

RESTART YOUR KART

KARTING AUSTRALIA'S STRATEGY
TO GET KARTING STARTED AGAIN
IN A COVIDSAFE ENVIRONMENT



**Karting Australia is the sole body recognised by the
FIA and Motorsport Australia
to organise and control the sport of Karting in Australia.**





INTRODUCTION

KARTING (Go Kart Racing) – is the starting point and nursery of all the great names in World and Australian motor racing.

Webber, Ricciardo, Power, McLaughlin, Lowndes, Whincup, Davidson...the list is long. Almost all the current drivers in Supercar, Formula 1, IndyCar, started in Karting.

The breeding ground of future champions and the sport of choice for thousands of boys and girls, men and women who love to race. It is a sport that teaches values, culture, and sportsmanship, and that winning is only meaningful when the competition is fair.

That self-worth is not based on whether you win or lose, but how you win or lose. Most importantly that sport must always be kept in perspective.

Right now, with the COVID-19 pandemic ripping the world apart, perspective is terribly important.

Karting as a sport and as a business is suffering right now. The entire industry that supports Karting is struggling like so many in the community.

Right across Australia, in all Australian States, the Karting Australia 'Family' desperately wants to get back to racing. But it knows that in this COVID-19 changed world, that to do so without taking all due care and putting all the right measures in place to prevent and control the spread of the virus, would be irresponsible and without perspective of what is really important to the Australian community at this time.

Karting Australia, as the sole body recognised by the FIA and Motorsport Australia to organise and control the sport of Karting in Australia, knows how critical it is for the sport to recommence as soon as the pandemic restrictions allow.

From the time that all sports were shut down in late March, we have been working diligently with our Member States and Clubs, our drivers, families,

and the karting industry to plan for the re-ignition of our sport safely and responsibly and with all due regard for the health of our nation. At the end of April, we released our "Road Out Of Lockdown" framework and timetable that we believe to be achievable to responsibly Restart Our Karts.

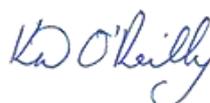
Our "Restart Your Kart" objectives, plan, and timetable align closely with the "AIS Framework For Rebooting Sport in a Covid-19 Environment" and the "National Principles for The Resumption of Sport."

The National Principles for the Resumption of Sport, acknowledges that **"...outdoor activities are a lower risk setting for COVID-19 transmission."** With that in mind, it is important to note that:

- Karting is an outdoor sport conducted on sites with a large footprint
- Karting is a non-body-contact sport conducted by people wearing full PPE when they race
- Our Competitors age profile places most of them in the lowest risk categories of contracting COVID-19
- Racing equipment is not shared between participants. There is no contact during regular Competition and Social Distancing can be maintained

We have been active in mentoring and educating our Clubs on what will be expected in the new normal COVID-19 environment.

Along with Motorsport Australia's Return To Race" strategy, we are pleased to submit Karting Australia's plan to the Federal, State and Territory Governments for review and approval so that Australian Karting can be restarted safely in line with the timetables for the relaxation of restriction across the country.



Kelvin O'Reilly
Chief Executive Officer



ABOUT KARTING AUSTRALIA

KARTING Australia is the sole body in Australia recognised by the Federation Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) to organise and control the sport of Karting in Australia.

FIA is a member of Global Association of International Sports Federations and is recognised as the world-wide organisation for the control, regulation and supervision of motor sport including the division of motor sport known as Karting.

The power and authority to organise and control Karting within Australia has been formally delegated to Karting Australia by the General Assembly of the FIA through Motorsport Australia.



Karting Australia is the body that is solely responsible for the international licencing of Australian Drivers who wish to race in overseas Karting events. We work closely with Motorsport Australia and hold a formal delegation agreement with them. **Motorsport Australia is our NSO.**

Karting Australia's Structure

Karting Australia is a member based, not-for-profit organisation that has operated as a Company Limited by Guarantee with an independent Board and professional management since 1 September 2013. Prior to that date, AKA Inc. operated as an Incorporated Association since 1966.

