

Skate Sports Taranaki

April 2020 Club Bulletin #2



A message to club members from Krys and Willy

We would like to thank our committees, and everyone within our membership and behind the scenes for their dedication and hard work during these trying times with Covid 19 virus. Your help and understanding during this period in our lives will help us in the long term in recovery and moving forward.

We want to thank our membership for their patience with us as we have made decisions for the club and our members' safety while coming to terms with the impact of our Level 4 lockdown, these times are uncharted waters with events changing almost daily as we watch the news broadcasts related to our NZ situation but also the impact in other countries.

For most, we are working from home but for some in the front line their work continues - medical, police, civil defence, government agencies, emergency services (Fire/ Ambulance/ Hospitals etc), we are sincerely grateful for the continued support within the community we all live in.

As most of you probably know by now, we initially closed the rink to public access but quickly followed this with removing club member access within days of the lockdown stages coming into force. Oceania was cancelled (this was due to start after Easter), so there will be some disappointed athletes from our club but also across NZ affected.

Our trainings across all codes have ceased, we have also postponed the Secondary Sports May inline hockey event, and tentatively rescheduled to August.

The Derby Bout was cancelled as were the training camps for all codes booked for New Plymouth. We are fairly certain that the Senior QBT event will not take place and also the Junior event in July most likely will cancel. The regional league for inline, has not been decided and the Central AGM was postponed. We have had no information from IHNZ about their AGM (scheduled May),

Skate NZ have advised on their events and the figure branch are aware of details.

We hope that regions may still be able to hold some events but this is totally unknown at the moment. Given there was an event notice detailing Nationals the qualification for this may not be able to establish who attends if the event actually takes place. It is hoped our own club can be inventive with events to bring our people back together and back on their skates, so to speak once we get a clearer idea of the impact after the "lockdown".

We are keeping up to date, and posting to our website or facebook or both.

If you have any "home based" activity to keep fitness and skills ongoing, please let us know and we can post to either platform to share. You will see Dean Tonks (from Christchurch) has shared some dry land training documents, and there is also a link to Hockeywise on the Ravens facebook.

If Figures/ Derby/ Rink Hockey have anything they would like to have loaded please send it through. (or provide a weblink etc)

We are still moving forward albeit a little slower, we are supposed to be hosting NZ Inline Nationals in September, and RH Trans Tasman later in the year (Moved from May).

There is time to organise still if these events are able to proceed, time will tell.

We hope that the Covid-19 pandemic will subside and will not deter our members from future participation. We will take it day by day and will plan on there being some form of skate activity before the end of the year for all our members.





It is difficult to keep on top of every situation, everyday operations have been hard hit, we are going to need to work together to keep our club healthy and thriving once we can access the venue again. Please keep yourselves informed on safety and security through the covid19 website.
To all our families in the skating world, keep your distance, stay healthy, help each other when possible and continue to stay strong.



I attended a virtual Zoom Meeting with Sport Taranaki last week, so have given a brief overview from this meeting below.

Firstly a message from Michael Carr (Sport Taranaki CEO)

What we know right now is that nothing is certain, and we are in a time of constantly shifting sands as a world, nation and specifically a sector. However, I think we need to remember we are in this together. From a Sport Taranaki perspective, we are here to facilitate, support and help but we too are learning and adjusting to this new normal alongside you.

We know that there will be some common needs and individual concerns as well as unique circumstances that we will need to navigate our way through and this morning's virtual morning tea was a chance to share these and for us to understand your priorities. Even though many of us are in survival mode right now, there will be some real opportunities present themselves.

Ultimately, Sport NZ have charged RST's to be leaders and the critical support for sport and recreation organisations so you can not only exist post Covid-19 but have found new and creative ways to thrive in the re-build process.

In terms of the Sport Taranaki response to COVID-19, remember we have developed a number of resources on our website including Community Sport and Activity Updates, Active Anywhere and support avenues for organisations like yourselves.

It's also important we take the opportunity to enforce the key COVID 19 exercise messages - You can still get active while fighting COVID-19! Just make sure you don't "pop your bubble". Stay close to home, stay safe and practice social distancing. We look forward to connecting with you again soon where we can dive deeper into the issues that have been brought to the surface and work alongside you to collectively design solutions for how sport and recreation might look like when we emerge from this tunnel that is COVID19.



A brief on the meeting discussion points;

Concerns for People

- Ensuring paid staff continue to get an income
- Keeping staff busy through the lock-down
- Keeping members engaged
- Concerns about the well-being of staff - physical and mental as this lock-down progresses
- Impact of the economic downturn – Will members still be able to afford to play?

Concerns around Funding

Grant funding for wages – issues around this as some staff not able to work and funding is reliant on them working

Things being discussed/ heard in the sector

- Class 4 gambling funding gone for the year
- All funding is off the table for the rest of the year
- Some funders are saying that if you have put in an application and it has not been granted its now off the table and you will need to reapply or funders are just sitting on applications for now.
- Gaming societies are required by law to give out all their funding with each round and that means there are no reserve funds to give out currently.
- Once the gambling machines start ticking over again it will still take time for those funds to regenerate before they will be in a position to distribute funds again.
- Due to the recent power ball jackpot draws lotteries will probably break-even this year. They had predicted a large profit but will now only break even.
- Due to this break-even Sport NZ are able to provide a bit more certainty for those they fund. Therefore, the predicted Lottery returns for the year will meet Sport NZ's budgeted amount thus providing guaranteed funding for NSO's and RST's through to July 2021.

Look at the Sport Taranaki webpage for support <https://www.sporttaranaki.org.nz/covid-19/sport-and-active-recreation-organisations-dealing-with-covid19-impacts/>



Kiwisport has been re-purposed as a more flexible fund to help and support organisations in certain situations.



#keepsafe
#bekind



Further Concerns

- How will we stay afloat financially without being able to access any of the government subsidies as we only have volunteers but we still have a facility to run and costs to pay?
- Some of us need IT training to be able to use Zoom (or other platform) and keep our people engaged and connected.
- If we need to, how do we go about making staff redundant?
- What is the correct procedure and are there templates we can use?
- Very keen to understand what the COVID 19 levels look like for sport.
- As we might drop in and out of each level what will sport look like at each level.
- If Winter sports are able to get in some of their season and use some of the funding they have, how will that impact on Summer sport and the need to share facilities and participants.
- Wanting ideas to keep staff busy over this time.
- Facility maintenance – particularly for Golf/Bowls. If we haven't tended to our facilities over this time period what will it cost for us to get them up to scratch again

Possible Solutions

- Talk to your landlords, banks and all other creditors to discuss your specific situation – see if you can get a payment holiday.
- Look into the wage subsidy, if you have paid employees and haven't done so already
- Stay connected to staff, volunteers and members via virtual platforms if you can.
- Even if it's to connect socially ie Official meetings, skills sessions, a well-being touch base, Friday night drinks, Coffee catch ups, Use prerecorded virtual skills sessions and post to your social media channels to keep your staff and members engaged
- Think outside the square to keep staff busy if they can't do their normal tasks but also give them the freedom to be creative and explore new ways of doing things
- Talk directly to your funders to get the most up to date information specific to your organisation Codes need to look at how they can work together to overcome the issues ie. Sharing facilities, participants, time/seasonal slots, staff, knowledge
- An organisation like Kelly Sports might be able to support with a workforce should you find yourself short staffed when the levels start to lift.
- Keep communicating with members so they know what your code is planning and/or suffering with right now

#StayHome

www.covid19.govt.nz