



## Piping and Dancing Association of New Zealand. Covid – 19 Advisory

In light of the recent concern around the possibility of Covid-19 transmission within the New Zealand community, the Piping and Dancing Association offers the following suggestions to reduce the risk to our members and the general public. In all instances, members are advised to first refer to the Ministry of Health website (<https://www.health.govt.nz/>) for the latest information about risk levels and appropriate methods for containing the risk.

**In all cases, it is vital that our members prioritise their health and the health of others before piping or dancing.**

In addition, the Piping and Dancing Association has specific suggestions for the following situations:

### **Conduct of Competitions:**

1. Competitors, Judges, Pipers and /or Organisers:
  - If you feel unwell, do not attend the competition.
  - If you have recently been in contact with someone who is visibly unwell, do not attend the competition.
2. Competitions may need to be cancelled if the public health situation worsens. In the event of this, organisers should contact the Piping and Dancing Association webmaster so that the cancellation can be advised on the website.
3. Where competitions proceed, organisers may need to alter usual practice to reduce the possibility of transmission:
  - Draws may need to be completed by the board steward, rather than the competitors themselves.
  - Swords may need to be placed on the stage and removed from the stage by the board steward.
  - Reel O’Tulloch and Irish Reel competitors should wash their hands or use hand sanitiser immediately after competing.
  - Organisers should consider how to minimise interpersonal contact during prize, championship and cup presentations, including not shaking hands and competitors holding rather than wearing sashes.
  - Organisers should consider not providing refreshments (no kitchen) and not having competitors’ reports.
  - All attendees should be advised to minimise/avoid interpersonal contact.
  - Organisers should ensure the availability and access to hand sanitiser, soap and paper hand towels (with bins available for appropriate disposal.)

### **Centre Meetings:**

- Only hold these if urgent/essential.
- Consider alternative methods to meeting in person, such as Skype or email.
- If a meeting is held:
  - Do not attend if you feel unwell.
  - Do not attend if you have recently been in contact with someone who is visibly unwell.
  - Avoid all interpersonal physical contact.
  - Do not serve any refreshments.

**Teachers:**

- If you feel unwell, cancel classes.
- If you have recently been in contact with someone who is visibly unwell, cancel classes.
- Advise your pupils, if they feel unwell or have recently been in contact with someone who is visibly unwell, they must not attend class.
- Ensure that interpersonal physical contact is minimised/avoided between pupils, and between teacher and pupil.
- Pupils should wash their hands or use hand sanitiser immediately after practising the Reel O'Tulloch and Irish Reel.
- Piping students should not share chanters etc.
- Teachers should wipe barres with disinfectant and be the only person to handle the swords.
- Pupils must bring their own water bottles.
- Teachers should ensure the availability and access to hand sanitiser, soap and paper hand towels (with bins available for appropriate disposal.)

If a member becomes unwell after attending a class, competition or meeting, please check with the Ministry of Health's website for advice on what you should do and how to proceed.