



NCHA BOARD DIRECTIVE FOR AFFILIATE SHOWS WITH RELATION TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC

UPDATED 15th MAY 2020

Following the announcement from the Prime Minister on the 8th May 2020 we now have a broad understanding as to what restrictions and processes will take place, so we can now provide an outline as to when we commence the Cutting competition and what it may look like over the next period of time.

There is a fair bit of detail; so what we are providing is a summary and an outline as to the regulations and guidelines developed by the Government and health authorities in conjunction with the appointed sporting group ([AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport in a COVID-19 Environment](#)) to enable us to quick start the sport of Cutting again in Australia.

Information Summary

On the 8th May 2020 the Government provided a Road Map as to how Australia would start easing restrictions through the State and regional bodies. Included in this detail is how Community Sport will be able to start working again towards commencing competition in a staged format.

To follow we have provided both summarised and detailed documentation that will assist you in the process so as you can prepare to get up and running over the next period of time if all goes well:

1. Prime Ministers Statement

<https://www.pm.gov.au/media/update-coronavirus-measures-08may20>

2. COVID – 19 Government Updates

<https://www.australia.gov.au/#state-government>

3. 3 Step Road Map Guidelines

<https://www.pm.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/covid-safe-australia-roadmap.pdf>

Summary <https://www.pm.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/three-step-framework-covidsafe-australia.pdf>

4. AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport in a COVID – 19 Environment

https://ais.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/730374/35845_AIS-Framework-for-Rebooting-Sport-Summary.pdf

It is important to reiterate that all sport and recreation resumption decisions **must be based on State and Territory COVID-19 public health advice**. Links to those relevant authorities are listed below. Sports and athletes should follow the public health regulations issued by their local jurisdiction.



We will continue to work with our sport to assist in implementing a safer return to training and competition activities in alignment with State and Territory advice and encourage everyone to download the [COVIDSafe app](#).

5. Q & A video and responses provided by NCHA President Peter Shumack as to what this means

Q & A PETER SHUMACK SUMMARY

Q: What does the lifting of restrictions mean for the Cutting Industry in Australia?

PS: It is great that we now have an understanding of the process with the Roadmap released last week by the government.

This release of the three-step plan is a positive step towards the reintroduction of sport and recreation, which is linked to the [AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport in a COVID-19 Environment](#), which we have the link on the NCHA website.

As for expectation of events, we can only really speak in broad context as each state, territory and region will dictate as to when the 3-step plan is approved for transition in each jurisdiction. Therefore, it is important that you follow the **State and Territory COVID-19 public health advice**.

Q: What are the key points to the 3-steps?

PS: The 3-steps are 3 levels and set hopefully to a monthly plan if our progression to overcome the pandemic continues. These being Level 1 (May), Level 2 (June) and Level 3 (July).

Level 1: Outdoor gathering of 10 persons (No indoor).

Level 2: Gathering of 20 persons. Need to maintain an average density of 4m² per person.

Level 3: All venues to allow gathering up to 100 persons. Need to maintain an average density of 4m² per person. (At this stage Community sport expansion maybe considered.)

All levels for sport must be consistent with the AIS Framework for rebooting sport, along with all social distancing requirements and guidelines.

Q: What processes and timeframes should the NCHA Affiliates consider to run a show?

PS: Well as we said we really are speaking in broad sense but what we can say is that the 3-step timeframe provides tentative periods.

Affiliates are in a position now to set their dates, but provide flexibility for adjustment.



We have set up a NCHA Affiliates facebook page and Affiliates should use to discuss dates with other Affiliates. If they do they will be able to work together and provide a good number of shows for our members to have competition.

Q: What are the numbers initially for running shows?

PS: Affiliate committees will need to take into consideration that may only be able to run a show consisting of up to 100 participants. This includes organising staff. We therefore again encourage ongoing communication between affiliates and the NCHA office to assist in getting dates that are going to work for all.

Also make sure you get your dates into the NCHA early, so as we can assist in get enough dates for all.

Q: You mentioned the guidelines, is there any key points that the affiliates should take particular note of?

