

27 March 2020

MTBNZ Executive

www.mtbnz.org.nz



Mountain Bike New Zealand statement on COVID-19 Club activities – Under Level 3

To all Affiliated Clubs and General MTB Public.

The COVID - 19 pandemic is still a challenge that we need to fight as a nation. While Level 3 restrictions allow for us to ride trails a bit more, the situation has not changed for most of the general volunteer activities that clubs undertake, especially track building and maintenance.

Safety measures such as physical distancing and regular hand washing are still encouraged and advised by the government. Similarly, staying home is still the main message. People can expand their bubbles, if necessary, to include close family and isolated people, but not to go overboard. Any club based voluntary activity where people may congregate is still banned by Level 3 restrictions. The advice from the Government is still to "keep your bubble as small as possible".

The following recommendations from MTBNZ are for all affiliated clubs.

- All Government notifications and Ministry of Health policies must be adhered to. Please see the following link: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>
- For more information on sporting activities see <https://sportnz.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases-and-updates/articles/guidance-for-physical-activity-at-covid-19-alert-level-3>
- Mountain biking on known trails for experienced mountain bikers is permitted, so landowners may open tracks. Respect any track closures that remain in force and Ride Local, Ride Safe, Ride Kind and Ride Solo.
- Please encourage your club riders to follow the COVID social distancing measures when out riding and riding remains focused on Low-risk activities, taking care not to be injured and require medical care.
- MTBNZ recommends that all formal club gatherings remain **postponed** under Level 3, especially where club members feel obliged to participate in groups. This advice refers to all activities conducted by **club volunteers**:
 - all track maintenance or building activities where people may congregate **can only occur at Level 2 or 1**. Level 3 still restricts public gatherings and volunteer activity, regardless if you think you can cover the Health and Safety requirements. Also conducting these activities at Level 3 jeopardises the Insurance cover CNZ/MTBNZ provide if anything were to happen.
 - organised Club rides (e.g. Night Rides etc) where groups of riders congregate still cannot occur
 - obviously, club racing events are still banned under Level 3

MTBNZ COVID Statements and press releases are here <https://www.mtbnz.org.nz/covid-19-information>

Take care out there.

Kind regards

Chris Arbuckle
President
Mountain Bike New Zealand

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Arbuckle'.