1 September 2021

**LEFT FOOT RED**

Running large events during the pandemic is a bit like playing Twister. You end up in contortions you never thought possible and you are constantly worried about your social distancing.

At CFA we have decided to embrace this uncertainty and use it to our advantage. Our 14th Australasian Cystic Fibrosis Digital Conference was in its first few minutes when a cyberattack caused the system to shut down to prevent unwanted access. Reacting to this 'Twist' in events we rescheduled to the 30th – 31st of October because we were committed to staging the Conference that we had planned and not scrapping it in favour of some future endeavour one year down the road.

Feedback from the community suggests that this was the right decision to make, and we are eternally grateful for your enduring enthusiasm and commitment to the cause.

Unfortunately, it seems like there were a few more 'Twists' left to call: it has recently been announced that the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in North America will now be hosting its own digital conference in the same week, creating a conflict of interest for many of our international speakers and local clinicians.

Our position has not changed, we are still committed to the Conference and to staging it as soon as possible, anything else would be a waste of the historic effort that has gone into this event from inside and outside CFA.

But it's not just us stretched out on this Twister mat, its all of you – speakers, chairpersons, attendees and supporters who have been put out and mucked about. We are in this together and we want you to help us call our next move.

If you would like to have your say email nickim@cfa.org.au . We promise we will listen to all and act in the best interest of the whole CF Community.

CFA plans to be back in contact with final Conference plans next week so please send your comments soon.

Kind regards

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