

20 March 2020

Dear Table Tennis Friends

As you know, COVID-19 continues to dominate headlines across the globe and in Australia. Your health and safety, that of our coaches, volunteers and family members are our number one priority.

Consistent with the current messaging and recent guidance received from sporting and health experts, TTSA has made the difficult decision to suspend all activities up until at least 30 April 2020.

Please note that previous advice from TTSA was to suspend activities through to 31 March however due to the fluidity of the situation, and recent directives issued by health and regulatory authorities, the TTSA Board approved a suspension of all Table Tennis activities until at least 30 April 2020.

We appreciate that this a difficult time for everyone however in the interests of public health and safety we need to be prudent and exercise good public health practices,

TTSA will continue to monitor the situation regarding the current situation, including liaising with relevant Government authorities and all peak bodies and reassess as we transition through this event.

At the right time, we are committed to resuming play for TTSA managed and coordinated competitions and will seek to put measures in place to achieve this, subject to clearance to do so.

It is important at this time of uncertainty, that we do not place added pressure on club leaders, who together with TTSA, are working through the ramifications of the suspension of competitions. We are all working in unison to manage matters to ensure the long-term sustainability of the game in the State.

Staying united in our approach will ensure that we are best placed to navigate our way through the uncertainties and complexities in these unprecedented times.

Please keep positive as we transition through this event and we will see you soon.

Regards  
Paul Langley GAICD OLY  
On behalf of the TTSA Board

*A growing, vibrant South Australian table tennis community*

## Status of TTSA co-ordinated activities up until 31 May 2020

| Event   | Status        | Until at least                                |
|---|---------------|---|
| City of Mitcham Juniors                                 | Cancelled     | -   |
| City of Mitchem Seniors                                 | Cancelled     | -   |
| City of Mitchem Veterans                                | Cancelled     | -   |
| Jamestown Tournament                                    | Cancelled     | -   |
| High Performance Squad Training (Tier 1, 2, 3 and Para) | Suspended     | 30 April 2020                                 |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> SA Masters Games – Tatiara             | Cancelled     | -   |
| 2020 TTSA Winter Pennant Competition                    | Postponed     | Date to be advised but not before 31 May 2020 |
| Brighton Junior   | To be advised |   |
| Primary School 4 a Side Teams (preliminary and finals)  | Postponed     | Date to be advised but not before 31 May 2020 |
| SA State Junior Championships                           | Postponed     | Date to be advised but not before 31 May 2020 |

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Will I need to register with TTSA for 2020?**

A: TTSA will be aiming to be in a position to leverage up our activities as soon as the environment enables this to happen so that we can get back to some normality. As with any small business in the current environment your ongoing support as an affiliate/ registered player is required to ensure the sustainability of the sport.

**Q: My local club runs an internal competition – can I still play in that?**

A: TTSA is recommending that all its members (clubs and associations) place on hold their internal competition and social events in line with TTSA's policy.

**Q: Can I still practice at my club with another player/coach?**

A: This is a risk-based decision however at the very least all clubs/members are to adopt the following protocol:

- Quarantining for 14 days if you have returned to Australia from overseas
- Getting tested if you show symptoms or have been in contact with someone who has tested positive to COVID-19
- Practice good hygiene including:
  - **i)** Cover your coughs and sneezes with your elbow or a tissue.
  - **ii)** Eliminate the use of handkerchiefs and dispose of tissues properly.
  - **iii)** Wash your hands often with soap and water, including before and after eating and after going to the toilet, use alcohol-based hand sanitisers clean and disinfect surfaces.

- Practice social distancing including:
  - **i)** Stay at home when you are unwell.
  - **ii)** Avoid large public gatherings if they're not essential.
  - **iii)** Keep a distance of 2m between you and other people whenever possible.
  - **iv)** Minimising physical contact, especially with people at higher risk such as older people and people with existing health conditions
- Players not to shake hands
- Clubs and players to practice good hand hygiene
- Clubs to have handwash readily available across and in numerous locations in the club
- Place signage on the entrance advising of the above.
- If in doubt postpone it.

**Q: Will the National Titles still be held?**

A: TTA will be advising of the status as we transition through this event – as at 17 March 2020 the status of the following events is as follows:

- Australian Senior/Youth/Paras – postponed – new dates to be advised
- Australian Junior Championships – July 2020 – proceeding at this point in time
- Australian Veterans Championships – September 2020 - proceeding at this point in time

**Q: How can I qualify for a state team if the tournaments are cancelled?**

A: The state selectors will be taking into consideration the eligibility requirements and will be flexible in qualifying requirements. Details to follow.

**Q: I am not happy about this – who can I speak to?**

A: This is unprecedented times and TTSA is taking a leadership role and has made this difficult decision to suspend its activities. TTSA will continue to monitor the situation regarding the current situation, including liaising with relevant Government authorities and all peak bodies and reassess as we transition through this event.

Staying united in our approach will ensure that we are best placed to navigate our way through the uncertainties and complexities in these unprecedented times.

**Q: What can I do in the interim?**

A: Why not consider the following activities – these are applicable for any player of any standard:

- for those that have a table at home, use this time to develop and practice some awesome new serves that are unplayable
- practice mental visualisation
- work on your fitness – no reason why you can't smash out your fitness
- proactive positive thinking and affirmations
- work on a training and competition schedule/plan for when things resume (and they will!)
- work on setting your goals and assessing your strengths and weaknesses.