



**Nowra Rifle Club Inc.**

Serving the Shoalhaven since 1888

## **Statement on COVID 19**

Coronavirus (COVID-19) is a major international concern and I'm sure you are all aware of the impact it is having on everyday events. Our thoughts and wishes are extended to anyone who has been affected by the virus.

The Nowra Rifle Club has considered a number of issues relating to the virus and has reviewed applicable Government and Sporting guidance – which can be found at: <https://www.health.gov.au>

[https://ais.gov.au/health-wellbeing/covid-19#travelling\\_to\\_sporting\\_events](https://ais.gov.au/health-wellbeing/covid-19#travelling_to_sporting_events)

The Nowra Rifle Clubs position on COVID-19 is that we need to take reasonable steps to protect our membership due to the fact that a greater proportion of our members are in the 'at risk' category. The Nowra Rifle Club takes its responsibility for the safety and well-being of our membership seriously.

### ***So, what are our recommendations:***

**AT RISK MEMBERS:** The Health Department has advised that people most at risk of serious infection are:

- People with compromised immune systems (such as people who have cancer)
- Elderly people
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples (as they have higher rates of chronic illness)
- People with chronic medical conditions
- People in group residential settings
- People in detention facilities
- Very young children and babies\*

\*At this stage, the risk to children and babies, and the role children play in the transmission of COVID-19, is not clear. However, there has so far been a low rate of confirmed COVID-19 cases among children relative to the broader population.

If you fall into one of these categories our **strong advice** is that you abstain from shooting in the short to medium term.



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**CLUB SHOOTING:** The Nowra Rifle Club believes that club shooting can continue on a case by case basis – as determined by the club committee. A greater level of hygiene and social distancing should be adhered to, no communal food preparation to take place at the range, shooters should bring hand sanitizer with them to the range and use it appropriately when at the range. There are three usual locations on the range that hand washing can take place and soap will be maintained in these locations for the use of members. The Nowra Rifle Club has suspended social functions at this stage. If you are unwell, even just a runny nose, then you must not attend the range.

If you are a member in the at high risk category – you should consider abstaining from shooting in the short to medium term.

**YOU THE SHOOTER:** Please take care of yourself and your club mates. If you have any indication of being slightly unwell, please do not attend a shoot – stay at home. If you are an “at Risk Member” please consider taking a short-term break to avoid becoming ill.

If you are planning international or national travel, our advice is to follow the Federal Government Smart Traveller Advice <https://www.smartraveller.gov.au/> .

These are unprecedented times for our sport and our country. The Nowra Rifle Club is closely monitoring the situation and will endeavour to provide advice as it comes to hand. In the interest of accurate and single point of truth for information pertaining to our club, the Nowra Rifle Club ask that all members stay informed through the Nowra Rifle Club website.

Ultimately, we need you to be careful and look after yourself and your mates.

The Nowra Rifle Club will ultimately follow the advice of government and The Health Department so please be aware that this current position may quickly change.