



## Coronavirus (COVID-19)

### Level 2 Restriction Club Event Guidelines

Version: 8/10/21

These Level 2 Restriction guidelines supersede all previous versions of COVID-19 ONZ event guidelines. The guidelines will be reviewed and where necessary updated as more information comes to light regarding Level 2 lockdown restrictions.

***Our goal is to minimise any chance of Covid transmission happening for participants attending orienteering events.***

***This will be achieved through the implementation of infection prevention practices recommended by the New Zealand government and orienteering specific advice from the ONZ covid guidelines. This also includes the provision of measures to allow effective contact tracing for attendees at orienteering events***

Under level two restrictions, all participants must continue to behave as though they might be infected with COVID-19 themselves. "Participants" include any person taking part or spectating at an orienteering event. Officials are not included in event limit ratios as long as they do not also participate in the event.

Whilst the level 2 restrictions are in place, clubs will be able to resume some orienteering events, however they must be compliant with these restrictions and guidelines. Clubs should modify their calendar for the period the level 2 restrictions are in place and either:

- 1) Design their events so that they are fully compliant with the guidelines, or

- 2) Where events cannot be run safely and in line with the guidelines, to cancel or postpone these events.

If clubs are unclear on how they do this or have concerns with what we are asking, they should contact ONZ for further guidance.

## **CLUB EVENT GUIDELINES**

### **Guidelines for Participants Attending Events**

Clubs need to ensure all event attendees (participants and officials) are advised of the following restrictions. These should be communicated prior to the event (e.g., website, marketing, and promotion), as well as at each event.

People should NOT attend any orienteering event:

- If they are unwell with a cough, fever, or other respiratory symptoms.
- If they have been in close contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 until they have completed the prescribed quarantine period, even if they are completely symptom free.
- If they have returned from any overseas country until they have completed their allocated quarantine at an MIQ facility.
- If they are undergoing COVID-19 testing, until they have received negative results and are symptom free.
- If they have visited a location of interest and are still completing the required testing and isolating protocols as defined by the Ministry of Health.
- If they have been advised to stay at home by a health professional in relation to COVID-19 risks and concerns.

We also advise competitors who fit within the higher at-risk groups such as elderly or immunocompromised individuals, or who live with someone who fits this category, to take particular care and/or make decisions on attendance with due consideration to the risks associated with COVID-19.

Anyone that presents themselves unwell and/or with any of the symptoms above, should be directed to leave the event and contact a health provider by phone.

Competitors should keep 2m distance from people you don't know, ensuring any closer contact is limited to closer friends, family and people you are travelling with.

All participants must follow good hygiene practices, including:

- Using sanitizers before, during and after the event
- Ensuring coughs and sneezes are contained using your elbow or tissue/handkerchief.
- Avoiding spitting or blowing nasal mucus in places where others may run or come into contact with it.

Ensure contact tracing details are provided at registration and that the club is notified when the participant has finished competing, even if they did not complete the course.

Comply with instructions provided by the club which are designed to keep people safe and ensure the social distancing and hygiene protocols are maintained.

Participants should also be reminded to operate within their comfort zone, not take unnecessary risks, and take personal responsibility for their own and others safety.

### **Guidelines for Event Organisers.**

#### Contact Tracing

All orienteering events must have their own NZ COVID tracer QR Code Posters on display at the entry to events. The Ministry of Health have asked all organisations to have unique QR Code Posters at every venue rather than one for the entire organisation, for orienteering this means a separate poster for each event. These can be downloaded at <https://qrform.tracing.covid19.govt.nz/>

All events must have ways for people — including competitors, organisers, spectators or other visitors - to record their visit. You can do this by displaying the QR code at the event centre and asking people to scan in. You also need to provide an alternative way for people to record their visit, especially for people who are not able to scan QR codes. This alternate method of recording should be able to collect the attendee's name, contact detail(s), and arrival time.

Pre entries can be useful to reduce bottlenecks at registration, and for recording competitors details that could supplement the Contact Tracing records. However pre-entries on their own are not sufficient for contact tracing purposes as it does not capture all event attendees.

#### Event numbers

Gatherings at level two are limited to 100 competitors in a defined space. A defined space is a single indoor or outdoor space separated from other spaces, such as an event centre. The gathering limits only apply to competitors - spectators, visitors, event officials and organisers do not have restrictions in terms of numbers who can attend, although must maintain social

distancing whilst attending the event. We would not define the actual course area outside the event centre as a defined space, although athletes should be encouraged to maintain distancing even on course.

