AIS UPDATE ON THE VICTORIAN COVID-19 OUTBREAK

14th July, 2020

As a result of increased numbers of cases of COVID-19 occurring in Melbourne, the Victorian government has stipulated that from 11:59pm on 8 July, changed gathering limits apply to the Melbourne metropolitan area and the Shire of Mitchell. Individuals who live in this area are only allowed to exercise outside with one other person, or members of their household.

In order to help stop the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) across the state, individuals cannot leave metropolitan Melbourne or Mitchell Shire to exercise. While exercising outside, individuals in these regions should keep 1.5 metres distance between themselves and others and avoid sharing equipment. Directives on measures across greater Melbourne can be found on the Victorian Department of Health website.

It is therefore not possible under these restrictions for individuals in the Melbourne metropolitan area and the Shire of Mitchell to participate in community sport. Community sporting activity in these areas return to Level A of the AIS Framework for the reboot of sport in a COVID-19 environment. There are no changes to restrictions for professional and high-performance sport under the latest Restricted Activity Directions. Professional and high-performance athletes can continue training and competition throughout Victoria since it is their work, contingent on professional sporting organisations and facility operators having an up to date risk management plan in place.

High performance athletes and staff from Victoria wishing to train in another state or territory require an exemption to do so. Most States and Territories in Australia require that individuals from Victoria go into quarantine, at their own expense, for 14 days, before engaging in sporting activity.

From 12:01am on Wednesday 8 July, anyone (other than ACT residents) travelling into the ACT from Victoria will be denied entry unless they are granted an exemption. ACT residents will be able to return home, but they will be required to enter quarantine until 14 days after leaving Victoria.

These Public Health Directions are in place in the ACT to protect the ACT community. Exemptions to Public Health Directions can be requested by emailing covid.exemptions@act.gov.au.

Separate to the ACT Government requirements, the AIS prohibits any individual coming onto the AIS Canberra campus who has been in Victoria in the past 14 days. Anyone who is granted an exemption by the ACT Government to come into the ACT for the purposes of high-performance training, would need to quarantine for 14 days at a site other than the AIS Canberra campus, before commencing any training activities at the AIS.

The AIS continues to apply COVID-19 safety measures in day-to-day operations. Individuals who are experiencing any symptoms are not permitted to enter the AIS Canberra campus. Athletes training on-site complete a daily online symptom questionnaire. Any athletes who become unwell on-site are quarantined and tested for COVID-19. Enhanced hygiene and social distancing measures remain in place. The AIS will continue to take all steps required to provide a safe training environment for athletes, particularly those preparing for the Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

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