



# North Beach Recreation & Bowling Club

## COVID-19 VIRUS – INFORMATION UPDATE

**BULLETIN 01**

### THE CLUB'S POSITION

Information regarding the COVID-19 virus and how the club should deal with it has been somewhat sparse and confusing. We have ensured correct hygiene procedures are being followed and have been monitoring developments and advice as they have occurred. To this point we have not been in a position or felt it necessary to change our operational procedures, however given the advice received from various bodies yesterday afternoon certain changes will now be initiated affecting how the club operates. This bulletin will aim to inform and clarify matters as we proceed into “unchartered waters” and further bulletins will be issued as necessary.

### RESTRICTIONS ON GATHERINGS

Undoubtedly we have all heard about the restrictions on gatherings (100 people inside & 500 people outside). We have now received clarification as to how this will apply to our club:

- The 100 person restriction should apply separately to each enclosed area within the club premises.
- An *enclosed* area is an area or room that is substantially enclosed by a roof and walls, regardless of whether the roof or walls or any part of them are permanent, temporary, open or closed.
- This means that the bar area, gaming room, pool room, Chan's restaurant and the shared dining area (with concertina doors partially closed) are considered to be separate enclosed areas and therefore the 100 person restriction would apply to each area individually and not to the venue as a whole.
- Based on current trade these areas will not exceed their person limits however staff will monitor these areas to ensure compliance.
- Where there are outdoor gatherings of less than 500 persons clubs should ensure that there is at least 4 square metres of space for each person in the outdoor area.
- Our outdoor bowls spectator area (excluding grassed area and bowling green) is approximately 485 square metres (120 persons), our front deck area is approximately 70 square metres (17 persons) and our outdoor smoking garden is approximately 25 square metres (6 persons)
- Based on current trade these outdoor areas will not exceed their person limits however staff will monitor these areas to ensure compliance.

### BOWLS

- Bowling NSW has withdrawn its support for all pennants, tournaments and championship matches and accordingly these have been suspended until further notice.
- Social bowls (or roll ups) will continue as normal and further information on these days is available on our web site.
- Bowlers should also be reminded of the social distancing protocol detailed below.

### SOCIAL DISTANCING

Despite the fact that the above restrictions should not inhibit attendance at the club, we are encouraged to enforce social distancing so that people are not within 1.5 metres of each other for an extended period. While certain measures will be introduced to enforce these recommendations, we will be relying heavily on our members and visitors self-monitoring the 1.5 metre distance between each other. Our aim is to keep the club available to our members and guests without increasing the risk of virus transference. Accordingly, the club's position on social distancing is as follows:

## **Gaming Room**

As per the recommendations every 2<sup>nd</sup> gaming machine will be turned off to ensure an appropriate distance is maintained between players

## **Bar, Tab, Keno, Pool Room, Restaurant and Outdoor Areas**

- Some furniture may be removed to allow more space
- We ask all members and visitors to the club to observe and monitor a distance of 1.5 metres between patrons
- Family and some other groups may wish to disregard this recommendation and they should do so acknowledging the risks associated with this behaviour, they should also ensure that a distance 1.5 metres is maintained from other groups or individual patrons.

## **Courtesy Bus**

The courtesy bus will still operate as currently scheduled however the number of passengers on any given trip will now be limited. The number of persons on each trip will be determined by consultation with the passengers and driver. The driver on each trip will make the final decision. If you are not comfortable using the courtesy bus under these arrangements you should make alternative arrangements for travel to and from the club.

## **Attendance at the Bar and Other Staff Interaction**

- Under the recommendations our staff must also be given a high priority as is required by Safe Work NSW and other industry bodies.
- I urge all our members and visitors to maintain a common-sense approach when dealing with our staff.
- Please maintain a distance of 1.5 metres but above all you must comply with any direction given to you by staff regarding this requirement.

I am hopeful that with your cooperation we can achieve the desired outcomes regarding social distancing without the need for further or drastic action.

## **HYGIENE & CLEANLINESS**

- We will be increasing our cleaning of high touch areas
- Members and visitors should wash their hands frequently, especially after visiting bathrooms or having contact with high touch areas
- Supplies of hand sanitiser and antiseptic wipes are currently unavailable so please continue to use the handwash supplied in the bathrooms

## **THE DECISION IS YOURS**

The club is implementing recommendations received from various bodies including the Federal Government and Clubs NSW. It should be noted that these recommendations have not been passed into law but we have an obligation to assist where possible reducing the spread of the virus.

Each club is taking a different approach to this crisis and I am certain that in each case they are making the correct decision for their members and visitors. We have attempted to adopt a common-sense approach and seek the assistance of our members and visitors to “self-regulate” and work with the club to get through this. We don’t currently have any reported cases of the virus in our area and with your assistance we aim to keep it that way.

Given the above it is important to remember that the decision to attend the club during this time is yours. We are doing what we can but can offer no guarantees or assurances that you will not be exposed to the virus. If you are concerned about being exposed to the virus or fall into one of the at-risk groups then perhaps you should suspend your attendance at the club or limit your attendance to the quieter days of the week being Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

## **LET'S WORK TOGETHER and SPEAK the TRUTH**

We have been advised that the recommended restrictions will remain in place for at least 6 months. This will be a trying time for everyone in the community and I urge all our members and visitors to respect the views and opinions of others no matter how they may differ from your own.

From time to time you may hear rumours or comments about the club and how this crisis is affecting us. This bulletin is designed to keep you informed with the truth and any developments regarding our trade or operations will be communicated to you via further bulletins similar to this.

Remember the golden rule, if you hear something that doesn't sound right – it probably isn't. If you're unsure about something give me a call and I'll do my best to clarify it for you.

This is a resilient and caring community who I am sure will band together to ensure the clubs survival. As an organisation we will deal with developments and changes as this crisis evolves and our aim will always be to keep the club available to our members.

If you would like more information or wish to speak to me regarding any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you

**Richard Moore**  
**GENERAL MANAGER**