

UniSport Australia

COVID-19 and its impact on UniSport events

Statement release: 16 March 2020

The developments surrounding COVID-19 in the past week have seen unprecedented actions being taken by the Australian Government to stem the rate of community infection. Universities have also taken strong measures to ensure the health and safety of staff and students.

The well being of our participants, staff, volunteers and officials is of the utmost importance and as such, UniSport would like to inform our members and student-athletes of the following details relating to various UniSport events that are scheduled to be held in the months of April and May.

University Basketball League (UBL)

The UBL was due to commence from 31 March. In consideration of current circumstances relating to COVID-19, the status of some universities postponing events on campuses and state basketball associations suspending competition, the start of the UniSport UBL competition will be suspended. UniSport is liaising with the eight universities involved in the competition, Basketball Australia and travel providers to determine the next plan of action. UniSport will provide additional updates once meetings with universities have been undertaken.

Nationals Athletics

Nationals Athletics was scheduled to be held from 3-5 April at the University of Queensland. This event will now be postponed. UniSport will be exploring options to deliver the competition later in the year and once we have confirmed when we can reschedule the event to, we will let members and students know. All registrations received to date will be fully refunded.

We are aware that some students have entered the event of hammer and pole vault as a part of the Athletics Australia National Championships. As these championships have also been postponed by Athletics Australia, we will refund those students who have registered via UniSport and will continue to liaise with Athletics Australia on the status of the championships.

Nationals 3x3 Basketball

Nationals 3x3 Basketball was due to be held from 16-17 April at University of Canberra. This event is now postponed. An alternate date is currently being explored and will be dependant upon a number of factors including university policy, FISU event timelines and venue availability. We are currently confirming with FISU and FISU Oceania to determine the best time to hold this event to ensure it will adhere with 3x3 University World Cup qualification timeframes. We will keep members updated on progress. All registrations received to date will be fully refunded.

UniSport National Conference

The UniSport National Conference was due to be held at the University of Sydney on 13 and 14 May. This event is now cancelled. The UniSport Annual General Meeting (AGM) will still be held via virtual technology. Members will receive information about how they can attend this virtual AGM over the coming weeks.

Nationals Swimming

Nationals Swimming is due to be held from 14-17 May in Sydney. This event is held as a part of the Sydney Open swimming event conducted by Swimming NSW. As Swimming NSW are the event managers, we are liaising with them regarding their stance on their event. Once we have more information about how this event is affected, we will inform our members.

Nationals League of Legends

Nationals League of Legends is due to be held across the months of April and May. This event will be held as scheduled as participants can be involved in this event via online platforms.

Pac 7 Tennis event

The Pac 7 Tennis competition will be postponed and games will be rescheduled to later in the year. UniSport will liaise directly with the seven universities involved to work through when the competitions can be held in the later part of the year.

Registration fees

For students who have registered for Nationals Athletics and Nationals 3x3 Basketball, UniSport will issue a full refund which will be processed back to the credit card that the payment was made with. This refund will be processed by the end of March. If refunds are not received by 1 April 2020, we ask students to contact their sports officer on campus or email UniSport via registrations@unisport.com.au.

UniSport Australia remains vigilant and is constantly monitoring advice from the Australia Government, health agencies and universities.

At present, events held from June onwards will continue as scheduled, however UniSport will re assess all events as time progresses. Any changes will be communicated to members as soon as possible.

In relation to university teams or university students travelling to World University Championship events, UniSport is receiving regular updates from the International University Sport Federation (FISU) and if notification is received about cancelled events, this advice will be immediately passed to relevant team members.

We encourage all student-athletes and members to continue to practice high standards in hygiene and should they feel ill with COVID-19 symptoms, to seek immediate advice from their doctor and follow government advice on self-isolation.

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