



18 March 2020

All Regions and Clubs

BMX New Zealand statement on COVID-19 and the sport of BMX in New Zealand

The BMX New Zealand Board has been in constant discussion regarding the level at which we as a sporting community function as groups and what effect this has in light of our responsibility to society. The viral pandemic upon us right now is a far bigger issue than our sporting needs, and so BMXNZ has formulated a view to playing our part in keeping our community safe by assisting to limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus. These efforts now, aim to ensure that the sport and life continue as best as possible in the near future.

Please note that due to the fluid nature of a viral pandemic, where we are continually monitoring the situation, and so this view may change rapidly as we will adhere to government policy at all times.

The following recommendations from BMXNZ cover all affiliated clubs & licenced riders;

- All remaining sanctioned/calendared events have now been cancelled. So no other BMXNZ sanctioned event will run until the new summer season from September 2020 onwards.
- Mighty11s trial for the AUS Test has been cancelled until further notice.
- BMXNZ recommends that all formal club gatherings where club members feel obliged to participate be postponed until the end of April 2020, or cancelled completely for the remainder of the season. For example, this includes Club Champs, Club series racing, points nights or paid training sessions etc. The aim here is to allow club activities but removes the pressure on members to attend, so members can participate by choice rather than obligation.
- All gatherings MUST be smaller than governmental limits.
- Use of hire equipment like helmets, gloves and armor, must be IMMEDIATELY STOPPED. Riders must have personal gear or not ride.
- Committee meetings should use online tools such as free video conferencing on the Club Portal or online apps like ZOOM Meetings.
- All Government notifications and Ministry of Health policies must be adhered to at all times. Please see the following links:
[https://www.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/...](https://www.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/)
<https://www.health.govt.nz/.../di.../covid-19-novel-coronavirus...>
- BMXNZ gives the clubs the ability to decide to manage their activities, based on local information, numbers, support, the health of volunteers and members. If a club chooses to cancel some or all activities, BMXNZ fully supports this decision.

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- BMXNZ supports and strongly recommends that all members of the sport practice the recommendations of the Ministry of Health around “Social Distancing” and if needed “Self-Isolation”.

- BMXNZ requires all clubs that have food dispensing facilities, MUST have access to water & soap for handwashing.

- BMX is a high-risk sport, these risks come with injury. BMXNZ would like to remind all riders to take extra care while riding and that even basic injury while riding or racing, puts further pressure on the Health System that is becoming overloaded with responses to this pandemic.
This is a strong call to be responsible for your actions.

BMXNZ will continue to provide further updates as more information is available. Please contact BMXNZ if you have any questions or need assistance.

Regards

Dion Earnest

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dion', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Executive Officer
BMX New Zealand

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