

Dear Members

Following the Premier's announcement on Thursday evening and the release of information via the WA Government website, the Scouts WA COVID-19 Action Group discussed how the easing of restrictions will affect and enable the return of face to face Scouting.

Providing there are no changes to the easing of restrictions announced by the Government, the following approach will apply for all Scout Groups:

For Scout Groups outside of the Perth and Peel regions you can return to Scouting at the end of the 5 day lock down period.

For Scout Groups within the Perth and Peel regions, you can resume Scouting as long as you exercise common sense and are able to meet the new restrictions.

Group Leaders should, in consultation with the Group Council, review their Group's circumstances such as hall size and the ability to adhere to the 4 square metre rule, the requirement for Members over 12 years of age to wear a face mask. The Group Council should look at the option of meeting outdoors, weather permitting. The Group Councils may also impose any other common sense rules to ensure the safety of the members.

Group Leaders should review the full set of requirements available on the [WA Government COVID website](#). Groups which can meet all of the restrictions for the coming week may commence face to face scouting. If in doubt, then a conservative approach should be taken. It is suggested that an online meeting could take place in lieu of a face to face meeting.

It is highly recommended that camping not take place until we have returned to post lockdown conditions.

A reminder to all Groups and members that it is a requirement that everyone who enters the hall or attends the meeting night, including parents who enter the foyer area when dropping off their children, must either scan in using the SafeWA app or complete the contact register. Please note that Scouts WA requires all youth members to be recorded as having attended no matter their age. Group Leaders should take appropriate steps to ensure this is completed. The use of the SafeWA app and/or contact registers will be a requirement moving forward, even post the transition out of lockdown.

If the Government does not announce any changes to COVID-19 restrictions by 12.01am, Sunday 14 February 2021, then face to face scouting may resume to pre lockdown conditions. These conditions can be found in [COVID-19 Special Scouts@Info Edition 9](#) also available on the Scouts WA website.

All Groups should ensure that their COVID Safety Plans are reviewed and updated.

For weekly hall activities:

- Encourage hand sanitation/cleaning on arrival.
- Remind everyone (parents and youth members) that no one should attend when sick.
- 1.5m physical distance recommendation remains, including in lining up, activities, opening/closing.

- Clean high touch areas and a regular basis.
- COVID-19 Action Plan should be displayed.

A reminder that, as always, activities outside the hall require an R1 Risk Assessment, and compliance with COVID-19 plans should be included.

The physical Scout Store will be open on Saturday 6 February 2021, all staff will be wearing masks and we ask that our customers do to. They will be operating under the Administration Office COVID-19 plan. The Administration Staff will be going back to attending the Administration Office on Monday in accordance with its COVID-19 Plan.

Any changes to restrictions will be reviewed by the Scouts WA COVID-19 Action Group and updates provided as indicated.

Group Leaders and Sections Leaders should contact their District Commissioner or Regional Chief Commissioner with any questions.

Ayden Mackenzie  
Chief Commissioner  
Scouts WA