



RAPID ASCENT - CORONA VIRUS UPDATE

18 March 2020

Rapid Ascent continues to monitor the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) situation so we can help protect the health and safety of our staff, volunteers, contractors and all event attendees.

Today we announced the following changes to our 2020 events and have sent direct e-mails to relevant event entrants:

- **X-Adventure Dunsborough**, 4-5 April 2020. Cancelled
- **Margaret River Ultra Marathon**, was 9 May 2020, now rescheduled to 17TH October 2020.

We will examine the situation as we approach our other events but our ongoing standpoint is to continue with the organisation and delivery of all other planned events in 2020. It is likely that some of our events will need to be adapted to the virus situation at the time and may include preventative measures like:

- no mass starts - avoiding crowded start lines
- extended and segmented registration times
- a larger event footprint providing more space
- online competitor briefing and no presentations
- hand wash and sanitation stations and frequent cleaning of touched surfaces

The exact steps will vary from event to event.

We will publish the steps prior to each event so attendees 'know what they are getting themselves in for' and can make their own personal assessment. A refund will be provided for those who are not satisfied with their personal level of safety (providing they notify us of their withdrawal prior to the published refund deadline date).

We believe there are a number of features of our events that by their very nature reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection for attendees. These features include:

- Relatively low participant numbers and minimal spectator crowds
- The open landscape and space in which our events are conducted
- Minimal person to person contact or touching of one another at our events, providing plenty of space for social distancing
- The relative short timeframe when people are gathered together
- Minimal attendance of international athletes from high risk countries
- The large amount of fresh, moving air at outdoor events
- Transient nature of our events

We also believe that continued activity and exercise is important for our broader physical and mental health so we don't want to restrict our community's access to their life-giving pursuits.

There is no doubt that considerable caution is needed and we will continue to monitor the situation, liaise with the relevant authorities and keep our competitors updated with our steps when things change

In the mean time we encourage people to continue to exercise, remain aware of the situation and to practise good hand and health hygiene at all times. And if you have any symptoms then get tested and self-isolate until cleared.

See you on the trails.

Rapid Ascent