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ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN PLANNING FOR A RETURN TO SPORT

EXTERNAL CONTROLS

Variables controlled by outside decision makers and policies (e.g. determination of season format).

INTERNAL CONTROLS

Considerations and actions your club can undertake to set your club up for a successful return.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

During COVID-19, the goal posts are continuing to shift for clubs who are planning for a return to sport. Clubs are encouraged to remain proactive and flexible, while planning for multiple scenarios and potential impacts rather than anticipating a return to the norm. Adhere to Government legislation and Peak Body requirements.

SHORTENED SEASON

Players, Coaches, Volunteers and Officials

- Player and official's fitness
- Injury risk management
- Volunteer readiness
- Strategy to fill gaps created by non-returning members
- Adhering to sport protocols from Peak Body
- A potential change in attitudes regarding contact sport
- Potential impact to spectators

Communication Strategy

- Hygiene and distancing measures Engagement with existing members Communication with potential / new members
- Communicate with Peak Body - Protocols
- Engage & Support local sponsor businesses
- Online capacity (the new norm) (eg committees etc)

Budget

- Membership fees (pro-rata?)
- Refunds for prepayments?
- Sponsors expectations or capacity to continue funding
- Cash flow – complete modelling
- Income from social activities (e.g. bars) Potential impact to game day income
- Explore additional fund-raising opportunities

Facilities

- Club / changing rooms may not be available Ground or facility availability if extending season beyond September (shared facilities).
- Maintenance

Planning

- Recovery action planning Long term / strategic planning
- Participation planning
- Governance improvements.

Other

- Licences and accreditation (up to date) Insurance coverage for social / modified or extended season activities
- Risk Review

NO SEASON

Players, Coaches, Volunteers and Officials

- Online training sessions
- Fitness / training sessions in smaller groups Social or modified activities (SSA products) Social or modified activities (non-SSA products) Volunteer engagement
- Attraction and retention strategy for personnel Social distancing requirements (impact to club rooms / social rooms)
- A potential change in attitudes regarding contact sport
- Opportunity to build capacity of volunteers, coaches, officials (training and accreditation)

Communication Strategy

- Hygiene and distancing measures Engagement with existing members Communication with potential / new members
- Communicate with Peak Body - Protocols
- Engage & Support local sponsor businesses
- Online capacity (the new norm) (eg committees etc)

Budget

- Loss of membership fees
- Fee structure for social or modified activities Refunds for prepayments
- Sponsors expectations or capacity to continue funding
- Cash flow – complete modelling. Talk to suppliers
- Income from social activities (on-line bingo etc)
- Explore additional fund-raising opportunities

Facilities

- Ground / facility availability for out of season activities

Planning

- Recovery & Interim action planning
- Long term / strategic planning
- Participation planning
- Governance improvements.

Other

- Licences and accreditation (up to date)
- Insurance coverage for social or modified activities