures that Karting Australia requires the Organising Club to put in place at all Karting Australia sanctioned Karting activities/events, there remains an unquantifiable risk of transmission of viral illness including COVID-19 at a Karting activity/event at this time and you have considered that risk and your own personal circumstances, including any health condition or vulnerability that you may have or that of persons whom you will be in close contact with following your attendance at a Karting activity/event. You acknowledge that, for a small number of people, COVID-19 has very serious health consequences. By attending a Karting activity/event you (and any persons who attend the activity/event with you) acknowledge and accept these obvious risks.



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#### **Attendee Guide**

The Acknowledgement and Voluntary Acceptance of Risk statement will be included in a prominent position in the updated "Attendee Guide" that will be released soon.

#### Remain Alert To Your Ongoing COVIDSafe Responsibilities

With the passage of time since the recommencement of all Karting Activities, some people and Clubs have started to become complacent about the constant enforcement of all of the elements of your Club COVIDSafe plans. I am sure that it is unintentional and is probably expected until we have seen the stark reminder of just how quickly things can go wrong.

It is probably a while since you may have read the COVIDSafe Events Operations Manuals – when you have a few minutes spare, please take another look at them and review your COVIDSafe Plan to make sure that everything is spot on.

As good practice we recommend that either a member of the Club Executive and/or the Club/Event COVIDSafe Officer conducts a pre-event check of all Club facilities to ensure that they are properly set up to be COVIDSafe.

The detail is important.

The overriding principles that need to be checked include:

- Ensure that all Social and Physical Distancing measures are properly in place
- Ensure that all of the required hand washing and sanitising measures are properly stocked and in place
- Ensure that where queuing races are required to reduce people congestion, that they are in place with 1.5 metre spacing markers
- Ensure that the opportunity to share equipment (including food condiments and utensils [saltshakers, sauce bottles, sugar dispensers, cutlery, tea and coffee urns etc] are not able to be used)
- Remind all Officials that under no circumstances are people permitted to congregate in groups that disrespect the density quotient (4 sq metres or 2 sq metres).
  - We have become aware of instances where Officials have called drivers together for some form of briefings – that is not acceptable at all and MUST NOT HAPPEN UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

We need all of our Clerks of the Course and Stewards to do the COVIDSafe Events training course. It does not take very long but it gives them the basic knowledge that they need to help you and us to ensure that our karting activities are as COVIDSafe as than can be. I would appreciate it if you could give them a little encouragement to log on and do the course — it's important for everyone.

#### The Wearing of Masks

In Victoria, it is currently mandatory to wear a face covering while outside, some other states are recommending for people to wear them in higher risk areas and it is important to ensure that a face covering you are wearing is sufficient for your health.

Wearing a face mask/covering is not a substitute for the precautions that we know prevent the spread of COVID-19 (Staying at home if you are unwell, physical distancing, staying 1.5 metres away from others, frequently hygiening your hands and cough and respiratory etiquette.

The main value of wearing a mask is to protect other people. It needs to protect you and the people near you from airborne droplets that could spread the virus.

If the person wearing the mask is unknowingly infected, wearing a mask will reduce the chance of them passing the virus on to others. Click Here for More Information.

The most common types of face coverings are face masks and face shields.

The term 'face mask' includes cloth masks, and single-use face masks (commonly called surgical masks). Face masks that have unfiltered one-way valves **should not** be used.

Cloth masks are any nose and mouth covering made of washable fabric. We recommend a <u>cloth mask made of three</u> <u>layers of a mix of breathable fabrics to ensure adequate protection</u>. It does not need to be surgical quality to be effective.

Surgical masks are made with a non-woven meltblown polypropylene layer and available in various levels of protection. These are single use masks only so can't be washed and used again.

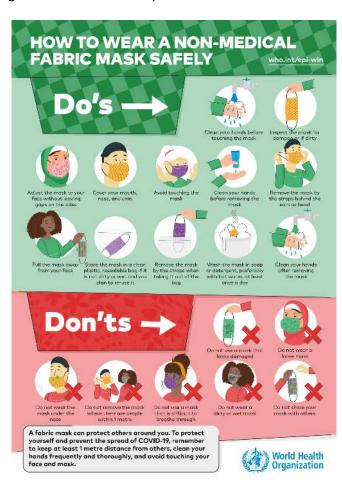
The term 'face shields' refer to coverings that are made from plastic or other transparent material designed or made to be worn like a visor, covering from the forehead to below the chin area and wrapping around the sides of the face.

A scarf or bandana can be used as a face covering if you do not have access to a mask.

There are other types of face coverings and respirators (such as P2 or N95). These are not recommended for use in the community and not advised to be used outside of healthcare or specific industries under health advice.

While it is not compulsory anywhere outside of Victoria, in the current climate, Karting Australia recommends that Members wear masks at any time where the Social Distancing measures of a 1.5m separation can't be maintained.





## **STATE OF THE STATES**

#### **NEW SOUTH WALES**

From 1 July 2020, Karting Competition (Racing) can commence provided that:

- The Club has registered with the NSW Government as a COVIDSafe Business
- No more than 500 people are gathered at a venue

https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/what-you-can-and-cant-do-under-rules

#### **NORTHERN TERRITORY**

Events and public gatherings of **less than 500 people** must submit a COVID-19 Event Safety Plan prior to the commencement of an event to demonstrate the commitment to the <u>key principles</u>. This will not require CHO approval.

