

Circular 290:03:20

To: Club Presidents

Cc: Club Secretaries

From: Emma Atkins – General Manager, People

Date: 24 March 2020

Subject: **Updates for Members and Clubs on Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

Action: Review, act and disseminate information as relevant

For additional details on this Circular please contact:
People on 03 9676 6912 or email healthalerts@lsv.com.au
Circulars are available at www.lsv.com.au/circulars

LSV Pandemic Framework Stage: 3B

Our priority is to ensure the health and safety of our people and community.

With the recent outbreak of COVID-19 around the world, Life Saving Victoria (LSV) has implemented additional precautionary actions to mitigate and protect staff, clients and volunteer members, as much as practical.

Please see latest circulars and information for clubs and members to support the health and wellbeing of our members and community.

This includes reviewing patrol protocols, club activities, standard operating procedures, travel and our general business operations.

LSV continues to seek advice from the Department of Health and Human Services, Emergency Management Victoria and other expert resources and will continue to provide the latest health information, event information, resources and briefings for clubs and members as relevant.

Announcements 22 & 23 March

The recent State and Federal Government announcements now mean significant changes to how we go about our everyday lives. These announcements include new restrictions on gatherings, some business closures, and in Victoria school holidays being brought forward to commence as of the 24 March 2020.

LSV's objectives remain the same:

1. Health, safety and wellbeing of our people.
2. Maintaining our operational capability and protecting lives in and around the water.
3. Supporting our industry partners across water safety.

We must adapt the way we do business as this situation evolves to ensure we are in line with government and expert advice while still being able to fulfil our commitment to our communities.

Club Activities

All Club activities except Patrols and emergency response should cease. All Club meetings must now be held via phone or video conferencing (Microsoft Teams is available to Clubs, [refer to circular](#)).

This also includes but is not limited to the ceasing of all volunteer training, structured active training (sport), nippers, use of bunkrooms, use of equipment, craft and non-essential access to club facilities.

Club Committees must consider establishing a roster or separate teams to perform essential club maintenance and respond to incidents.



It's vital that members also undertake additional cleaning tasks at work, home or at the club as well as practise social distancing and personal hygiene to stay safe and healthy. Read the [Guidance notes](#) and for more information www.lsv.com.au/healthalerts

Lifesaving Patrols for 2020

In summary, lifesaving patrols will continue for the remainder of the 2019-20 season, but will be modified to reflect the current government advice.

Further advice on patrol requirements are detailed in the [Patrol Circular](#).

Volunteer Training:

In summary, all face-to-face training should cease.

Further advice on volunteer training is detailed in the [Volunteer Training Circular](#)

Thank you for your support and ongoing commitment during this challenging time, particularly after such a long and arduous fire season.

We have a dedicated Pandemic Management Team working on coordinating our response to the coronavirus, and we will keep you updated on any new information and advice as it comes to hand.

This is a challenging time, there's no doubt about it. There are some areas of the organisation under significant pressure to meet demands as we adjust from our traditional ways of working. I would ask that everybody exercise patience, and most of all, abide by our values as we work through this together.

Look out for one another, stay connected, follow the advice from authorities and seek help if you need it.

I encourage you to visit the [DHHS website](#) and our LSV internet page www.lsv.com.au/healthalerts to keep up to date.

If you have any questions that aren't detailed in any of the communications, please email our Pandemic Management Team at healthalerts@lsv.com.au.

