

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION UPDATE RELATING TO COMMUNITY SPORT AND
NEW PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER
EFFECTIVE MONDAY 29 MARCH 2021**

The NSW Government has released a new **Public Health Order** (*Public Health Order (COVID-19 Gathering Restrictions) Order 2021*) which came into effect Monday 29 March 2021.

This order includes changes which affect karting, so please read this information update carefully.

The biggest change is that the new Public Health Order removes the specific section related to community sport. Outdoor community sport is now covered in Part 4 Division 3 – Outdoor Public Gatherings. Community sport now falls into the category of a **non-controlled outdoor public gathering**.

1. COVID-19 SAFE OUTDOOR GATHERING

In order to have **more than 200 people** in attendance, the gathering must be deemed as a **COVID-19 safe outdoor gathering** by meeting the following conditions:

A COVID-19 safe outdoor gathering requires the organiser of the outdoor gathering to:

- have and comply with the relevant COVID-19 safety plan
- keep a copy of the COVID-19 safety plan and make it available to an authorised officer or a police officer as requested

The organiser of a COVID-19 safe outdoor gathering must ensure that the number of participants in the gathering is the lesser of:

- 5,000 people, or
- one person per 2 square metres of space of the premises in which the outdoor gathering is conducted.

Further below in this information update is a separate section on COVID-19 safety plans.

Note that the Public Health Order has another category called *controlled outdoor public gathering*. These events have a limit of 10,000 people however the venue must be bounded by a fence, the event must be ticketed and all persons attending must have an assigned seat. Therefore, this category **will not apply to community karting**. Community sport is a non-controlled outdoor public gathering.

2. ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION AT A VENUE

It is now a requirement that a COVID-19 safe venue uses an electronic form of registration **for all people** visiting the venue. It is not mandatory that community sporting venues use the Service NSW QR code system. Karting NSW recommends that Clubs utilise either (a) the KNSW QR Code System OR (b) the Service NSW system.

To access a Service NSW unique QR code Clubs must register as a COVID Safe business, if they have not done so already.

Capturing the details of people visiting a venue in 'pen and paper' format is no longer permitted.

In the case of children attending a venue without a parent or guardian and / or without the ability to 'check-in' themselves on a device, the MyKarting Portal database record of personal details will be used if the circumstance arises where NSW Health require contact tracing details. This option is not available for adults, who must register their entry at the venue via the Club's electronic registration system.

3. COVID-19 SAFETY PLANS

Most importantly, COVID-19 safety plans are mandatory for any community sporting activity which falls under the category of a non-controlled outdoor public gathering (ie more than 200 people attending) or which takes place at a recreation facility (indoor).

The NSW Health website has been updated with new template COVID-19 safety plans which have been simplified. The key item to be aware of is which COVID-19 safety plan from the NSW Health website must be used.

For outdoor community sport the relevant plan is the [Outdoor Events COVID-19 Safety Plan](#)

The simplified method for completing the new COVID-19 safety plans involves ticking that you 'agree' to various requirements, with no need for extra text to be inserted.

4. REMEMBER SOCIAL DISTANCING & HAND HYGIENE

While there have been some changes to the way the Public Health Order deals with community sport, as well as updated COVID-19 safety plans which must be prepared, from an operational perspective there is not a significant difference to the updates previously provided by KNSW.

As restrictions within the community are relaxed, most if not all, Clubs will be able to return to a regular competition structure in 2021.

It is important to note that whilst the limit at an outdoor site is now 5,000 people, it is still a requirement that adequate space be available to maintain social distancing. This is an issue which Clubs will need to address on a site-by-site basis and may determine if any limits on the number of spectators accompanying competitors required at specific locations.

Canteens and BBQ's can be used in 2021, with the required hygiene practices noted in the COVID-19 safety plan for the venue. Other procedures which were implemented in 2020, such as provision of hand sanitizer and increased cleaning frequency of amenities should also be maintained for the 2021 season.

Clubs may want to consider designated entry and exit points which allow for good flow of foot traffic as COVID-19 safety plans require the minimisation of congestion in high traffic areas. However, this can be determined on a case-by-case basis depending on the venue. With some restrictions, or additional requirements, still in place it is timely to remind participants and spectators that we are still in the midst of a global pandemic.

The only way that community sport can take place is under the conditions of a mandatory COVID-19 safety plan. Patience and understanding will again be required in 2021, even though things are returning to closer to normal.

5. KARTING (NEW SOUTH WALES) INC GUIDELINES – VERSION 11.0

KNSW Guidelines to reduce Covid-19 Risk at KNSW Sanctioned Events have now been updated to Version 11.0 - to reflect the new Public Health Order.

The Guidelines reiterate the need for venues to limit attendance to the lesser of 5,000 people or one person per 2 square metres of space at the venue.

Clubs should refresh themselves with the updated Guidelines as the requirements outlined will be applicable to regular club karting competition events as well as any regional or State events which are being held.

6. UPDATES

KNSW is constantly monitoring the COVID-19 situation and will provide updates to Clubs and participants should any of the current settings affecting community sport change. It is to be hoped that if there is an outbreak of COVID-19, the response would be a localised one which did not impact large parts of the state. Irrespective, KNSW will provide ongoing updates and information as and when required, particularly if restrictions ease further as vaccinations proceed.

For any further clarification on any of the above, or if you would like to discuss any aspect of COVID Safe operations at your Club, please contact KNSW Administration Team on 02 4731 5000 or admin@kartingsw.com.au