



## MEMBER RELEASE

# EQUESTRIAN CENTRES, AGISTMENT CENTRES, COACHES & CLUBS UPDATE

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27 March 2020

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THIS MEMBER RELEASE CAREFULLY AND IN ITS ENTIRETY

Equestrian Victoria's (EV) priority is the safety of our members and our community.

In the last 24 hours the Deputy Chief Health Officer (Communicable Disease) of the Victorian Department for Health and Human Services (DHHS) issued a update to existing Non-Essential Activity Directions (No 2). A link to the communication can be found [here](#).

Equestrian Victoria wishes to clarify the contents for our members, facility operators, coaches and clubs to avoid any confusion.

1. The direction took effect at midnight on Thursday 26 March 2020;
2. The purpose is to prohibit the operation of non-essential businesses and undertakings to limit the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus);
3. **Clause 5 (1) of the Direction - Recreational Facilities**, states that:
  - a. A person who owns, controls or operates a **recreational facility** in Victoria must not operate that facility between midnight on 26 March and midnight 13 April 2020;
  - b. A **recreational facility** includes facilities operated on a for profit or not-for profit basis and includes:
    - i. a facility used predominantly for indoor recreation;
    - ii. a facility used predominantly for outdoor physical recreation.
  - c. a **personal training facility** defined as a facility at which personal training services are the predominant activity provided; and
  - d. a community centre.

### HOWEVER,

4. Clause 5 (5) of the Direction states that:
  - a. Despite subclause 5 (1) a person who owns, controls or operates a personal training facility **MAY** operate that facility if its services are provided:
    - i. in an **outdoor space**; and
    - ii. to a number of persons that does not exceed the number calculated by dividing the total area of space that the service might reasonably be expected to use (measured in square metres) by 4; and
    - iii. in any case, the number of persons to whom its services are provided is not more than 10 persons at any one time.

Further, Clause 5 (6) states that: A personal training facility operated in accordance with subclause 5 (5) does not constitute a social sport gathering for the purposes of the **Prohibited Gatherings Directions**.

5. Clause 12 relates to **Animal Facilities** states that:

- a. A person who owns, controls or operates an **animal facility** in Victoria must not operate that facility for the purpose of allowing the public to visit that facility between midnight on 26 March and midnight 13 April 2020;
- b. An **animal facility** includes an animal farm that is not for the purpose of producing food.
- c. If a person owns, controls or operates an animal facility MAY continue to operate the facility for the purposes of:
  - i. Treating or caring for animals; and
  - ii. Performing an animal rescue function; and
  - iii. Maintaining the facility.

**THEREFORE**, Equestrian Victoria assesses that if you own, control or operate a personal (private) facility you may continue to provide services to your clients (including coaches) providing it is:

- i. in an **outdoor space**; and
- ii. to a number of persons that does not exceed the number calculated by dividing the total area of space that the service might reasonably be expected to use (measured in square metres) by 4; and
- iii. in any case, the number of persons to whom its services are provided is not more than 10 persons at any one time.
- iv. **Further, that if you own or operate an agistment you may continue to treat and care for the animals on your agistment and maintain the facility.**

**Equally, that is you agist a horse at a property you may continue to treat and care for your horse.**

At all times we encourage you to stay safe, practice good hygiene and #loveyourhorse

For further information:

**MATTHEW BROWN**

Chief Executive Officer - Equestrian Victoria

Email: [matthewbrown@equestrianvictoria.com.au](mailto:matthewbrown@equestrianvictoria.com.au) or Phone: 0447 261 930