



Hello All,

With the concerns about COVID 19 in our community, Maruki like many other community organizations is attempting to keep our community safe and healthy. As a community band, we know your concerns are with our community - and none more so than for your fellow orchestra members and their families.

We have considered our particular group with several points in mind:

- The ACT is in a declared state of emergency
- We are a community of mostly adults with some members in the high risk category
- We rehearse in a venue that has multiple hirers and therefore Poses a greater exposure
- Many other community music organisations have ceased operations for the time being including:
 - Canberra Symphony Orchestra, Canberra City Band, National Capital Orchestra, Tuggeranong Valley Band
- Maruki's next scheduled concert is in May.

We should bear in mind that COVID19 is a dynamic virus and our action plan will change in accordance with advice received regarding its development.

Currently our action plan is to suspend rehearsals for the next two weeks, Saturdays 21st and 28th of March.

After the 28th of March, we will reassess the situation and send advice as to ongoing action.

A hopeful plan includes a short break from rehearsals to ensure that we keep our members safe and healthy, and resume rehearsals when the concerns have been alleviated. We are fortunate that our concert is scheduled in May which affords us some hope that we will be able to continue with this performance.

We are disappointed to not be meeting and working together over the next two weeks, but please continue to practice in preparation for the concert. Keep yourself active, well and safe during this time.

For additional information, please use the link below to the Australian Federal Department of Health

<https://www.health.gov.au/resources/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-frequently-asked-questions>

Regards

Ross Pover (Vice President)

For the Committee Maruki Community Orchestra