

12/03/2020



GI Club Secretaries

RE: UPDATE 2 - GI member activities – Coronavirus/Covid-19

Dear Members,

Following the government's recent instructions/advice today regarding the ongoing efforts to combat the spread of Coronavirus/Covid-19 we have been contacted by a number of clubs to clarify our position. As per our recent communication with clubs dated 11th March, Gymnastics Ireland is directly following the advice/guidelines issued by the government through the relevant state authorities, namely the HSE and Sport Ireland and therefore our position/advice remain as per the governments.

Following on from the above, you will no doubt be aware of the statement today from the Taoiseach through which the government has...

1. Advised the immediate cancellation of *'all indoor mass gatherings of more than 100 people and outdoor mass gatherings of more than 500 people'*;
2. Reiterated the importance of self-isolation for anyone who is exhibiting any symptoms or has been in contact with anyone who has tested positive for the virus in addition to anyone who has recently returned from an affected area/country as listed by the HSE, and;
3. Reiterated the need to continue to engage in personal hygiene related preventative measures as per HSE guidelines.

We ask all member clubs to please ensure you review in full and comply with the recommendations as per the HSE guidelines via <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>

In relation to standard club business activities that could be classified as operating under the 100 person threshold guideline we would draw your attention to the following section from the statement made today by the Taoiseach - *'Restaurants, cafes and other businesses can stay open but should look at ways that they can implement the public health advice on social distancing.'*

We fully appreciate the financial position our clubs presently find themselves in, a position shared by Gymnastics Ireland at national level and all businesses nationwide, however we urge our clubs to make their decisions based on the government's advice and ask that clubs give particular consideration to the social importance of their decisions and the role they can play in limiting the spread of this infection which is in the interests of the wider Irish population and in particular those who would be classified as high risk. The government has made it clear that slowing the spread of this virus has to be everyone's priority.

We will continue to monitor the situation and communicate directly with our clubs should there be any further developments.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Gallagher".

Ciaran Gallagher
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: GI Board
GI Staff

Sport Starts Here.