



30 October 2021

Update to Member Clubs and Affiliated Schools regarding Alert Level 3: Step 1 Guidance

Dear all

This letter is further to the letter provided by the Auckland Rowing Association (ARA) on 8 October 2021, and is intended to assist Member Clubs in interpreting government guidelines, including the [Alert Level 3: Stage 1 Guidance \(Sport NZ Guidance\)](#).

The ARA, like all Member Clubs, wants to see members of the Auckland rowing community get back on the water as soon as we are able to.

Further advice from Sport NZ / Rowing NZ

Since 8 October 2021, ARA has further engaged with Rowing New Zealand (Rowing NZ) who have in turn engaged with Sport NZ. Geoff Barry, CEO of Rowing NZ, has confirmed by email to ARA Rowing NZ's view: "Based on the response from Sport NZ, it is Rowing NZ's view that clubs should not be being accessing their facilities to retrieve equipment. It would be our position, under Alert Level 3: Stage 1, that the only rowing that can take place is where someone has their own private single scull skiff based at their house."

Further questions from Member Clubs

In the last few days Member Clubs have raised with ARA the following questions, to ascertain the ARA's view:

1. Can a coach / contractor work on a boat (undertake boat maintenance) at a Club?;
2. Can members of a rowing club access the Club to retrieve a private single that they own, and take this home?;
3. Are there any ways in which rowing clubs are able to operate / group training sessions are able to take place under current alert level settings, for example by having boats stored outside?

The ARA notes that, under the Sport NZ Guidance, private facilities (e.g. clubhouses, toilets, showers) cannot open except for use by workers (with appropriate public health measures in place). Rowing Clubs may consider that a contracted rowing coach undertaking boat maintenance is a "worker" for these purposes.

On questions 2 and 3, given the advice we have received from Sport NZ / Rowing NZ above, in ARA's view Sport NZ / Rowing NZ are best placed to provide further clarity on these questions. ARA has raised these questions with Sport NZ via Rowing NZ and will update Member Clubs as soon as possible.

Future Updates

ARA will update Member Clubs as soon as we have any further advice from Sport NZ / Rowing NZ.

On 1 November 2021, Cabinet is due to review Auckland's alert level settings. Should we move to Alert Level 3: Stage 2, ARA will advise any further updates / advice from Sport NZ / Rowing NZ (to the extent these organisations do not do so directly).

It appears that rowing clubs will be able to operate (with appropriate public health measures in place) at all levels of the Covid-19 Protection Framework / Traffic Light system. ARA is engaging with Rowing NZ and government agencies to understand what rowing clubs may be required to do as regards vaccine certifications and will update you when we know more.

In the coming weeks, ARA intends to engage with Member Clubs to discuss what opportunities we may be able to explore with respect to running regattas / competitions in the Auckland region under the Traffic Light system.

We appreciate that athletes and coaches in the region will be frustrated not to be back out on the water yet. We hope that athletes have been getting involved in ARA's online lockdown competition this week.

Regards

ARA Board

(Board Members: Sean Durkin; David Vallance; Paula Halliday; Michael Smyth; Jade Uru; Kim Dowden)