Deputy Mayor Shares Guidelines on Third Wave of Pandemic Restriction Easing

During the press conference on May 25, Deputy Mayor Huang Shan-shan discussed some of the general guidelines regarding the loosening of restrictions ahead of reopening more venues. The three conditions include: maintaining social distancing, real name registration for indoor activities and venues, and no group dining.
According to the deputy mayor, the only school campuses which remains off-limit to the public are the track and fields of middle and elementary schools. To ensure the safety of students, the reopening of these facilities will have to wait until summer vacation. Announcement on closed venues due to construction or other reasons will be posted before June 1.

Huang added that a number of major events either sponsored or co-sponsored by city hall have also eased restrictions. For outdoor activities, the cap has been increased from 500 people to 1,000 people; likewise, the maximum occupancy for indoor events has been raised to 250 individuals. Indoor events with more than 250 people will require approval on a case-by-case bases.

For the upcoming Dragon Boat Festival, activities have undergone some adjustments to comply with pandemic prevention guidelines. Events with registered personnel such as dragon boat practices, dragon boat eye-dotting ritual, helmsmen boot camp, and races have received the green light, but those with random participants such as the carnival and hands-on dragon boat experience have been canceled. Furthermore, the preliminary races and finals will be broadcasted on TV instead of having spectators at the venue.

Cultural Affairs Commissioner Tsai Tsung-hsiung provided an update on Taipei’s support measures for cultural performance groups. Due to the pandemic, many theatric troupes face financial difficulties, as current guideline on seat spacing severely reduces profits of performances – in many cases each session sold results in a loss. Therefore, the city government is offering significant discount for venue rental to help performance groups return to the stages and bring the audience back.

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