

Position Statement

The QRA's focus during the COVID-19 pandemic will always be the wellbeing of our members. Queensland Government Department - Sport & Recreation, have asked that all community sport be deferred until Stage 2 (12th June).

We have been seeking clarity from a number of sources and advise as follows:

Queensland Health have advised, in terms of "outdoor sports", Stage 1 restrictions are intended to allow informal unstructured physical activity and training which involves non-contact informal activity for up to 10 people. Spectators and non-essential personnel should be minimised. If spectators do attend they are to be considered within the specified limit of people for that stage.

This being the case QRA will support the return of shooting on the basis participants comply with the Stage 1 guidelines.

This will not extend to activities at Belmont Shooting Complex which will be deferred until Stage 2.

As well as social distancing, Clubs must however implement and observe safety protocols which include:

- Arrangements to limit the number of participants and to maintain minimum distance requirements (1.5m and minimum 4 sqm)
- Maintaining personal care and hygiene
- Handling and sanitising controls in respect of equipment

QRA believes that it is up to Clubs to review the attached guidelines and strengthen controls required based on the features of the Range.

Clubs must give absolute priority to the safety and well-being of participants, especially for those over 60-years of age. People at a higher risk of severe illness (those aged over 70 and/or those with chronic medical conditions or compromised immune systems) are encouraged to remain at home whenever possible.

It is important to note that the QRA may again alter our position depending on the changing requirements of governments as the COVID-19 crisis unfolds.

The responsibility sits with each Club to implement appropriate controls, operate safely and to understand and comply with Queensland Government requirements and directives.

Regulations:

All participants are required to comply with the following.

- Comply with Standard Shooting Rules.
- Members should not return to sport if in the last 14 days they have been unwell or had close contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19.
- Not attend if ill. In an environment of community transmission of COVID-19, any individual with respiratory symptoms (cough, sore throat, fever or shortness of breath), even if mild, should be considered a possible case of COVID-19. They should seek testing and must not attend.
- People at a higher risk of severe illness (those aged over 70 and/or those with chronic medical conditions or compromised immune systems) are encouraged to remain at home.
- A person with a possible case of COVID-19 should refrain from training (even at home) until they have been cleared to do so by a doctor, given the potential for worsening illness.

Suggested Australian Government and WHO resources:

- [How to protect yourself and others from coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
- Hand washing guidance https://www.who.int/gpsc/clean_hands_protection/en/
- Coronavirus (COVID-19) resources <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/collections/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-resources>

Venue Specific

- Members book attendance as agreed by the Range Operator.
- Payment of any fees in cash must be done by providing the correct amount (no change) – electronic payment is encouraged where possible.
- In addition to the Range Officer an official may be appointed to monitor adherence to these additional procedures. The details of an appointed official are to be posted at a central point.
- The total attendance is not to exceed 10 people. If additional participants are likely a booking process is to be established to ensure a “get in and get out” approach can be achieved to achieve the 10 person limit.
- The Range Officer will have the authority to cease all activities if a breach occurs.

The responsibility lies with individual clubs to ensure that:

- They are fully aware of, and compliant with, Queensland Government requirements.
- Operations are conducted in a safe manner and in adherence to those requirements.
- Standard Shooting Rules are applied.
- Employee and volunteer health and safety is managed in accordance with the Safe Work Australia COVID guidelines.

All Ranges:

- Any activity held on the club premises is held outdoors, employ physical distancing of 1.5m/4 sqm per person and be limited to the number of people determined by social gathering laws.
- Where possible, outdoor-accessible toilets should be open. At the very least, hand washing facilities including soap must be available.
- Hand sanitiser must be available in all ablution blocks and on the range.
- Bring your own pen to complete the range register
- Only members intending to shoot or in an official capacity (range/butts officer) are to attend shooting activities. Spectators are discouraged from attending. Any people not shooting should complete their details on the reverse of the Range Register – to assist with contact tracing in the event of COVID-19 cross contacts.
- Members are to observe all social distancing requirements as amended from time to time by the government and/or additional measures as advised by QRA.

- When not shooting, shooters must stay off the mound area and ensure a distance of at least 1.5 metres is kept between all members.

- Personal protective measures are to be observed.
 - Regular hygiene practice is required. Members are to use hand wipes and sanitiser on hands.
 - Regular use of sanitising spray on shared equipment is essential.
 - It is the responsibility of the members and/or their clubs to organise sanitary wipes, hand sanitiser and sanitary sprays.
 - A waste disposal bin is to be utilised for disposal of used wipes.

- Only one shooter per bay/lane is to be on the mound during shooting. Shooters are to set up immediately to the left of the lane tile not the centre of the bay. This ensures adequate social distancing during shooting.

- Only shooters are to be on the mound. No scorers or onlookers are permitted on the mound.

- The following activities are not to occur:
 - coaching,
 - instruction of new shooters
 - assisting other members with their equipment
 - Come and Try activities
 - erection of shade structures

- The only exceptions to social distancing are if rendering of medical assistance is required or intervention relating to the safety of a firearm.

- Members are encouraged to establish protocols of pre-booking to participate including establishing personnel required to set-up and shut-down the range.

- Equipment such as targets, target frames, weights, consumables, batteries, antennas etc. should be handled by one person or appropriate protection and/or sanitation should be undertaken.

Resources:

Possible education measures provided by the AIS and Sport Australia include:

- Provide education material for community sport members to promote required behaviours (e.g. regular and thorough handwashing, covering mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve during coughing/sneezing). Suggested Australian Government and WHO resources:
 - [Good hygiene for coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
 - [Hand washing guidance](#)
 - [Keep that cough under cover](#)
 - [Self-isolation \(self-quarantine\) for coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
 - [Advice for people at risk of coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
 - [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) resources](#)

- Display appropriate education material within sporting environments and facilities. Suggested Australian Government and WHO resources:
 - [Good hygiene practices poster for businesses](#)
 - [Good hygiene is in your hands](#)
 - [Hand washing guidance](#)
 - [Keep that cough under cover](#)

- Education of community sport members on hygiene practices and promote required behaviours relevant to their sport and environment.
 - No sharing of drink bottles and towels.
 - No sharing of mats, or equipment without an appropriate cleaning protocol, in between training sessions

- Recommend community sport members download the Australian Government COVID-19 contact tracing app ([COVIDSafe](#)).

Download the **COVIDSafe** App