Karting Australia's Board is Chaired by five-time Moto GP World Champion Mr Michael (Mick) Doohan AM.

Karting Australia operates under a Federated Structure.

In October 2019, the seven Member States and Territories unanimously approved a new AKA Ltd Constitution based on the Sport Australia Template Constitution.

There are 64 active Karting Clubs from across Australia that are affiliated with Karting Australia and our Member State Associations.

Our Member State Associations remain separate legal entities, and their direct members (the Affiliated Karting Cubs) agree to operate in accordance with all applicable laws and Karting Australia's Rules, By-Laws, Policies and Procedures. The Clubs are required to reaffirm their commitment to Affiliation and to adherence with the National Rules annually.

Karting Australia licences all Affiliated Club racetracks, drivers, and volunteer officials. We regulate more than 1,000 events and practice days annually with more than 40,000 event participations and hundreds of thousands of competition and race laps every year.

Karting is 'racing for all ages' and a wonderful family sport. Under the Karting Australia rules children can start to race at 7 years of age as Cadet progressing through Junior and Senior competition.

Karting develops and nurtures road safety and driving skills. A great many Karting facilities across the country are also used to facilitate and teach important road safety programs that benefit the general community.

We estimate that the economic contribution of the sport of Karting to the Australian economy is more than \$60 million annually.



'RESTART YOUR KART' – THE IMPERATIVES

The “National Principles for The Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities” have established the overriding parameters governing the restarting of all Australian sports.

Karting Australia’s “RESTART YOUR KART” plan and our comprehensive “COVIDSAFE KARTING EVENTS - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures” Manual have been developed to ensure that our Clubs are properly informed and equipped to create a COVIDSafe Club environment. They are based on:

1. The principles and recommendations contained in the “AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport”.
2. Current Public Health Orders and Directions and COVID-19 prevention and control advice and recommendations.
3. The professional advice of Karting Australia’s Chief Medical Officer – Dr Brent May.
4. Karting Australia’s best practice knowledge and experience in the operation of Karting competition and events at all levels from Club level Social and Recreational Karting and Competition Karting through to the Australian National Championship – a series of events that is now regarded as one of the best Karting Championships in the world.

The following are imperatives for all Karting Australia Covid-19 Karting Activities from local Club level to intrastate Karting Competition through to the prestigious National Championship events:

1. Declaration and Restriction

- (a) All participants (including drivers, parents, mechanics, driver coaches, industry members, officials and volunteers) in a Karting Activity are required to complete a COVID-19 Contact and Travel Declaration before attending a Karting Club or Event.
- (b) Anyone who is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19, or who has been overseas in the previous 14 days, or who has been in contact with a known or suspected case of COVID-19 in the previous 14 days must declare this information and is **not** permitted to attend a Club or Event.

2. Regulation and Compliance

- (a) All Federal, State and Territory Public Health Authority Rulings and Directions must always be complied with.
- (b) All Karting Activities will be required to be conducted under Standard Supplementary Regulations that have been modified by Karting Australia to include extensive COVID-19 Control and Prevention requirements.
 - i. This action makes these control and prevention requirements Rules than can be enforced through Karting Australia’s judicial system.
 - ii. The requirements include the Declaration, Social Distancing and Density measures, Hygiene measures, and permitted persons restrictions.

Detailed Requirements

Karting Australia “COVIDSafe Karting Events - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures” Manual.

3. Hygiene

- (a) Hand Hygiene facilities – washing and sanitising are to be available at all events.
- (b) Clubs are provided with instructions and checklists on how and when to clean and disinfect (if required) their facilities.
- (c) Canteen catering services are to be assessed and modified as required. This includes the removal of shared catering items.
- (d) Surfaces that have a high risk of virus contamination are to be cleaned thoroughly and frequently.
- (e) Signs and posters are to be placed in prominent positions promoting good Hygiene practices.

