

Hello members,

As you may be aware, the Western Australian Government made an announcement earlier in the week advising that the Public health and social measures will ease from 12.01am, today, Friday 29 of April.

Full details of the measures can be found at <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/covid-19-coronavirus/covid-19-coronavirus-what-you-can-and-cant-do>

With regards to Scouting activities, masks will no longer be mandatory, however are encouraged where physical distancing isn't possible. We encourage all members to consider others preferences wearing masks, and respect these, especially where social distancing isn't possible. Masks will still be required on public transport or when travelling in vehicles including charter or hire busses and carpooling, where social distancing isn't possible (with non-household members).

Density and capacity limits of 2 square metre per person will be removed for all Scout halls, Adventure Centres, and in facilities used for Scout activities.

Camping style activities, no longer have any restrictions on density, however please use common sense and social distance where possible.

COVID Safety and Event Plans are no longer mandatory but are still encouraged. Risk assessments should continue to include COVID-19 detailing the risk of participants developing symptoms during the activity.

Vaccination is not mandatory for participation in Scouting activities, except as required by public health directions. In line with the World Organisation of the Scout Movement's message, and the requirements of the WA Government COVID Safety Plans, Scouts WA encourages everyone eligible to get vaccinated.

A reminder for hygiene and safety on all activities:

- **Remind everyone (parents and youth members) that no one should attend when sick.**
- Encourage hand sanitation/cleaning on arrival, before cooking and during activities.
- Physical distance recommendation remains, including in lining up, activities, opening/closing.
- Clean high touch areas on a regular basis.

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

We encourage you to stay up to date with Government directions, as they are changing frequently via <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/covid-19-coronavirus>

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

Ayden Mackenzie
Chief Commissioner
Scouts WA