Major events and public gatherings of **over 500 people** must submit a <u>COVID-19 Event Safety Plan PDF (243.4 KB)</u> and receive formal approval from the Northern Territory Chief Health Officer (CHO) prior to the event proceeding to demonstrate the commitment to the key principles of the new normal.

https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/roadmap-new-normal/business#/stage 3 5 june 2020

#### **QUEENSLAND**

From today **3 July 2020** Stage 3 Restrictions focussed on returning to more normal operation apply, with the restrictions including:

- gatherings of up to 500 people (includes all personnel on the premises)
- community sport (contact and non-contact)
- dining in (including canteens)
- competitions/events (up to 500 people)

https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au/government-actions/roadmap-to-easing-queenslands-restrictions

#### **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

From 29 June 2020 Recovery Step 3 is in effect.

- The density requirement of 1 person per 2 square metres applies for defined public activities. The maximum number of attendees at a place of business will be determined by its size.
- COVID-Safe Plans will continue to be required for defined public activities.
- The occupier of a place at which a defined public activity is conducted, and any person who conducts a defined public activity at a place, must ensure that the density requirement is complied with in relation to that place.
- The occupier of a place at which a defined public activity is conducted and any person who conducts a defined public activity at a place must take reasonable steps to ensure that facilities provided at the place allow for compliance with the physical distancing principle during the conduct of the activity.

https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/emergency-declarations/public-activities

#### **TASMANIA**

From 27 June 2020 Stage 3 is in effect.

Outdoor community sport – maximum density limit, with a cap of 500 persons outdoors, including athletes and support staff. Sporting activities can be undertaken based on Level C of the AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport.

#### This means:

- return to full competition sport (contact and non-contact)
- use of change rooms and other shared facilities permitted but not encouraged
- non-essential social gatherings should be limited

Sporting facilities must continue to have a staff member or other authorised person on the premises while open.

https://coronavirus.tas.gov.au/families-community/roadmap-to-recovery

From 3 August **2020** Stage 4 Restrictions (Total Lockdown) are in place for Metropolitan Melbourne. This stage of restrictions outlines that an physical recreational facility must not operate.

## Melbourne Restrictions - Stage 4

A **physical recreational facility** means any of the following, whether operated on a for profit or not-for-profit basis:

a facility used predominantly for indoor physical recreation or sport;

Examples: gymnasium, health club, fitness centre, yoga studio, barre and spin facility, indoor basketball court, indoor climbing facility, squash court, table tennis centre.

• a facility used predominantly for outdoor sport or physical recreation;

Examples: golf club, tennis club, basketball centre, go kart track, rifle range, equestrian centre, mini golf, paint ball, lawn bowling, outdoor swimming or water skiing.

## Regional Victoria – Stage 3 from 11.59pm 5 August 2020

This stage of restrictions outlines that an outdoor sport or physical recreation facility may operate if:

- its services are provided in an outdoor space; and
- the number of members of the public to whom its services are provided is:
  - o not more than 2 in any group; or
  - o more than 2 in a group, if all persons have the same ordinary place of residence; and
  - o not more than 10 in total at the facility at any one time, except where a distance of at least 100 metres between groups can be maintained at all times; and

Example: at a golf course, there may be more than 5 groups of 2 people, so long as a distance of at least 100 metres between all groups can be maintained at all times.

- the space available is suitable to ensure members of the public are reasonably capable of maintaining a distance of 1.5 metres from each other; and
- the person complies with the **records requirement**; and
- no equipment is made available by the facility for hire, or for communal or shared use.

Note: community sport cannot take place in Victoria regardless of whether it is in or outside the Relevant Area.

https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19

#### **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

From **27 June 2020** Phase 4 is in effect. This stage of restrictions includes:

• Gathering limits now only determined by WA's reduced 2sqm rule

 $\underline{https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/covid-19-coronavirus-waroadmap\#phase4}$ 

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

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

Karting Australia Organising Permits can be issued for any Competition scheduled to be conducted providing it is permitted by the <u>State Government Restrictions</u>.

## 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 be</u> decided by each Club. 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.

#### Note:

**UPDATED** Pro-forma COVID-19 Supplementary Regulations that contain specific COVID-19 restriction and mitigation requirements have been prepared and can be downloaded here. Guidelines for the conduct of the Activity can be downloaded here.

We have prepared a number of **NEW** <u>promotional resources</u> for your Club to use, including Facebook graphics and posters. They can be <u>downloaded here</u>. **Password**: KACOVID19!

## 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.)

ALL CLUBS HAVE THEIR OWN SPECIFIC FORM AND IS ABLE TO BE DOWNLOADED BY THE CLUB REPRESENTATIVE AHEAD OF EACH EVENT. If you need to view the link for a person attending your Club, visit <a href="https://www.karting.net.au/administration/covid-19-information/covid-19-club-declaration">https://www.karting.net.au/administration/covid-19-information/covid-19-club-declaration</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 or in a declared COVID-19 hotspot in the previous 14 days or had contact with someone who has been overseas in that time.
- All Essential Karting Personnel and Permitted Persons MUST complete and submit the Karting Australia COVID-19 Declaration before the commencement time of the Activity.
- Anyone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 (even if mild) including:
- fever
- cough
- respiratory symptoms
- lack of taste

- sore throat
- fatigue
- 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.

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.
- No unnecessary spectators to be in attendance
- 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.