Detailed Requirements

Karting Australia “COVIDSafe Karting Events - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures” Manual.

4. Social Distancing and Density

- (a) Strict Social Distancing and Density rules will be applied as a requirement and are included in the standard Event Supplementary Regulations.
- (b) Particular attention will be paid to pre-race and post-race staging areas, Weighing, Scrutineering and Kart Collection areas to ensure the 4sq m or 1.5 metre rules are enforced.
- (c) No Podium presentation, Drivers Briefing or officials Briefing will take place in 'massed' configurations.
- (d) Teams will be allocated pit/paddock spaces that provide additional room
- (e) Use of indoor rooms will be limited or eliminated where possible.
- (f) Race Control, Stewards Rooms, Timekeeping, Safety Light Control and Scrutineering will be limited to essential personnel only to suit the maximum numbers of persons permitted.

Detailed Requirements

Karting Australia "COVIDSafe Karting Events - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures" Manual.

5. Critical Assessment, Planning and Preparation

- (a) Clubs are required to critically assess all facilities, develop, and implement appropriate plans to ensure that the facilities are COVIDSafe – clean and capacity limited and appropriately stocked with hand was, paper towels and so on.

Full details of the requirements and assistance provided is contained in the "COVIDSafe Karting Events - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures" Manual.

6. COVIDSafe Officer

- (a) Each Club will be required to appoint a COVID-19 officer whose job it is to ensure compliance with Government and Karting Australia in the planning and event implementation phases.

Detailed Requirements

Karting Australia "COVIDSafe Karting Events - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures" Manual.

7. Posters, Signs and Communications

- (a) Clubs are encouraged and required to place appropriate control and prevention measures including Good Hygiene and Social Distancing measures
- (b) Karting Australia is making available recorded reinforcement messages to be used over the Circuit PA system
- (c) Karting Australia has developed a suite of Social Media posts, template emails and communications to members to highlight the required Do's and Don'ts of attending a Karting Activity and a Club.

Detailed Requirements

Karting Australia "COVIDSafe Karting Events - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures" Manual.

8. Training and Education

- (a) Karting Australia is finalising a COVIDSafe Karting Events Training Course for all Key Officials, COVIDSafe Officers and Club Committee members to undertake.
- (b) The course will be available to online through the *Karting Australia Officials Academy*.
- (c) Karting Australia is conducting, with our training partner Sports Community, a series of 4 separate specific State based Club training and mentoring sessions aimed at preparing all Club Committees for the new normal of COVIDSafe Karting Activities.

