

07/06/2022

Dear members,

Please find below updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) in regards to keeping safe during this time. Updates since the last edition include information around close contacts as updated by SA Health in June 2022.

Please note: These are minimum requirements, however units may also have further precautions due to potential health vulnerabilities with leaders and girls.

Should you have any further questions not answered below, please contact sc@girlguidessa.org.au.

Meetings of guide units can continue face to face. Where possible and practicable, please meet outside as much as you can. For meetings/activities that do occur indoors, please ensure you maintain social distancing and keep the measures below.

In addition, no individual either youth or adult member should attend any face-to-face activity with any Covid 19 symptoms and should seek further information from SA Health in regards to testing.

What about meetings of adults e.g. District/Regions/Trefoil/Olave groups?

Online options are preferable and please discuss with your group what is most suitable.

From the 21st February 2022 if participants are comfortable to meet face to face please ensure the following is undertaken.

What do we need to consider when we return to face to face meetings?

- If indoors briefly as part of the meeting, maintain spacing and density requirements as per the SA Health Covid 19 Plan for the venue.
- Wearing masks for youth members over 12 and adults when participating in indoor activities is encouraged. Although not compulsory, we support the use of masks a part of an overall strategy to reduce transmission

As a recap, the following measures are also in place:

- Using hand sanitizer and washing hands regularly
- Increasing ventilation such as opening windows at meeting places
- Cleaning commonly used surfaces
- Not attending activities if unwell

Can we return to camping, sleepovers, activity days and water activities?

Water activities, activity days, sleepovers and camps can resume 28th March.

To reduce risk as much as possible at camps, we are advising the following:

-Anyone who is unwell or has any suspected symptoms in anyway should not attend camp

-Distancing is maintained including in dormitories and indoor camping areas

Please continue to meet outside as much as practicable and reduce shared consumption of food such as bring your own morning tea/lunch for activities.

As a refresher there is information on Guidelines available here in regards to camping rules and requirements:

https://www.guidelinesforgirlguides.org.au/guide_lines/guiding/outdoors-overview/camping-rules-and-requirements/

Leaders can ask Golda Munro on risk@girlguidessa.org.au for assistance with risk assessment plans if required.

If a leader has already had the plan checked by Golda, they would notify in the email.

Please make sure that district manager/ region manager has signed off or sent on as approved. Please submit all forms to outdoorsapprovals@girlguidessa.org.au.

What considerations are in place for Broken Hill?

Broken Hill is under the auspice of Girl Guides SA and is just over the border in New South Wales. Broken Hill will follow the advice of NSW Government in relation to distancing requirements and meetings. If this impacts you, please contact their region manager team on brokenhill@girlguidessa.org.au.

What do I do if I am a close contact or diagnosed with Covid 19 or one of my guides is?

- Please follow SA Health advice -this is also provided below
- If you are diagnosed with Covid 19 and may have been at a face to face guiding event, meeting or Girl Guides SA property please contact the CEO Kerrie on ceo@girlguidessa.org.au or via phone on 0417 872 389
- Please also see the communication to be sent to those it impacts below
- If you are a leader and unable to attend guides, please let your district/region manager know

What is the viewpoint on Covid 19 vaccination status before attending face to face activities?

GGSA strongly supports those who want to be vaccinated against Covid 19 to do so. However at this stage we are not mandating Covid 19 vaccination for involvement in activities.

Our members in Broken Hill will continue to follow the directions of the New South Wales government in regards to measures related to vaccination, social distancing and mask wearing.

What about singing and dancing?

As per SA Health website, singing and dancing are now permitted as of 12/03/2022.

What if I am a close or classroom contact?

Please review SA Health information related to this.

If you are a close or classroom contact, please do not attend face to face activities for 7 days

This is in line with the following SA Health advice issues on the SA Health website on 06/06/2022:

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/public+content/sa+health+internet/conditions/infectious+diseases/covid-19/cases+and+contacts/close+contact+advice/close+contact+advice>

I am a member who has regular tests for Covid 19. Can I attend guides?

If you are tested regularly including on days you are going to guides and these tests come back negative it would be fine to attend guides.

From Monday 7th March, the following will apply to support leaders who may not be provided with tests. This will be a process for 3 months and then reviewed after this point.

If you are a leader and work in a high risk occupation such as health care, aged care and education and are not provided with a Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) or similar on days you are attending guides you may purchase one RAT for the day you are attending guides and be reimbursed by Girl Guides SA.

Please purchase a RAT at your local provider and complete the GGSA Reimbursement form to arrange this. Our research indicates these are approximately \$10-15 each but there may be some local variation.

If you do work in an industry not listed above and would like to be considered for this, please contact State Commissioners team on sc@girlguidessa.org.au to discuss.

If your test is negative for Covid 19, you may then attend guides. If your RAT is positive, please do not attend guides face to face and follow SA Health recommendations.

If you are leader and this entails you will be away from guides, please discuss the matter in confidence with your district/region manager.

I'm struggling a bit with everything going on. Who can I turn to for help?

It is certainly a challenging time with constant changes, news and updates. Your guiding team of District/Region manager, State Commissioner team and those in the Management Team can be a good support. For further support, the following services are available:

- The [SA COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line](#) can be accessed by calling [1800 632 753](tel:1800632753) or through [online chat](#) and is available 8.00 am to 8.00 pm every day, including public holidays.
- Regional Access provides free professional telephone and online counselling 24/7 for people 15 years and older living or working in regional South Australia Call 1300 032 186 or visit: <https://saregionalaccess.org.au/>

- Kids Helpline Call [1800 55 1800](tel:1800551800) or visit www.kidshelpline.com.au/
Available 24 hours, seven days a week (including public holidays). Kids Helpline offers free online and phone counselling support 24/7 to children and young people aged 5 - 25 years of age.

Appendix 1

In the unlikely event that a youth or adult member does test positive leaders or those who are the leader in charge of an activity are asked to send the following communication.

If a leader is unable to send this, please contact Girl Guides SA on 8418 0900 or retail@girlguidessa.org.au to arrange for this to be sent.

Dear Guiding families,

We have been notified that an individual who attended [name the meetings/event/activity] on [date of meeting/event/activity] has tested positive for Covid-19.

Cleaning of the Hall will take place on [date of cleaning] and meetings will not take place before or during this time.

Individuals should monitor for symptoms and get tested if symptoms develop.

If you are unwell or experiencing symptoms, do not attend the Guide Hall.

Please continue to follow SA Health advice regarding personal hygiene, mask wearing and social distancing.