



3/7/2020

Good day affiliated clubs and friends

**RE: COVID-19 recommendations update**

It is pleasing to note that clubs nationally responded swiftly and decisively to cancel all events in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. No doubt all our actions have assisted Australia as one of the most successful nations in terms of minimising the effects of the pandemic. Nevertheless, we should not be complacent, particularly given the, let us say, more mature age demographic of our membership.

Restrictions in most states have or are in the process of being relaxed, with the exception of Victoria. The current Victorian experience reminds us how easily the situation can turn. In my personal view, care will be needed until a vaccine is widely available.

The following details, restrictions and recommendations were discussed in some detail and ratified in principle at the July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 CCBFA meeting held online via video conference. Many thanks to all in attendance – great to engage with country and interstate clubs directly. We plan continuing online access available via the Zoom platform during regular future meetings.

Details of restrictions in each state are changing regularly, often weekly and sometimes daily. The following federal government website includes links to each state.

<https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others-from-coronavirus-covid-19/limits-on-public-gatherings-for-coronavirus-covid-19>

**ALL bird events, including shows, sales and club meetings must comply with relevant current state government orders, direction and/or guidelines.**

Current or imminent restrictions applicable to indoor public gatherings and events are as follows.

1. Physical (or social) distancing of 1.5 metres is either mandatory or recommended nationally.
2. Maximum number of people permitted based on the size of the venue and attendance.
  - a. NSW, ACT, Vic, Qld 1 person per 4 square metres.
    - i. NSW no limit on attendees. A COVID-19 Safety Plan is required.
    - ii. ACT maximum of 100 people.
    - iii. Queensland maximum 50 people. For more than 50 people a COVID approved plan is required.
    - iv. Victoria maximum of 20 people with signage, cleaning and record keeping requirements. Complete ban in certain postcodes.
  - b. Currently 1 person per 2 square metres in WA, SA and Tas.
    - i. SA requires completion of a COVID Safe Plan and contact tracing records.
    - ii. Tasmania maximum of 250 people.
    - iii. WA a safety plan is required.
  - c. NT requires a COVID-19 – Event Safety Plan for public events under 500 people.

3. Requirement for a COVID Safety Plan or a broadly similar range of requirements based on the state and/or the number of people attending the event. In some cases these are informal guidelines.

In general, CCBFA recommends cancelling events where the number of people attending is predicted to exceed the permitted capacity of the venue. If such events go ahead there must be stringent processes and procedures in place to monitor entry and exit numbers and to ensure 1.5 metre distancing at entries, within the venue and in areas surrounding the venue.

CCBFA recommends all events should have a plan to include and address the following matters.

1. A written plan documenting all the information below, together with details of the event, including contact details for the person responsible. All documentation should be retained for at least 3 months.
2. Making it a condition of entry that attendees do not have any cold-like symptoms and asking anyone exhibiting such symptoms to leave immediately.
3. In states where required, the number of people entering and exiting the venue should be monitored to ensure numbers do not exceed permitted capacity.
4. Recording attendance, including names and phone number or email address for everyone as they enter the venue. Note that some states require this attendance register to be specific to the purpose of traceability should COVID-19 be diagnosed.
5. Hand sanitiser and wipes to be available at all entrances and exits. Stewards, judges and other officials should clean their hands frequently, consider wearing gloves, refrain from touching their face and should wipe down cages after judging or each time cages are relocated.
6. Floor markings should be in place to direct people through aisles in one direction only. Arrows taped to the floor, crosses spaced 1.5 metres apart where lines form, etc.
7. Aisle spacing and traffic flow measures must ensure at least 1.5 metre spacing between people is easily maintained. Realistically people will overtake, therefore a minimum aisle width of 2 metres would be needed. For sales, sellers should preferably be behind tables or larger aisle width required.
8. Food and beverage preparation/distribution at club meetings and events. Clubs are advised to consider carefully how food and beverages are prepared and distributed at their events. Smorgasboard style platters, bowls of chips, self-serve tea/coffee stations and the like, are not permitted in preference to individual servers delivering a plate or drink to each member. The server should wear gloves and maintain strict hygiene to prevent direct contact between patrons. **Of course, at all times compliance with state requirements for food service is mandatory.**

Current advice indicates CCBFA public liability insurance will NOT cover claims due to members or the general public spreading COVID-19 to other people present at events. Nevertheless, if a club is acting within their state's relevant current state government orders, direction and/or guidelines there is a minimal liability risk to clubs.

We encourage clubs to distribute this advice widely.

Kind regards,



Sam Davis  
President - Canary and Cage Bird Federation of Australia Inc.  
E: president@ccbfa.org.au