

Dear Valued Owners,

We wanted to take this opportunity to provide you with a further update on The Shore Club and the most current items and happenings within the Turks and Caicos. We think you would all be very pleased with the condition of the property. All areas have been set up to conform with social distancing guidelines, all staff are wearing protective face masks and there are a variety of other protocols being followed to insure the safety of our guests and staff

Please see below an update on the status of things on the islands from Stan Hartling.

“It has been just over three weeks now since the border reopened to visitors. While the business flow has been expectedly slow based on the patchy airlift, it is an important milestone to getting the country operational again.

The new TCI entry portal (TCI ASSURE), like many new systems, has at times had its challenges. However, overall it's a good start and with some improvements, it has the potential to meet the needs of our visitors. Through the Hotel Association, we will be submitting suggestions that could enhance the site including extended hours for the phone support, better definition of the forms of testing accepted, and easier links to the acceptable insurances available. In order to assist with making compliance and submission to the TCI ASSURE portal easier, the Hotel Association is looking to launch a website called TCISAFE. This will make it very easy to purchase your insurance and also find references to some of the PRC testing solutions available.

We continue to request an extension of the testing window to 7 days from the present 5, but there does not seem to be support as of yet at the Governmental level. Hopefully, as testing capacity increases in the USA, the 5 days window will be more acceptable. At present we are finding that about 40% of our bookings are having issues or concerns and cancel their trip, so that number needs to be improved.

While the transition to outside tourists to date has been a success with no known transmissions either to or from a visitor, the opposite is true on a domestic level. Regretfully, as most of you will already know, there has been a sharp increase in the number of reported cases within TCI.

While this increase should in no way be ignored, it is frustrating that because our local population base (approx. 39,000) is so small, many of the reporting indicators get skewed very rapidly. This makes indicators such as the # of cases per million look like its growing at a rate that far exceeds larger populations. This type of reporting bias has led to the UK removing TCI from its list of destinations that allow travel without quarantine upon return.

This past week the UK government announced this change with almost no notice. Efforts are being made by the Governor and Premier to get the powers that be to understand the impact on TCI by invoking this change. The reality is that because our population base is so small in comparison to the UK and the other larger countries they focused on, we could not possibly have any significant statistical impact on their numbers. On the inverse, their decision to invoke this restriction has potentially enormous impacts on the single-legged economy here.

One can only hope that common sense will prevail and that the UK will understand that putting a small British Overseas Territory in this position is not good for either of the two parties. The reality is that even with the sharp increase, the Turks and Caicos still sits at about 45% of the USA number of cases per 1 million. Additionally, based on the information we receive locally, none of the cases are stemming from the resort or tourist areas, all are focused largely within domestic communities.

We remain very vigilant with our staff protocols and screening. We are proud to advise that they are doing a great job complying with this and keeping our guests safe and comfortable during their stay.

Before closing, we wanted to mention that we have noticed an increase in owner account deficiencies over the past few months. With the resort being closed for several months and just now beginning to reopen again, it has resulted in monthly operational losses for both the owners and the Management Company. Please keep in mind that in order to maintain the property and support our staff, we ask that you keep your account positive and funded properly. Please review your individual situation and take whatever action is necessary.

We want to thank you for your continued support and understanding as we work through the present challenges and turn them into future opportunities.

Stay safe and healthy!