

## UPDATE ON CORONAVIRUS-RELATED RESTRICTIONS FOR CLUB OPERATIONS

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Dear Rowing Club Presidents,

Earlier today, Premier Mark McGowan confirmed the [cautious easing of restrictions](#) (26 April 2020 update) that will come into effect from midnight tonight (26 April 2020). It states:

### ***Cautious easing of restrictions***

*The WA Government has announced some stage 3 restrictions will be relaxed from Monday 27 April 2020 following continued low number of new cases.*

*Based on health advice, we can cautiously relax the number for indoor and outdoor gatherings to a maximum of 10 people, while practising social distancing.*

For more information visit [COVID-19 coronavirus: Community Advice](#)

This [Community Advice](#) provides the following information on the relaxation of public gatherings:

### ***Updated gathering restrictions***



*Based on health advice, from Monday 27 April, indoor and outdoor non-work gatherings of up to 10 people will be allowed (an increase from the current 2-person limit) at:*

- *weddings and funerals*
- *outdoor personal training (no shared equipment)*
- *home opens and display village inspections*

*If a single household has more than 10 people, that household remains exempt from this new rule.*

### ***All other restrictions remain in place for now:***

- *all public playgrounds, skate parks and outdoor gym equipment will remain closed*
- *restaurants, cafés, food vans, food courts and road houses remain restricted to takeaway and home delivery.*

Confusingly, information regarding **prohibited activities and venues** contained within the same Community Advice lists that there is no exemption to 'social sport-based activities'. Worth noting however the caveat in relation to this which states 'A business owner/operator needs to consider the nature of their services and assess whether their services or premises are captured by the Directions'.

This information does not provide clear guidance on the impact of the easing of restrictions to rowing clubs and on-water operations. However, the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) do refer to sport and states the following:

***Can I now play sport at my sports club?***

*Yes if the sporting activity is non-contact, and involves 10 people or less, then yes you can participate in that sporting activity. This includes non-contact training for sports that would ordinarily involve contact, such as basketball, football, soccer and netball. Importantly, playing the contact sport itself remains a prohibited sporting activity.*

*However, indoor sporting centres remain closed, which means that it will be difficult to find a venue to play an indoor sport such as indoor cricket or squash.*

The [Closure and Restriction \(Limit the Spread\) Directions \(No 2\)](#) was also released by the WA Government today which updates the definition of a **Prohibited Gathering** and **Prohibited Activity**:

**12. A *prohibited gathering* means:**

- (a) *a gathering of more than ten (10) persons in a single undivided **indoor space** or a single undivided **outdoor space** that is a **public place** at the same time; or*
- (b) *a gathering of two (2) or more persons in a single undivided indoor space or a single undivided outdoor space at the same time (whether or not the space is a public place), where there is not at least 4 square metres of space for each person at the gathering,*

**14. A *prohibited activity* means any of the following activities and whether undertaken or engaged in on a profit or not-for-profit basis:**

- (g) *a sporting activity, whether indoors or outdoors, which ordinarily involves some or all of the participants in the sporting activity coming into bodily contact with each other; or*  
*Example: a game of basketball, any code of football (including Australian rules football, rugby and soccer), hockey or water polo is an example of a sporting activity which ordinarily involves some or all of the participants coming into bodily contact with each other*

(h) *a sporting activity, whether indoors or outdoors, which does not ordinarily involve some or all of the participants in the sporting activity coming into bodily contact with each other, except where no more than ten (10) persons participate in the activity.*

*Example: a game of cricket, golf, lawn bowls or tennis is an example of a sporting activity which, does not ordinarily involve some or all of the participants coming into bodily contact with each other. Playing kick to kick (which is often done with an Australian rules football), or training for a sport such as basketball, a code of football, hockey or water polo, will also fall within paragraph 12(h) if it does not ordinarily involve bodily contact (such as kick to kick) or it is conducted to ensure that bodily contact does not ordinarily occur (such as some kinds of training for basketball, a code of football, hockey or water polo).*

Based on the information provided it does seem to suggest that rowing clubs in WA could operate with up to ten people at any one time in indoor or outdoor spaces as long as equipment is not shared, social distancing of 1.5m is maintained and sanitation of common areas and equipment is diligently adhered to.

Tonight, I have also spoken with Rowing Australia (RA) CEO Ian Robson who will tomorrow liaise with their Chief Medical Officer and personal accident insurance providers AON to discuss implication of the WA advice announced today. Feedback is expected from RA by Tuesday 28 April and the RWA Board is meeting that evening. As such, I anticipate that I should be able to provide more detailed guidelines on safe club operations within the state government restrictions on Wednesday 29 April.

As RWA has done throughout this pandemic, we recommend all clubs should read the relevant federal and state government information and make their own interpretation of the restrictions and their own decisions as business owners regarding their ability to manage the safe operations of their clubs, abiding by the state and federal government restrictions in place at any specific time.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to give me a call to discuss further.

Kind Regards,



Daniel Tackenberg  
Chief Executive Officer  
Rowing WA