



# Scouts SA Communication

## COVID-19

Dear Leaders, Adult Members, Rovers, Staff and Parents,

We have received a small number of questions from Scout Groups about Coronavirus and Scouting.

Our initial advice regarding the events of the past few weeks is to remind everyone that this situation is rapidly changing and this advice and any future communication we make will likely be obsolete this week. With this in mind, and, the very real risk of providing information which is inconsistent to the many experts and 'information-sources' around Australia and SA, Scouts SA offers the following:

For day to day advice on the changing situation please monitor the Health Department Website at <https://www.health.gov.au/news/coronavirus-update-at-a-glance>

This website provides constant updates and is the most current and authoritative source of information for COVID-19 developments. Scouts SA also provides the following specific advice for Scouting:

- **Constantly monitor** the website above and take the necessary precautions advised.
- **Be aware** of the changing HIGH-RISK countries specified on the website.
- **The risk** of COVID-19 presents when you have come into contact from someone already diagnosed with the virus, or, come into contact with someone who has recently returned from a high-risk country AND you are experiencing the symptoms.
- **Use common-sense:** If you, a parent, child or staff member in Scouting has been isolated for any reason (school closure; self-isolated; or actually diagnosed) do not attend or help at Scouts, or come into work.
- **If you are in doubt** about what to do, phone the new National Hotline on 1800 020 080.

- **If you have recently visited** a HIGH-RISK country (see website); or have been in close contact with a confirmed case; you should self-isolate for at least 14 days before attending any Scout activity or engage with other Scout members or the general public.
- **Symptoms** may include fever, dry cough, shortness of breath, fatigue and sore throat. People with these symptoms AND who have travelled to a HIGH-RISK country, or have had close contact with a confirmed case should see a doctor; visit a screening centre or attend a hospital and call ahead so they can prepare.
- **How can I help prevent the spread** of Coronavirus. You should wash your hands frequently with soap and water, before and after eating, and after going to the toilet. You should cover your cough and sneeze, dispose of tissues and use alcohol-based hand sanitiser and if unwell, avoid contact with others (more than 1.5m from people). Scouts SA recommends that all Scout Groups ensure that hand sanitiser is available to all members at their Halls.

Scouts SA is developing action plans for both Scouting and our 'business continuity' in case a volunteer member; employee or a youth member(s) are directly affected. We are also reviewing specific Scouting events and activities through 2020 in light of the risk. We will communicate again as the situation requires.

CEO and Chief Commissioner  
Scouts SA