



11/03/2020

GI Club Secretaries

**RE: GI member activities cancellations/recommendations – Coronavirus/Covid-19**

Dear Members,

Further to our recent communications in relation to the outbreak of Coronavirus/Covid-19, and following the recent cancellation of various St. Patrick's Day parades as advised by the Irish government please see below decisions taken/recommendations made in the interests of the health of our community and to limit the potential financial risk associated with the activities listed...

**Cancellations**

We will be cancelling the following events/activities due to occur to end of March 2020...

- **National Squad training weekends:** Please note we will aim to reschedule additional training sessions to year-end to replace cancelled weekends where possible and will be in contact with clubs to clarify as matters progress. This will also impact trial processes relating to international competition selection and GI will be in contact with clubs involved with this process shortly while we assess advices received in relation to same.
- **National Series event 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> March:** Please note we are currently assessing options following cancellation of this event with a view to enabling gymnasts to compete at a later date should this be viable. As our next National event is not until May and we hope that the time between now and then will allow for further clarification from government re 'mass gatherings'.

**International Travel for clubs**

For clubs that have planned international trips between now and the end of March and for which we had granted permission to travel under our Travel insurance policy we now recommend not travelling due to the uncertainty and unpredictability of how things are developing with the virus on a global scale. Given that position we want to ensure clubs are fully informed as to cover for previously approved/sanctioned trips under our travel policy and in this regard we have consulted our insurers and have received the following clarifications...

*GI Travel policy cover would not apply for change of mind. There would have to be a directive from the Department of Foreign Affairs stating 'avoid non-essential travel' to the travel destination for the cancellation cover to apply and it would only apply if the trip was booked before this advice was posted on the DOFA website.*

*If however, the actual event is cancelled by the third party organisers of the event in the country where the event is to take place then there would be cover as it is outside of the Insured or Insured Person's control.*

*AIG have advised that as it stands policy terms and conditions apply, under the policy terms and conditions if someone becomes sick while travelling the policy limits apply in relation to medical expenses and repatriation.*

As stated above it remains our recommendation for clubs not to travel in the immediate future. Any clubs that choose not to follow this advice do so at their own risk bearing in mind the information above. We will also not be approving any further club travel requests until such time as there is greater clarity as to how things are progressing on a global scale to combat the virus.

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We understand that the above decisions/recommendations will cause inconvenience and upset however we hope members appreciate our decisions have been taken in full consultation with the relevant authorities, our insurers and following the most recent government advice.

We will be reviewing our approach for April at the end of March based on the position as it stands then and on advices available at that point.

In the mean-time we again urge our members to follow the guidelines and transmission prevention measures as per the HSE which are available via <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Gallagher", written in a cursive style.

Ciaran Gallagher  
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: GI Board  
GI Staff

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