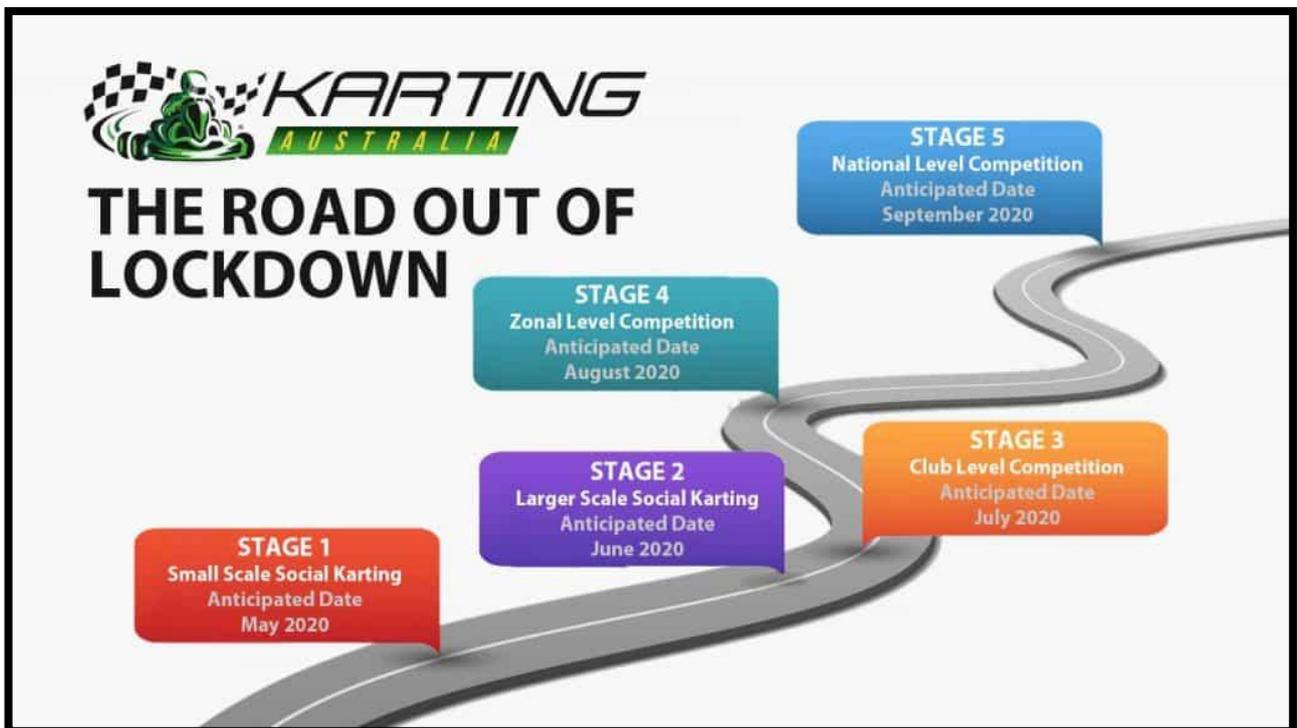


KARTING AUSTRALIA'S ROAD OUT AND THE STRATEGY TO RESTART OUR KARTS

In late April, Karting Australia has released to our Members, a five-stage map of the 'Road Out of Lockdown' for our sport of Karting across the country.

The Plan Aligns with the:

- Federal Government's "3 Step Framework For A COVIDSafe Australia" released on 8 May.
- "National Principles for The Resumption of Sport and Recreation Activities" released on 1 May.
- "AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport" released on 1 May.



The Plan Has Been Designed to Be:

- Scalable
- Responsive
- Flexible

It Takes Account of The Variable:

- Easing of restrictions in different States and Territories; and
- Lifting of State Border closures.

It Prioritises:

- Restarting of Karting as Social or Recreational Sport at local Club level.
- Then moving from the lowest allowable number of participants in the activity being 10 persons to progressively larger numbers of permitted person, 20 to 100.

We Move Forward as Restrictions Are Further Eased:

- Local Competition Karting at Club level, before
- Allowing INTRASTATE Competition to commence, before
- Progressing to National Competition.

All Activities Are Required to Take Place:

- In a fully regulated environment (under Karting Australia's COVID-19 Regulations).
- Under an Organising Permit issued by Karting Australia or a Member State Association in accordance with Karting Australia Rules.
- With full insurance provided by Karting Australia.
- In accordance with all State Public Health Authorities and Government requirements and Karting Australia Rules.

A COVIDSafe environment must be developed and implemented by the host Club in accordance with Karting Australia guidelines detailed in Karting Australia's "**COVIDSafe Karting Events - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures**" Manual.

Karting Australia's – Five Stages on the Road Out

All stages are fully dependent upon State Government implementation of their own timetable for the relaxation of restrictions.

Stage 1

Small numbers of current Licence Holders being able to use their Club's facilities for Social Karting (**Practice**).

This must take place under a standard set of Supplementary Regulations that deal with COVID-19 specific requirements that our Clubs and persons using Club facilities must respect at all times, including the regulations governing maximum numbers of permitted persons, Density, Social Distancing and COVID-19 Hygiene issues.

