

Elouera Ski Club Ltd



Pygmy Possum Lodge, Charlotte Pass
Kosciuszko National Park
and
Castaways Units, Shoal Bay
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Update May 28 2020: 2020 Winter Season at Pygmy Possum Lodge

The opening date for the 2020 ski season has been announced, although we have not yet received any details about what rules will apply and how these will change how we operate this Winter season. Charlottes Pass is planning on commencing mountain operations on June 26th, and we hope to be opening Pygmy Possum shortly after that date.

In anticipation of a 2020 season the club has set up a COVIDSafe committee to plan how a safe opening of Pygmy Possum Lodge could be managed. Two key initial outcomes of that planning are set out below.

Firstly, under social distancing protocols of 4-square metres the lodge will be limited to accommodating 32 people or 16 people per wing. This is a reduction from our maximum occupancy of 54. The limiting factor in the lodge is kitchen space, with meal preparation time the key bottleneck.

Secondly, a COVIDsafe manager will be resident in the lodge for the season. Richard Mason will take on this role and responsibility for the majority of the season. This role is critical in gaining approval to operate and ensuring all members and guests follow the COVID protocols.

A consequence of limiting the lodge to 32 people is that some members and guests will not ski this year. The Board is hopeful that some of you are reluctant starters this season and the 32-person limit can be achieved amicably. Cancellations, notified four weeks ahead of the booking, will be fully refunded or can be put aside as a credit for 2021. People taking the credit option will be offered a pre-priority booking period in February 2021 to secure their preferred booking at 2020 prices. Due to costs rises, in particular insurance, we anticipate 2021 accommodation rates will be slightly higher than the 2020 rates.

Should the 32-person limit not be achieved, the club will reduce numbers on a week-by-week basis. Should this be necessary four weeks ahead of the booking week members and guests will be approached regarding cancellation. To be equitable some bookings covering multiple weeks may be reduced to fewer weeks. Subsequent cancellations will be on a last in first out basis and will generally favour members over guests. Using a last in first out principle will also favour 2020 priority bookings which may include some guests. With

cancellations the devil is in the detail. For example, some large group bookings will pose unique issues and we request your understanding.

In making decisions on your bookings, it is pertinent to understand that the ski tube and over snow protocols are unknown and are subject to the above mentioned government review and rules. Our understanding is that the over snow transport will require temperature testing and wearing of supplied face masks but will not follow 4m spacing protocols.

More details on the lodge COVIDsafe protocols is posted at <https://eloueraskiclub.asn.au/lodges/PygmyPossum/COVID-19Safe/>
This information will be regularly updated.

Keep well
Secretary and Board ESC