



Fwd: Closure of all NEVHGC-Managed Sites ****Effective Immediately****

1 message

Kirsten Seeto <flykirst@gmail.com>

30 March 2020 at 10:55

To: "Brett Coupland, General & Operations Manager, HGFA" <ops@hgfa.asn.au>

Cc: Iain Clarke <iain.clarke@hgfa.asn.au>

FYI

On 30 March 2020 at 10:53:03 am, North East Victoria Hang Gliding Club (nevhgc@nevhgc.net) wrote:



North East Victoria Hang Gliding Club

<https://nevhgc.tidyhq.com/>

Your login email is:

flykirst@gmail.com

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Dear All,

It is with a heavy heart that I am informing you of the unanimous Committee decision to suspend all flying operations from Mystic, and other NEVHGC-managed sites (Tawonga Gap, Emu, Gundowring & Buckland Ridge) **immediately**. Towing and ground-handling is also suspended.

Our decision is consistent with those that other flying clubs and organisations have made, both in Australia and the rest of the world.

Whilst the decision was unanimous, every single one of us regretted being put in such a position. I certainly didn't envisage having to make such a decision when I put my hand up for President, but here we are and we are being challenged to do the right thing by all our stakeholders - our members, our land-owners, our local community. You know that crap feeling when you want to do one thing but your head insists that's not the right thing to do? That's where we are all at.

Yesterday Bright Medical Centre announced that there have been 2 confirmed cases in the Alpine area, meaning they were likely blissfully unaware they were contagious the 2 weeks prior. There are likely to be more cases.

Last night the Prime Minister announced that people can no longer congregate in groups larger than 2 people, and that the allowance of 2 people was only for safety for vulnerable people. Staying at home is still the advice being implored by the government & health workers.

The NEVHGC is also imploring everyone to stay home or exercise on your own or with those you reside with. Flying is an activity that is very likely to put you in contact with others - on launch or in the LZ. We all know that there are times when we need to land outside the LZ and this puts others at risk of contact.

The discussion on the WhatsApp groups last night gave the committee an insight into where members are at with this issue and we appreciate that many will be upset with this decision. However, the decision impacts those who live local to the Bright area most and we have decided to put our community first.

That being said, we all understand the spiritual and mental impact such restrictions will cause our flying community. The committee members are all dedicated pilots and will miss their flying sorely. We are a close-knit sporting community - let's stay that way. Let's look at other ways of being together and looking out for each other now that our accustomed ways of social interaction have been stopped.

We will be informing our land-owners of this decision which will effectively revoke the permission you have through your club membership to access the launch and LZ. SAFA, VHPA and the local law enforcement authorities will also be informed.

No one is happy about this situation, but we simply cannot comply with government requirements or prioritise the health of our community by continuing to fly.

The committee sincerely thanks you for your co-operation and understanding. Let's all look forward to an end to these times.

Regards

NEVHGC Committee

Kirsten Seeto
Roger Turner
Bill Brooks
Karl Texler
Jacqx Robinson
Scott Stephens
Dave Coleman

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