

COVID 19 Basketing Procedures for 2020

Centres, especially the two larger centres in Notting Hill and Diamond Valley, should endeavour to open centres as early as practicable, and encourage flyers to stagger arrival times for basketing. The executive believes this, and other measures should be self-determined at centres to suit room conditions and age of flyers. However, centres should follow procedures as set out by government guidelines, which may vary throughout the season.

1. As restrictions stand, now, we should limit the number of members in the centres to 20 at any one time. To this end we suggest that a sign/note be erected/positioned at the entrance "Maximum 20 persons at any one time due to Covid 19 restrictions". This can be done on paper or cardboard and as long as it is visible. In case police do visit the centre, which is quite possible, it will visualise that we are endeavouring to adhere to the restrictions.
2. If police do visit the centre during their routine patrols as a result of a possible complaint, that this must be referred to the Covid 19 supervisor
3. With centres hopefully opening early, younger flyers should be prepared to attend centres early and be prepared to assist with basketing for longer periods. More elderly flyers, especially those with health issues, and or partners at home with health issues, should be discouraged from basketing work, if feasible, and merely drop their birds and wait in the car for the birds to be processed. A similar process for clock presentation for these vulnerable members.
4. Members handling baskets, and clocks should, wherever possible, wear surgical gloves and face masks.
5. Distancing between bird handlers and recorders, and ringers, should be kept to as far apart as practicable. Operating teams should also separate as far as practicable. This may mean a reduction in teams, and so the need for an early start is more important, especially in the early races.
6. Sanitizers should be made available for members when entering and leaving the rooms.
7. Each centre should have a centre supervisor appointed, and this person or another nominated person, should be responsible for monitoring of the basketing and clock presentation process. Members showing signs of cold/flu like systems must not be permitted to enter the rooms. The member can still compete in the race but must drop his birds and clock and wait for the process to be completed. The centre supervisor, or appointed Covid 19 appointed person, has the authority to enforce the member to adhere to this ruling.
8. It will not be necessary for members to sign the electronic clock entry and entry sheets should not be distributed back to the flyer.
9. Centres will still need to forward the entry sheets to the VHA secretary and evaluation sheets to the VHA clock chairman each week.
10. Vouchers detailing birds entered by clubs/centres should be electronically mailed to VHA Secretary, and all payments should be made electronically. The VHA bank account details BSB 013333 Account number 294139437. Payments and vouchers can be done by clubs or centres. It is advisable to try and use one person to collate these entries, as in particular with larger centres, the less secretaries in attendance allows for more workers with basketing process.
11. As agreed at the Race and Finance meeting of 3rd June 2020, no canteen can be open during basketing or clock presentation, and no one should be permitted to consume food in the centres. Obviously drinks can be brought in to the rooms by members, but once again clubs/centres must refrain from selling/supplying.