

COVID-19 Forum – TAG Sport & Fitness 11.00, 25/05/20

Matt Hoskins **(MH)** – Griffith University Gold Coast Student Guild

Luke Jongebloed **(LJ)** – Swinburne Student Life

Kira Allan **(KA)** – CQ University

Sarah Dawes **(SD)** – Arc @ UNSW

General

MH Challenge is understanding and navigating the many levels of guidelines; federal, state, local council, university, and national and state sporting bodies. Who should they be listening to when there are conflicting directives, and how to deal with the different levels of conflicting information?

For on-campus sport, they follow the university's return to campus policy, which will come before their return to sport strategy.

For off-campus sport, they will need to assess the facilities and the national/state sporting bodies guidelines for their respective sports.

No current clear timeline from university regarding return to campus.

KA Gym has reopened, using the outdoor courts.

SD Arc Sport is the sport delivery agent for UNSW, with UNSW sport overseeing business and strategy from a larger university perspective.

Arc Sport oversee all 39 sport clubs (over 7,000 members – 50% students, 50% non-students), through affiliation. They also see campus social sport and sports/fitness events, and national and inter-varsity competitions. Elite athlete program falls under UNSW Sport, and is separate from Arc.

Arc receives funding from the university to facilitate sport. The 350 students attending Unigames are generally expected to pay their own way to attend.

Staggered return to campus from mid-August.

LJ Swinburne Clubs and Sport sits under Swinburne Student Life, but there are no on-campus facilities.

No clear communication from university regarding a return to campus, depend on external facilities. While these external facilities are shut down, Swinburne sport clubs are also shut down as a result. The external facilities return to action will guild Swinburne's return to action.

Likely that Swinburne Student Life will be amongst the last units to return to on-campus operations.

Operational

MH Elite swimmers have returned to the pool this week – one swimmer per lane, maximum of 10 persons in the facility at a time. Allowing for the receptionist and the coach/lifeguard, this leaves only eight swimmers. As the 10-cap applies to the facility, a full pool means that the adjoining gym cannot take customers.

Tennis will return soon to the other Griffith campus, but generally it is expected that nothing else will return until near the end of the year.

Gym plans to re-open late-July, but the onerous required COVID19 paperwork will need to be completed.

SD Return to campus sporting facilities will be in-line with UNSW Estate Management Department instruction. As their main sporting facility is situated off the main campus, Arc hopes that they will be able to reopen it before the main Kensington campus is reopened, around mid-June.

UNSW Village Green redevelopment featuring indoor sports facility and gym has now been pushed back three years.

TAG TAG is partnering with Australian Institute of Personal Trainers to facilitate placement of their students for their prac hours in member fitness centres and gyms. Currently parked for the duration of the shutdown, but details will be released as we have some idea of when restrictions will be eased.

Clubs

MH Providing training and development for sporting clubs, and enhancing the platform, as clubs play a huge part of all the campus sport aspects.

LJ 89 clubs at Swinburne in total, of which about 20 are sport related.

Their traditionally more active clubs have transitioned quickly to operating online. Swinburne Student Life is assisting other clubs to follow suit.

LJ In terms of community connection, the head of a sporting club will generally approach Swinburne Student Life, discuss the mutual benefits, an agreement is put in place, and the student club is created by SSL. Eg Swinburne AFL club is registered under, supported, and funded by SSL. They then play for the community club, who are responsible for uniforms, equipment, and other game day requirements. SSL handle the student registrations.

The students integrate into the community of the external club, but student events are still required to fulfil SSL requirements.

Currently have students interested in rugby, so SSL has approached the local rugby club to form a Swinburne Rugby Club following the process outlined above, who will play for the community club.

- SD** Traditionally Arc clubs can be student or community based, with student or non-student members. New approach is that new clubs must set up a club or society that is led or run by students, with appropriate governance measures in place, through Arc's Clubs and Volunteering department before transitioning over to Arc Sport. They may still have non-student members, but there must be an Arc delegate on their executive to represent the student voice.

Difficult for some clubs with their presidents currently overseas.

Good time for clubs to polish up on governance.

There is generally not a great amount of self-driven inter-club interaction between UNSW clubs. However, their International Football Cup was a one-day event put together by the various clubs and societies on campus in which they competed against each other in football. Arc Sport ran and supported the event.

Recreational clubs such as outdoors, underwater, waterskiing, and wakeboard clubs tend to engage with each other more than traditional sporting clubs.

- TAG** TAG has launched the Clubs Resources Toolkit to provide governance support for members to share with clubs. <https://www.tertiaryaccessgroup.com.au/student-outcomes/clubs-societies-governance-toolkit/>

TAG is partnering with Dell/Alienware to support and grow eSport on campuses.

Online Engagement

- MH** Online engagement with sports clubs has not been as successful as the Guild's other online engagement programs, but students are currently in tests.

- LJ** Around a third of the clubs are very switched on and proactive, driven in the main by passionate and creative executives.

It is important that club executives act in the interests of their members, ie if the members want online activity and engagement, then executives should respond accordingly rather than switching off.

- SD** About 15 of their clubs have been very proactive in keeping their members engaged. Another 10 or so a little unfocused, while the rest have effectively switched off.

There are peaks and troughs in engagement. Appears to drop off during exam.

Student-led activities and programs are much more engaging.

- TAG** Difficult to transition physical activity to online activity, which is currently driving disengagement. This is exacerbated by study, loss of casual employment, etc.

TAG Mentor Program:

Want to share your expertise to assist your colleagues and strengthen the sector, or want to benefit from the experience of colleagues who have been in the sector for many years?

<https://www.tertiaryaccessgroup.com.au/for-members/tag-mentor-program/>

Don't forget that there are GST exemptions for registered charities.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/TAGcommercial>

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