



**Urgent Clarification: 2020 New Zealand Dancing Championships will proceed only if all New Zealand is at Alert Level 1 at the time of the competition.**

The Piping and Dancing Association wishes to clarify that the 2020 New Zealand Dancing Championships will proceed **only if all New Zealand is at Alert Level 1** at the time of the competition.

This was the first and most important of a number of unique Covid-19 related conditions that the Piping and Dancing Association required acceptance of before Marlborough Highland Dancing Society's application to host this year's NZC competition could be approved. The full list of these conditions are available on the Piping and Dancing Association's website.

These conditions were stipulated after robust discussion amongst Centres. The purpose of these conditions is to ensure that the health and safety of the Piping and Dancing Association members, and their family and supporters, along with the wider public, is the foremost priority in deciding whether the championships should proceed.

It is to be hoped that New Zealand will be at Alert Level 1 in time for the New Zealand Championships to proceed as planned. The Piping and Dancing Association acknowledges the tremendous amount of work that the Marlborough Highland Dancing Society has put into preparing for these championships and the financial cost to both the Marlborough Highland Dancing Society and to competitors and their families of not proceeding. The Piping and Dancing Association also recognises that a decision not to proceed with the championships will come as a huge disappointment to dancers. However, we are focused on ensuring that we do the right thing for both our members and the New Zealand public.