

**Date:** 28 May 2020

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**To:** All SLSNZ Clubs and Members

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**From:** Chris Emmett – Chief Operations Officer

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**Subject:** COVID-19 Memo #13 - Changes to Mass Gathering Limits

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On Monday 25 May the Government announced that from 12 noon Friday 29 May, gatherings allowances will be increased **from the current 10 people limit up to a 100 people limit**. The new limit applies to gatherings at your home, events outside of home and public venues – including church services, weddings and, funerals and tangihanga. We consider Surf Lifesaving Clubs to fall under the above criteria, see below for further clarification.

Following this announcement, Sport New Zealand has released the following information: Since the announcement of the gathering limit being raised to 100 at 12pm Friday 29 May, two questions are being asked consistently by our partners.

- Does the 100 include participants, officials, coaches and spectators?  
Yes, the gathering number includes all participants, officials, coaches and spectators. However, spectators may be treated separately to the main gathering. So you could have a gathering of the participants and officials and coaches. You could then accommodate spectators separately in a different area and require them to keep 2m physically distanced. Areas for spectators should be clearly marked out to prevent mingling with the gathering or other groups.
- Do spectators need to be contact traced if outside the activity gathering itself - 2m or more?  
For any planned activity or event where it is expected there will be spectators, organisers should have measures in place to record those spectators for contact tracing purposes. This should be included in their COVID-19 Health and Safety plan and could include online pre-registration, via an app or a contact tracing register on site. Casual passers-by that keep a 2m distance from a gathering do not have to be contact traced.

Additional relevant reference points to note are:

- Gatherings are defined as where people come into contact and do not maintain 2m distancing.
- Where physical distancing can be maintained at all times, the 100 limit does not apply.
  - For example, in a spectator stand where more than 100 spectators can be present with 2m physical distancing in place between spectators. The stand would be physically separate from the activity gathering.
  - In any context where people are in a venue or facility, or park or beach for example, there could be more than 100 but they must maintain physical distancing.
- If more than 100 people are using a facility or space, physical distancing would have to be maintained including in shared areas such as entries and exits, carparks, toilets and shared spaces.
  - Examples of this could be equestrian events and triathlons
  - Facilities would need to understand how this distancing would be managed e.g. via phasing of activities or through clear marking of zones/regions

For all queries relating to this memo, please contact Chris Emmett,  
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