



# Al-Anon Family Groups (Australia) Pty Ltd

A.B.N. 20 005 700 112

A.C.N. 005 700 112

Australian General Service Office

AL-ANON AND ALATEEN

*for families and friends of alcoholics*

20th May, 2020

Dear Members,

In the last two weeks all Australian states and territories eased restrictions on the number of people allowed to meet together. Support group meetings, with specified limited numbers present, are now allowed with physical distancing measures in place.

Before re-opening face-to-face Al-Anon and Alateen meetings, we suggest that members check their state and territory government websites for the rules related to where their meeting is located.

<https://www.australia.gov.au/#state-and-territory-government-information>

The following are some suggestions and information that your group members may wish to discuss and consider:

Advice quoted from the Australian Government Website:

- stay 1.5 metres away from other people whenever and wherever we can
- maintain good hand washing and cough/sneeze hygiene
- stay home when we're unwell, and get tested if we have respiratory symptoms or a fever
- download COVIDSafe app so we can find the virus quickly, and

For the common welfare of the fellowship as a whole and of the wider community, we ask our members to follow all the safety guidelines expected during this exceptional time.

Think of Tradition Four: Although *"each group should be autonomous"* we must remember the second part also, *"except in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon or AA as whole"*.

Meeting venues:

It is suggested that groups communicate with their meeting venue owner to establish availability and to find out any special requirements regarding cleaning and social distancing in addition to what is required by the Government.

Continuing to meet online:

Group autonomy allows each group to make their own decisions about continuing their on-line meetings or resuming their face-to-face meetings. Discussions with all group members taking part will ensure an informed group conscience is reached.

Some groups may like to consider having a combined physical and electronic meeting to enable those still vulnerable to attend their regular meetings.

Please inform your Area Office and the Australian General Service Office if your group's meeting circumstances change so that information on the website is accurate.

Yours in loving Al-Anon service,

Lois Adaway  
General Secretary/CEO