Events larger than 100 competitors can take place as long as competitors are separated into different defined spaces. Separate defined spaces can be achieved through either time blocks, or using separate event centres (see below). If an event has more than 1 defined space, then competitors from different defined space groups should try not to mix or intermingle with each other.

Based on our current understanding clubs have the following options available for running events while complying with the gathering restrictions but still enabling larger numbers of people to participate in the sport:

1. **Having a wide time block and no event centre** - for low key events, clubs could look at using virtual apps or tools such as Maprunner, or a semi permanent type course, which allows people to run a course where there is no event centre, and where there is a wide timeframe (ie days) where they can choose to do it. In this instance gatherings are likely to be minimal, even in major cities. Participants would need instructions on self-starting, maintaining social distancing and hygiene, and also being in charge of their own safety. A phone number should be provided on the map for an organiser who could assist someone in the event of an emergency or issue.
2. **Having specified time blocks with specified numbers of competitors in defined space** – participants would be allocated a specific time block in which they would have to start. This could be (for example) a 60 minute time block where a maximum of 100 participants could start. 2m distancing between those 100 (or less) people should be encouraged during the event, so the layout of the event centre would need to accommodate that. This type of event would require marshal/s in place to direct and manage participants and ensure that the maximum numbers are never exceeded in the event centre area or during that specific time block. This will only likely work with pre entries, or some system of counting people in and out of the event centre/defined space.
3. **Having multiple event centres (defined spaces)**– this could include separate start/event centre and finish locations, each which could be counted as a defined space in its own right. This would enable group blocks to be allowed into the start/event centre, as soon as the last person from the previous block has started and left the event centre/start defined space, and without having to wait for them to finish as well. The finish area would have to be managed to ensure people quickly move out of the finish area and

leave the event, so that bottlenecks of gatherings do not occur which could threaten the 100 person participant limit.

Rogaines also have the opportunity for having multiple start and finish locations, which allow for simultaneous starts of multiple blocks of people.

### **Risk Management During Event**

Event organisers should look at opportunities to reduce the risk to orienteers, officials, and volunteers through taking sensible precautions and implement practices which reduce the chance of infection and which support social distancing. These include:

- Ensure the 2m social distancing rule is practiced by participants at all times
- Masks are strongly encouraged for everyone attending the event including participants when they are not competing. Obviously during competition athletes would not be expected to wear masks.
- Managing or removing any bottlenecks or areas where congregating can occur – avoid on the day registrations (ideally pre-register), no results area, no mass starts, no socialising at the event
- Ensuring toilet facilities, if provided, have cleaning products and protocols in place which enable sanitising after each use. Where this cannot be achieved, we recommend not providing toilet facilities
- Ensure touchpoints such as control clippers, SI sticks, and other devices such as Ipads, SI units etc are disinfected before and after the event. Also ensure participants sanitise before and after using these items.
- Not providing water on course or at start or finish for competitors. Competitors should bring their own water.
- Asking competitors to bring their own hand sanitisers.
- Providing hand washing or sanitising facilities at key locations including, start and finish areas.
- Asking all that attend to follow good hygiene practices and maintain physical space between each other.
- Providing refunds to those that withdraw for health reasons.
- Reduce the opportunity for people to congregate including having no results areas (make available online), and no presentations at events.
- Maps should be kept by competitors after finishing at all events.
- Ensure any hard surfaces such as tables etc are regularly disinfected and wiped clean.

- Where possible encourage people to enter and pay online, rather than manually handle cash. This could be in the form of giving entrants banking information to allow them to pay online before or after the event.
- Arranging starts and finishes to allow >2m distance between people, and/or staggered starts.

### **App Based Events**

Maprunner and other app-based event systems are increasingly being used and have real potential value during level two or higher restrictions due to the contactless nature of the systems. The ONZ Slack sharing platform, OChat, has a channel dedicated to these systems where orienteers have shared their experience of using them. We encourage orienteers and clubs to look into these app-based systems further and share with each other knowledge and information on how to run events effectively with these.

There may be other actions which clubs choose to take not listed here which could enhance how events can run under the current restrictions.

These guidelines will get reviewed and updated as things progress, so please be prepared for changes in due course. They will get posted on the website as well as sent directly to clubs.

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