



COVID 19 Update for Members and Associate Members

Notice #2 – 8th June 2022

No doubt you have all heard by now that the ski season has kicked off with record snowfalls! Perisher has received over 60cms of snow over the last week and more is expected in the next few days. In fact, Perisher has brought forward the opening of the resort by a week. The longer range forecast, according to Mountain Watch, is for a very good season.

As you would also all be aware, we have had record bookings this year, due to so many of us missing out on skiing last year and having been restricted the two years before due to the Covid lockdowns and restrictions. Having a full lodge is nothing new of course, however with such heavy bookings, we would like to ask everyone to play their part during their stay in the lodge. Even though we are all getting used to living with Covid, we have decided to maintain our Covid Safety Plan. Naturally, it has been amended to reflect the current situation. As we have communicated over recent months, the 'closeness' of the lodge environment means that we ask that everyone remains conscious of the risk of contracting or spreading Covid 19 while in the lodge. Whilst it is no longer 'headline news', in fact the infection rate of Omicron is quite high and we are seeing significant numbers of positive cases in the community, especially in older people. We ask that you use care and common sense while staying in the lodge – keep your hands clean and be conscious of the fact that 'airborne transmission' is a very common way of it spreading.

As far as the club's 'policy' on what happens if we get a Covid outbreak is concerned, we ask that if you are showing any Covid symptoms or have been in contact with anyone with symptoms, you MUST get tested immediately. If you test positive, I am sure you will understand that you will have to pack up and return home as quickly as is practical and self-isolate. We do not want to have to close the entire lodge due to one person testing positive and then spreading it to others. On that – I would strongly recommend that you bring some RAT tests down with you. It is not practical – or for that matter, cost

effective – for us to provide them. If you don't have one and develop symptoms, you will need to go down to the pharmacy in the Skitube building and purchase RAT tests from them.

While our Hut Captains are there to deal with any day to day issues that occur during their week, they will be referring any Covid issues to either myself or Paula to deal with. Your support and understanding of this policy is appreciated.

While on that same subject - should you test positive to Covid before you leave home for the lodge and have to isolate as a result, you may apply for a refund of your accommodation booking. You will understand that we will need some form of proof of your Covid positive status – ie a copy of a PCR test result with your name and the date. Naturally, you would also understand that any full refund will apply only to the person who tests positive. The normal refund policy will apply to anyone else in your booking and should that occur, you should contact Paula Gidley to discuss.

Finally, this year we have decided that due to the changed Covid conditions, visitors can be allowed into the lodge – however you are responsible for checking with your guests that their vaccinations are up to date before they enter the lodge. This way, we keep everyone staying in the lodge as safe as possible.

As always – if you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me on 0418 223107 or mal@nextstepsconsulting.com.au

Mal Higgs - Chairman