

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

20 November 2020

**21st Day of Double Zeros in Victoria
Patrons limits should match NSW**

Community Clubs Victoria is calling on the Andrews Government to relax patron limits and bring venues in line with current New South Wales guidelines which are proven to be safe and effective.

The NSW COVID-safe guidelines allow for:

The maximum number of people for a significant event is 1 person per 4 square metres of space, subject to a cap of:

- 300 people for a corporate event
- 300 people for a religious service at a place of worship
- 100 people for a funeral or memorial service or a gathering after a funeral or memorial service
- 150 people for a wedding or a gathering after a wedding

If a significant event is held at a hospitality venue that uses electronic methods to record contact details, the two-square metre rule for outdoor areas will apply.

CCV CEO Andrew Lloyd said that with no new COVID-19 infections in the past 21 days, there can be no reasonable and informed health advice to keep prohibitive patron limits in place.

“We have seen no new cases for three weeks. That is significant and to deny patrons and business owners the opportunity to trade profitably in December and plan for summer months is grossly unfair,” Mr Lloyd said.

“December 1 is still 10 days away. Given the parlous financial position of many clubs – and the businesses that serve them – each day could be the difference between survival and closure.

“It is a well-known fact that Christmas/New Year trade sustains many venues to the extent that it provides a buffer for the slower winter months.

“There is a double hit in regional communities where the once thriving tourism and events industries have been decimated. Literally tens of millions of dollars are being lost weekly around the State even when there been no new infections in most of regional Victoria for several months. ”

Mr Lloyd said CCV clubs have done their part in working through COVID and keeping the community safe.

About/Follow up details

Community Clubs Victoria represents more than 1000 clubs around Victoria. CCV clubs contribute over \$1 billion a year to the Victorian economy and employs more than 30,000 people. CCV proudly supports over 3,000,000 members. For further information – Andrew Lloyd – 03 8851 4900