

CABRA BOWLS **group**

23rd March 2020

Good Morning Members,

Last night the National Cabinet met and determined that 'non-essential' services are to cease trade at midday today (23rd March). I have the unenviable task of informing you that this applies to our Group of Clubs and indeed the entire industry. The decision to close is not a decision that rest with the club, but a decision that has been imposed by Government. I assure all members that we have taken appropriate steps over the course of the past week to comply and act in the most diligent way to observe compliance with imposed restrictions and equally to ensure our staff and members safety.

At midday today our Clubs (Cabramatta Bowls, Bundeena CSC and Club Malua) will close for an undisclosed period. The Prime Minister advises that the decision to close the Clubs will be reviewed on a monthly basis, however we should be prepared for a six-month shutdown.

Today I am meeting with staff and I have the sombre task of informing them that they are immediately stood down. This is the hardest conversation I have had in my career. I'm sure all members will understand and sympathise with the current situation for our staff.

We intend to maintain our Bowls Greens facilities at Cabramatta and Malua Bay at a minimum standard. There will be no bowls at any of our facilities – this includes rollups. Members are not permitted on premises during the shutdown period as the facilities will not be staffed and our ability to render assistance if needed will not be available.

This forced shutdown is a real concern for Management and the Board. It is our focus to ensure that we can reopen the club post the Shutdown. This means that difficult decisions must be made. Our Club is in a healthy financial position currently but make no mistake this shutdown will have a devastating impact on our club as it will with many clubs.

I wish all of you the best for the coming months and trust that you will all stay safe and heed the restrictions imposed. This is biggest threat our club and industry has ever faced, and we will certainly need our members support once this pandemic has passed.

I will update you as information comes to hand.

Jay Porter
Chief Executive Officer
Cabra Bowls Group