

MSA Event Attendees Information (Covid)

(Guidelines written and approved by the National Swim Meet Committee Feb 2021)

XXX Insert Meet Information Here

The advice below may change prior to the meet and any changes will be communicated directly with participants. There are going to be differences in how events have been conducted in the past and it is important to read and understand all information provided to ensure the safety of all members and continual resumption of our sport.

General Meet Safety Information

We ask that you please be aware of the following safety information in relation to an event.

- * If you or any member of your household are feeling unwell or have any symptoms of COVID-19, please do not attend the event.
- If you or any member of your household have tested positive for COVID-19, please do not attend the event.
- If you or any member of your household have visited any of the locations listed on the DHHS website, in the last 14 days, please do not attend the event. Please check the DHHS website regularly for the most up to date COVID-19 information. (For e.g., www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

Contract Tracing & Group Management

All attendees must provide Contact Details to allow for targeted contract tracing and reduce the numbers impacted if a positive COVID case presents.

- All event attendees will need to register their details prior to entry into the pool. Check whether QR codes can be used for this event. Instructions will be provided closer to the event. (Venues and Events will have separate QR Codes so both will need scanning)

Spectators

Spectators may not be permitted to access the Field of Play i.e., the pool, the pool deck, or marshalling areas. If so, please ensure you remain in your allocated seating areas and do not enter other group seating areas. Current restrictions have increased emphasis on ensuring record keeping of who is where and when in a venue to allow for targeted Contact Tracing and lessen numbers impacted in the case of an attendee presenting with COVID.

- There may be a restriction of number of spectators to attend the event per household.
- Please practice proper hygiene whilst present at the event and if you do begin to feel unwell during the day, please leave the venue. Check that there will be several hand sanitisers stations available throughout the venue as well as fully stocked bathroom facilities.

Masks

- The event host may encourage the wearing of masks at the event for spectators and competitors when they are not swimming, although this may not be mandatory. You may be required to wear a mask as you line up to enter the facility and while passing through the office area. There may be a 'No mask at this check point, no entry permitted'. Check with specific government restrictions.
- Please be mindful of social distancing at all times, particularly for spectators when selecting a seat. A seating map for clubs should be provided closer to the competition date.

- There will be COVID Marshalls and Club volunteers in attendance at the event and we respectfully ask for your compliance and cooperation with instructions from these individuals.
- We ask that you minimise your time at the venue and only attend for the period that you need to swim.

Food & Drink

You are welcome to bring your own food/drink with you to the event. Alternatively, catering outlets will be operational during the event.

- Some centres may have a limited amount of food available at the canteen, in this case please encourage competitors to bring any food or drink they require with them and do not share this with others. If Competitors or Spectators do purchase food or drink from the venue, please don't share this with anyone outside your household.
- Please bring with you, all of your own equipment that you need to compete and please do not share this with others.
- The Club should minimise equipment sharing to ensure the smooth running of the meet. Equipment will be cleaned at regular intervals throughout the event.
- If you have not already done so, we encourage you to download the COVIDSafe app.

Physical Distancing

Participants, Clubs and coaches are responsible for ensuring that their team members adhere to social distancing, both within the venue and warm up pool at all times.

Coaches & Swimmers are always required to maintain physical distancing.

Assisted Self Marshalling (The process will vary across States/Clubs/Events)

Self-marshalling process for swimmers

- Swimmers should report to the chairs behind the blocks, for their event preferably via the marshalling area, as per the event process. (If having multiple heats lined up behind blocks Marshalling room should be used where numbers can be controlled)
- To avoid congestion and ensure social distancing, please note that swimmers need only be available to enter the marshalling area or chairs behind the blocks: (examples provided)
 - XXX () heats prior to their heats events.
 - XXX () For events XXX and more, XX heats prior to their event.
- The first heats of sessions should report XX minutes prior to the scheduled start time.
- There will be chairs behind the timekeepers (XXXm Events) at the start end and also chairs put behind the starting blocks at the turn end of the pool (XXXm Events).
- After the start of the previous heat, swimmers may progress to the next chair position without causing any interference to Technical Officials. Swimmers are expected to be at the chair ready for the whistles to start their heat. Regular cleaning of the chairs will be undertaken.

- Swimmers will not be prevented from swimming if they only make it to their seat one heat prior to their event (This is a guide only to allow the event to flow. Leniency will be employed by Referees whilst this process is initially implemented). If a swimmer misses their heat, they must alert a Technical Official and they will be placed in a spare lane if, it becomes available. (This process will be dependent on the Event setup).
- The Referee will ultimately make decisions as to entitlement to swim.
- There will still be a Marshalling area setup with XX rows of chairs (In case there is a need to revert to full Marshalling). Swimmers will have the option to either report directly to the row of chairs behind each lane or proceed through the Marshalling area to pool deck. We will have two Clerks of Course (Technical Officials) in the Marshalling area to assist swimmers if needed. These Officials will be available for Athletes, Clubs, and Coaches to find information on events, withdraw swimmers and make enquiries.
- Swimmers will need to leave any clothing away from the marshalling area, so that it is able to be collected without re-entering the competition area after their event.
- Where a swimmer has entered, but will not be in attendance for a day, or the whole meet, the Recorders should be advised prior to the commencement of the day's competition.

Guidelines

The Club hosting the event will actively monitor all relevant guidelines, health directives and restrictions and will communicate any updates to event attendees through email, social media and the Masters Swimming Branch website. We appreciate everyone's cooperation to make our events safe for all attendees and wish all swimmers the best for the meet.

Note: Most people will not read 1 page of these instructions. The above can be reduced to 1-2 pages and placed around the pool for ease of access if required.