PS: The NCHA have guidelines that were put in place back in March just before the shut down. We have updated these guidelines but we strongly recommend the following:

1. Follow all the latest instructions and updated guidelines provided by the government, particularly state and local authorities.
2. We strongly recommend that you install the Covid 19 Safe app, if you are to attend a NCHA sanctioned event.
3. We believe strongly that each Affiliate should appoint a Safety Officer who will act as a Covid 19 event manager, to enforce all regulations.

Q: Will there be any further changes to the normal competition for the 2020 event year?

PS: With the uncertainty of what number of cutting shows we will have in the 2020 season it likely that our Area and National Awards will be cancelled. We expect some states to be disadvantaged and this will impact the overall results, so it would be unfair to present the awards this year.

In saying that all competitors Life Time Earnings will still be recorded with no changes to any division category until after the completion of the 2021 season.

This is about members getting back on the horse and competing.

Q: How are we tracking to run the NCHA 4CYTE Futurity later in the year?

PS: Well as long as we continue in the current successful direction, we are certainly looking to staging a successful 2020 NCHA 4CYTE Futurity.



We have met with AELEC recently and although there will be some new requirements and regulations introduced, they are confident the event will go ahead. There are a couple of major events prior to us, so we should have a good indication as to what to expect for our own planning.

Q: There has been a lot of awareness in the past few weeks among our members and peers around Mental health. What does mental health and well-being mean to you?

PS: Yes, it is very important part of our society and something the NCHA is very much involved with addressing. We have partnered with RAMPH and the NSW Government to assist our members to provide awareness and support as a priority. The NCHA is commencing a campaign over the coming 12 months to continue to bring awareness to this important cause.

Q: Is there anything else you would like to say to our members?

PS: One thing you can do is make sure you have a current membership with our Association as we are still operating, providing services and organising events behind the scenes.

6. Further NCHA recommended Guidelines for Cutting events

1. We recommend that all attendees download the COVID 19 Safe App
2. Appoint an Event Covid – 19 Manager whose sole responsibility is to make sure all regulations and guidelines are in place and adhered to during the event.
3. Remind the public and event workers that they must not attend if they are returning from overseas within the past 14 days or if they have been in contact with someone who has returned from overseas in the past 14 days.
4. Ensuring your Emergency Management Plan and ensure your WH&S policies are up to date.
5. Brief your event staff on good hygiene practises and make provisions to assist staff and attendees.
6. Having adequate sanitiser and hand washing facilities available.
7. Essential attendance only. That being, entries and immediate support for participants. Ask family members and spectators who do not need to be there to not attend.
8. Ensure there is adequate room for all attendees to maintain social distancing and that the importance of this is understood and practiced (1.5 meters apart or 4 meter surrounding space).
9. Communicate with entrants and essential attendees that if at any stage leading into the event any medical symptoms are felt that you immediately notify the Show Secretary to withdraw your entry. (Refunds will apply).
10. Determine with the hired venue what support or procedures they have in place to provide signage, sanitation, social interaction guidelines and with full due diligence, makes sure you have all this in place and clearly displayed around the venue.
11. Either man the entry gate or inform competitors that it should be kept closed at all times, with signage that it is a closed event, for participants only.
12. Do not have any social activities outside the daily competition time. Eg. Evening group get-togethers. (Avoid unessential contact whilst at the event and maintain social distancing).



13. We recommend to do an event registration sheet where members sign in on arrival, so as you know your numbers and can manage persons who should not be there.
14. If anyone demonstrates signs of illness at any stage during the event, immediately leave the event and notify the Show Secretary after they have left. If they still have entries, there may be a full refund for those entries.
15. Make sure that you are across all local, state and national advice and compliant to those instructions.
16. If anyone is sick at any stage during the incubation period of two weeks after the event, please notify the NCHA office and the Affiliate Club Show Secretary, so as all other participants can seek advice.

The NCHA Board will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and will endeavour to provide any further information that we can, but we ask that you follow the local regulations outlined in each state and region.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to give the NCHA office a call, who are there to provide the necessary support to the Association.

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