



# Scouts

SA

**21 November 2020**

## COVID-19 UPDATE



Dear Commissioner,

This communication has been distributed to all Commissioners in Scouting, for distribution to your teams. A general update to all Leaders will occur in the next scheduled email update.

As of 22 November 2020, the State Government have announced reduced restrictions in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak response.

Scouts SA has considered the new directions and guiding documents around these and the best 'fit' in terms of the definition of Scouting activities.

### Scouts SA Action

**Scouts SA advises that in line with the Emergency Management Direction #12 that all face to face Scouting activities are to remain suspended.**

We believe a review will be forthcoming by the end of next week that will assist determining the next steps with a hopeful removal of these restrictions for 1 December.

Indoor public meetings where participants are seated i.e. Group Council, or a team meeting can be conducted, provided the venue has a COVID Safe plan (which all Scout facilities do). This should only be for **adult** management level meetings. Online meetings are still encouraged in the first instance where possible.

There are many different opinions on the categorisation and therefore restriction of face to face Scouting activities. To clarify our understanding and decision making:

- A restriction still exists on sport and recreation i.e. Community sport (indoor/outdoor, contact/non-contact)
- Fitness and recreation activities focus on gyms, fitness centres, personal training etc, not Scouting activities
- Community sport/recreation is still considered not possible due to the 'coming together' of people from multiple communities, as happens with many of our Scout Groups right now.

There have been several queries about upcoming Branch activities. To assist in clarifying the decisions made we offer the following

- Queen's Scout / BP Dinner – scheduled for 21 November – has been cancelled due to restriction on Scouting activities. Superseded by Stay at Home order which is still in effect at time of dinner scheduled to occur. No other suitable options for dates can be found between now and end of the year
- Joey Scout Picnic – At time of decision being made 6-day state lockdown would have still been in effect. A COVID Safe plan would need to be updated and logistics of organising the activity be accelerated for this to occur
- Super splash – scheduled for early December – has been cancelled when announcement of state lockdown came into effect. The impact of organising such an event with uncertainty on the future timing of restrictions being eased (or further imposed) makes it very difficult to plan an activity to ensure it can be conducted safely and without financial risk.

## Scouting COVID Safe

For now, Scouting @ Home continues! Program activities will be sent out each week to supplement/support what Units might individually be working on and doing.

As previously mentioned, it is vitally important that we do not declare this the end of the Scouting year. We hope that by all of us working together, that there will be an opportunity to meet again face to face to end the Scouting year, so we encourage all Groups to keep in contact, connect where you can and do what you can to communicate with and engage with your Youth Members, families and Adult Leaders/Helpers

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