



**SURF LIFE SAVING®**  
NEW ZEALAND

**Date:** 16/12/2022

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**To:** Paid Lifeguard Supervisors

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**From:** Scott Weatherall

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**Subject:** COVID-19 Update for Paid Lifeguards

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As somewhat to be expected we are seeing an increase in COVID-19 cases amongst our Paid Lifeguards at this stage mainly in the Northern and Eastern Regions and predominately among Lifeguards who are living together in clubhouses.

We need to stay vigilant – effectively these Lifeguards are best classified as household contacts.

**Key Points:** (*directly from the COVID-19 website*)

- Household Contacts do not need to isolate.
- If you are a Household Contact, you should test daily for 5 days with a rapid antigen test (RAT) from the day the person with COVID-19 tested positive.
- Wear a face mask if you leave your home during your 5 days of testing.
- If you test positive for COVID-19, you must isolate yourself for 7 days.
- The Close Contact Exemption Scheme for critical workers has ended.

We are asking all close contacts when at work to please wear a mask in all indoor confined environments (i.e. bunkrooms, kitchens and first Aid rooms) and maintain a high level of personal hygiene.

If a Lifeguard tests positive and alternative accommodation can be sought this is our preferred guidance for lifeguards needing to stay at Clubhouses.

If alternative accommodation cannot be sought then we need to isolate all Lifeguards who have tested positive and seek guidance and support from your Regional Supervisor/Manager.

Please contact me if I can assist in anyway.

Keep safe team – we have got this, we have been here before,

Yours sincerely

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