

Gyllyngvase Surf Life Saving Club

CO-VID 19 update

Date: 19/05/20

Dear Members

Following the recent statement from the Prime Minister, we wanted to share some guidance from SLSGB to help you understand the new measures introduced, how they affect the Club and also how you can act responsibly.

WE ARE IN LEVEL 4 – the UK is currently at a point where the virus is not contained and the requirement for social distancing must be observed. In practical terms this means that there is still an active and current risk of transmission. The safety and health of you and your close families are the major consideration at this time.

According to SLSGB the guidance is:-

1. Continue to apply social distancing practices
2. For now, do not commence any Club activity
3. Do not organise any group close contact activity
4. Do not commence patrol activity
5. Take care by your example not to encourage use of the water by those less able to know what is safe
6. Be patient

We know that as a direct result of allowing more use of open spaces our beaches have become a lot busier (*last weekend for example*). This will encourage those who are not able to understand the risks to take risks. There is currently no Beach Lifeguard activity and our view is that the COVID-19 transmission risks make a full Lifeguard service too dangerous for the Lifeguards at this time. This will change. When it is safe, we will provide the guidance for safe operations to re-start.

We have already seen that many have interpreted the intentions of the Prime Minister to decide for themselves to start open water paddling, swimming and surf activity. For many of our Lifesavers, the risks of surf and open water activity are well understood. You know how to be safe. However, before reaching for the wet suit and grabbing a board, please consider that if you are seen at sea enjoying what you do well and safely, others less skilled will see this as acceptable and safe for them. You know what is safe, they may not and right now there is no safety net for them. **The request from SLSGB is to be patient and wait until it is safe for all.**

We are all looking forward to the time when we can get back to the beach but for now, our actions and the discipline we show will guide the actions of others.

As a Committee, we would like to thank you all for your continued support. We will keep you informed of any further updates on club activity as soon as we can.

In the meantime, **thank you** and **Stay Safe**.

