



Royal New Zealand Pipe Bands' Assn. (Inc.)

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COVID-19 Update

Alert Level 2 (Delta): Guidance for band practices and meetings

The whole of New Zealand outside of Auckland moves to Alert Level 2 from 11.59pm on 7 September.

The settings for Alert Level 2 have been modified slightly.

Band practices, meetings and other gatherings can re-commence under Alert Level 2 with the following restrictions –

- No more than 50 people can gather inside nor more than 100 people outside.
- The Covid Tracer App should be used or, failing that, a written record of attendees must be kept for contact tracing purposes.
- Recommended hygiene and sanitation practices should be followed: see below.
- Physical distancing from each other should be maintained where possible, 1 metre minimum is recommended, (2 metres from people you do not know). If distancing is not possible, mask wearing is encouraged.

The above applies whether you have been vaccinated or not. Anyone feeling unwell, or who may have had contact with anyone who may be infected, should not attend any band related activities.

Cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces in band halls should follow the recommendations of the Ministry of Health: [Ministry of Health General cleaning information-covid-19](#). Pipers should be extra careful and not share instruments and follow basic hygiene when emptying water traps and maintaining pipes.

Tutors should advise students not to attend lessons if they are feeling unwell or may have been in contact with someone who has. Tutors need to take extra care to ensure they follow safe hygiene practices.

Below is a reminder of Ministry of Health advice:

- Get vaccinated if you can.
- Cough or sneeze into your elbow or by covering your mouth and nose with tissues.
- Put used tissues in the bin or a bag immediately.
- Wash your hands with soap and water often (for at least 20 seconds).
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell.
- Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.
- Avoid personal contact, such as kissing, sharing cups or food with sick people.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs.
- Stay home if you feel unwell.
- Call Healthline on [0800 358 5453](tel:08003585453) if you have any symptoms.

Players are most at risk of infection if sharing instruments rather than playing their own instrument alongside others. This includes all transmissible infectious diseases including COVID-19.

Pipers would be well advised to i) clean their mouthpieces before and after practice; ii) keep the inside of their bags and moisture control systems clean and dry and iii) wipe down tables used for shared activities/chanter practice.

Official information on the requirements of Alert Level 2 is available here: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>.

Further information from the Ministry of Health is available here: [Ministry of Health information for close contacts](#)

Management Board

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