

Circular 50 -2020

18 August 2020

Dear Resident

COVID-19 - Moving to Level 1 – 20 September 2020

In his speech on Wednesday, President Ramaphosa reminded us that it is exactly half a year that has passed since we declared a national state of disaster in response to the coronavirus pandemic. In that time more than 15,000 South Africans have lost their lives to the disease and more than 650,000 have been confirmed as infected

Two months ago, at the height of the storm, South Africa was recording around 12,000 new cases day. Now, the average recording less than 2,000 cases a day with a recovery rate of around 89%. As South Africa moves from Level 2 to Level 1 of the national lockdown, we should not forget that our greatest challenge now is to ensure that we do not experience a new surge in infections.

“Several countries around the world have been hit by a ‘second wave’ or a resurgence of infections. A number of these countries had passed the peak of the disease and had seemingly brought the virus under control and had even lifted most of the restrictions on economic and social activity. In many cases, the second wave has been more severe than the first resulting on several countries re-imposing a hard lockdown.” said Ramaphosa in his address to the nation announcing the move from Level 2 to level 1.

Health protocols, such as washing or sanitising of hands, social distancing and mask-wearing, will need to be strictly observed. As we settle into a new normal and learn to live alongside the virus, we must continue to exercise every possible precaution to avoid infecting others.

As the country moves to level 1 of lockdown from midnight on Sunday, 20 September 2020, we will be able to interact with family, friends and each other again. This is what it means for us:

Family Members, Visitors

- All visitors must wear three-ply cloth masks at ALL times and remember to wash hands and sanitise regularly.
- Family members and close friends may enter the village to visit residents in their homes. We are happy to announce that grandchildren (under 18's) may be allowed to visit and we respectfully request that once inside the village that they do not leave your unit.
- All visitors will have to be screened at the clinic health station, located in the clubhouse. Visitors will have their temperatures recorded as well as be sanitised and will need to provide contact details. This is to ensure we have accurate traceability in the event of infection.
- We recommend that there are only six people in your home (including yourselves/visitors) at any one time. We strongly recommend that visitors keep their masks on at all times and that even in your homes you maintain the 2-meter distancing protocol.
- A national curfew is in effect from, midnight to 4am

Domestic Workers/Carers, Gardeners & Service Providers

- Domestic workers, private carers and private gardeners have returned to work. Just a reminder that they must report to the security guardhouse, provide their ID books (if they haven't already) to be signed in and they will have their temperatures recorded as well as be sanitised and will also need to provide contact details.

- Service providers must report to the guardhouse where they will be screened. They will have their temperatures recorded as well as be sanitised and will also need to provide contact details. Please advise reception of any appointments that are made.

Social Functions, Catering & Activities

- The gym will remain open all day. It is very important to book your time slot. Only two people will be allowed to use the gym at a time. Please take your own sanitiser, cloth, hand towel and water bottle. Please sanitise/wipe down the equipment used for the next person, once your session is finished.
- The swimming pool is open. Only one resident to have access to the pool at a time. Please book your time slot with reception.
- The Bistro will be open Monday to Friday from 8am-5pm for tea/coffee, cake.
- Catering and social functions will be operational with limited seating and details will be confirmed
- Special events and entertainment will be planned for residents by the Catering, Events and Entertainment committee (CE&E). We will resume our social clubs, music evenings, bingo nights, pub nights to name a few. A diary of events for the remainder of the year will be sent out to all residents shortly.

If you suspect that you have the coronavirus symptoms, please call the clinic or reception (do not come up to the clubhouse) for assistance. It is vital that you report when you are not feeling well to Village Management and that you isolate and not socialise with other residents

The social distancing and hygiene measures we have all become used to will continue for some time into the future and cannot be abandoned or compromised. It has become a way of life and we must manage the coronavirus as a constant in our daily lives. In many respects, it will be more difficult. Let's all keep each other safe as we try to get accustomed to our new "normal" and until a vaccine is developed.

I am very blessed to be working in such a lovely village with caring and mindful residents who have been considerate of each other. I thank everyone for supporting me and my team during this difficult time and for being on board with all the preventative measures we introduced. It is going to make such a difference for all of us to engage with one another and to socialise again.

Please take care and call me on **002, or reception on Ext 300/3200 should you require any additional information or wish to discuss anything. Please remember that we are, as always, at the ready to assist you with any request you may have.

Stay Safe, Warm Regards and have a Great Weekend!



Christine Dempers
Village Manager – Bergvliet