

Hello,

We hope this message finds you well.

We are getting in touch to check on how you are coping during these unprecedented times, and also, more importantly, to update you on what the Club can do to engage with you at Alert Level 3, Step-1.

We had developed some training protocols that aligned with the guidelines set out by the government and complied with Sport New Zealand's "Play, Active Recreation and Sport at Alert Level 3 - Step 1" document. We then trialled these sessions recently with the Premier Men's team and most recently with the boys U17s team.

While we were, and remain comfortable with, the parameters we developed to safely deliver a training experience, that complied with the government's protocols. We have become aware that this is unfortunately not the sole criteria to be considered when delivering these sessions.

One of the great aspects of our community, and in particular Shepherds Park, is how well connected and utilised it is. A consequence of this is that any organised activity, by its very nature, attracts attention.

This has resulted in the Club receiving significant concerned feedback, both during sessions, and by email and on social media posts, with worries about a potential breach of Covid restrictions.

This feedback has caused us to reconsider our plans.

As a result, we have decided to take a pragmatic and cautious approach. Therefore, all Club sessions are now postponed, until the Covid regulations explicitly allow for larger groups to partake in competitive activity.

We know this is not good news, as we had hoped to be able to offer a safe activity option for you all in Term 4. But we hope that you understand the situation that we now find ourselves in. We will be back in touch with you as soon as the regulations allow us to resume training.

Take care and please feel free to reach out to us with any comments, or if you need support in any other way.

All Term 4 registrations will be held over for the 2022 Term1 pre-season training programme.

Best regards,
Birkenhead Management Committee



Shepherds Park, Melba Street, Beach Haven, Auckland
PO Box 34 054, Birkenhead, Auckland 0746
www.birkenheadunited.org.nz

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