Clubs must make the decision to proceed to Stage 1 as they are ready and able to do so following discussion with their State Karting Association and/or Karting Australia.

Members will be advised of Club recommencement directly from their Club by email and/or social media.

Our first step is specifically targeting getting people back to our Clubs as quickly as the restrictions allow and provided that each Club has undertaken the necessary steps to ensure that their Club will provide a COVIDSafe Environment.

Karting Australia is providing our Clubs with the operational and communication resources that they will need to reactivate their Club and to recommence the sport.

The further stages will be rolled out as restrictions allow and when practical to do so.

Stage 2 – Larger Scale Social Karting Activities followed by low level Club Competition following the number of permitted persons requirements of each State - *Anticipated Date: June**

Stage 3 – Club Level Competition to return - *Anticipated Date: July**

Stage 4 – Zonal Level Competition to return - *Anticipated Date: August**

Stage 5 – National/Interstate Competition to return - *Anticipated Date: September**

* Upon Government Approval

Full details will be released at the most appropriate time to ensure all Clubs are fully prepared for each stage of the 'Road Out'.

Karting Australia's COVID-19 Information, Communications and Resources including the "COVIDSafe Karting Events - COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures" Manual can be found here:

<https://www.karting.net.au/administration/covid-19-information>

“COVIDSafe KARTING EVENTS”

COVID-19 Karting Event Preparation and Operational Procedures

Karting Australia has developed our “COVIDSafe Event Operations Manual” to ensure that our Clubs are properly informed and equipped to create a COVIDSafe Club environment based on:

1. The principles and recommendations contained in the “AIS Framework for Rebooting Sport”.
2. Current public health orders and COVID-19 prevention and control advice and recommendations.
3. The professional advice of Karting Australia’s Chief Medical Officer – Dr Brent May.
4. Federal and State Government including all State Public Health Authority web sites, Safe Work Australia, and the Federal Government COVID-19 web sites.
5. Karting Australia’s best practice knowledge and experience in the operation of Karting competition and events at all levels from Club level Social / Recreational Karting and Competition Karting through to the Australian National Championship – a series of events that is now regarded as one of the best Karting Championships in the world.

The Manual is an easily understood, comprehensive, step by step, resource laden guide for our Member States and Clubs to use to ensure that as a sport we are providing a responsible COVIDSafe environment for our Karting Members and by extension, the entire Australian community. The contents of the Manual follow.



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CONCLUSION

Karting is an extremely important element of the motorsport ecosystem. It is the starting point for almost all Drivers who compete in the more prominent amateur forms of motor racing and professional motor racing.

It is where the foundations for great the careers in motor racing are laid. Bathurst 1000 winners are born in Karting. Australia's most recent Formula 1 heroes started their racing careers in Australian Karting as did Indy 500 winner Will Power. Just as many move from Karts to Cars, many have chosen to make Karting their ultimate sporting destination.

Some have created businesses from the sport that they participate in and that they love with great passion.

Karting is a great many things to a lot of different people but first and foremost it is about **FAMILY**. It is a sport where mums and dads can compete at the same events as their children. It teaches and instils great life-values in our participants. Together they ride the highs and lows of the race and they are always ready and chafing at the bit to press the start button on their kart and get out on the racetrack whenever they can.

The COVID-19 crisis has in so many ways placed so many things into perspective. We have learned to cherish the freedoms that we have universally enjoyed. The *'Karting Australia Family'* has been both disappointed at not being able to pursue the sport that they love, but at the same time, disciplined enough to understand that the sacrifices of not being able to have some family fun at their local Kart Track is largely insignificant against the real challenges being faced and battles being fought on the public health and economic fronts.

These are some of our most endearing and enduring images of Australian Karting. We know that in this COVID-19 world of Social Distancing we will not see a return to such genuinely warm imagery anytime soon.



Karting Australia's objective now is to oversee the responsible return of our sport in COVIDSafe Affiliated Clubs right across Australia.





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