

21st March 2020

CLUB CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Dear Members,

Today, the Board of the Balmoral Beach Club took the very difficult decision to close the Club to all members from 11pm, until further notice. After calling an emergency meeting, we made this decision to comply with the NSW Government's "Public Health (COVID-19 Gatherings) Order 2020", that was announced yesterday by the Prime Minister. This Order places certain legal obligations on the Board, as operator of the Club premises.

Specifically, we are currently not able to comply with the directive that we must not "allow a gathering to occur on the premises unless the size of the premises is sufficient to ensure there is 4 square metres of space for each person". We know you would be aware of the particular issues we face in this regard, in the confines of the Men's and Ladies' change rooms and showers and similarly in the front room on a busy day.

Our primary concern is to ensure the health and wellbeing of our members. To this end the Board will immediately begin to look for ways to restore your access to the Club, whilst also meeting our legal obligations under the NSW Government Order. The Board will meet again tomorrow, to start that process and to hopefully find a solution to open the Club in a modified format. We value any feedback to help us in this difficult task.

We understand this decision will cause great disruption to our members. We have only taken it after careful consideration and legal advice as to our necessary course of action. There are severe penalties (\$55,000 fine) for our failure to comply with the Order, which came into effect today.

Please bear with us as we work through our options. We will keep you informed in several ways:

- We will send you further detailed emails, such as this one.
- We will use the "BBC Update" emails to keep you informed.
- We will put information on the BBC website.

For those who need to retrieve belongings from the Club lockers, we will arrange access times in the coming days.

It is a very sad day for us all.

Cathy Mackay
President