# UPDATE AFA Statement on Coronavirus COVID-19 Pandemic

Date: 25 March 2020

The AFA National Committee has reviewed its response to the rapidly evolving situation involving the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus and offers the following advice to Members and affiliated Clubs of the AFA in regard to Flyball activities.

The highest priority for the Committee continues to be the health and safety of participants and spectators of Flyball in Australia.

There are both Federal and State websites providing official information and advice on COVID-19. While the AFA is not in a position to provide advice on links to every relevant State web page, to assist members here is a link to the Federal Department of Health COVID-19 Health Alert, which is updated daily: https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert

The Committee confirms the decision in our notification of 20th March that all sanctioned Flyball events between Friday 20th March and Monday 18th May are cancelled or postponed.

In addition, in response to recent Government announcements, the Committee has decided that all Club related training must also cease from 25rd March initially until Monday 18th May to bring it into line with the ban on sanctioned Flyball events.

The Committee will review whether or not to extend the ban on both events and training at its scheduled meeting of 4th May.

We remind members that the primary responsibility for preventing the transmission of the virus rests with every individual, and we encourage members to be aware of and comply with Federal and State laws in all activities.

In particular, “at risk” individuals must take the highest level of precautions to avoid infection.

The Committee reaffirms that no AFA fees will apply to any team that withdraws from an event prior to commencement of racing because of COVID-19 concerns.

Events that are cancelled or abandoned due to COVID-19 fall under the scope of Policy 4 – RACE MEETING CANCELLATION POLICY, and refunds shall be as defined in that policy.

In closing, I want to reiterate that the health and well-being of everyone is paramount. Information and the legal situation surrounding COVID-19 are continually evolving and members are encouraged to remain informed and vigilant at this difficult time.

Keep safe,

R Mellon.

President, Australian Flyball Association.