



## Port to Pub Update re 2020 Event

**15 March 2020**

Following the Federal Government's announcement of a ban on non-essential organised gatherings from March Monday 16, the Port to Pub Committee has sought further clarification on its position from government and health authorities.

**Regretfully, we have today made the difficult decision to cancel the 2020 event.**

The health of our competitors, volunteers, skippers, support crew, and spectators was central to this decision. We also have both a legal and moral obligation to play our part in protecting the health and wellbeing of the broader community by adhering to the escalating precautionary measures recently announced by the Federal Government designed to limit the spread of COVID-19.

Please know that we looked at every option available to avoid having to take this action and have canvassed these with the Government, lawyers, medical practitioners, the swim's approving authorities and our swimming community.

Ultimately, we believe the decision to cancel is in the best interests of all stakeholders, has the full support of our sponsors and is consistent with the position being taken by similar sporting events and organisations.

We know this decision will be so disappointing for our swimmers, who have trained so hard for this event and who have incurred costs on travel and accommodation to take part.

The response to the global spread of COVID-19 is escalating by the hour and ultimately, we needed to act now.

The Port to Pub team has worked so hard to put this event on - our fifth year. We wanted to see you all swim and succeed on the day. No one is more disappointed than us to have to make this decision.

### **REFUNDS**

With only days until the event, we have outlaid a significant portion of event costs, which are non-refundable to us. We are working through the financial impact and will advise competitors on any available refunds in the coming weeks.

Swim to Rottnest





Entrants can retain their race kits and we will ensure the event hoodies and other merchandise is dispatched as soon as possible, including competitor items such as towels and hats.

### **SOLOS – OUT OF EVENT SWIMS**

For those solo and 25km competitors that have trained so hard over recent months and are at peak performance for this race, we note out of event, direct 19.7km crossings are, with certain approvals, possible and, provided certain conditions are met, will be ratified and recorded by Port to Pub and the Rottneest Channel Swim Association.

Interested persons are free to contact us for further information at [info@porttopub.com.au](mailto:info@porttopub.com.au) (noting any such decision to attempt such a crossing would not be associated with the Port to Pub and therefore without the safety infrastructure associated with it, and you should seek advice from a range of parties before doing so).

This decision has been made with absolute regret and we thank you for your patience and understanding at this time. Please feel free to contact us at [info@porttopub.com.au](mailto:info@porttopub.com.au) with any further enquiries.

Regards,

The Port to Pub team

Swim to Rottneest

