



Wokingham Borough Council Football Facilities Covid-19 Risk Assessment and Protocol

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WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL



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COVID---19 Risk Assessment

Identified Risks

If coaching sessions are not delivered in line with latest COVID---19 government guidance, then participants (coaches and players) are in breach of infection control guidance leading to a risk of transmission and contraction of COVID---19.

Detailed Guidance

Consistent with Government advice published on Saturday 18th July, the following outdoor football activity is currently permitted:

- Competitive training can take place for all participants, in an outdoor setting provided this takes place in groups of no more than 30 (including coaches);
- Competitive match play is permitted, with social distancing in place before and after the session, and in any breaks in play.
- Spectator groups should be limited to six people per group and spread out in line with wider Government guidance
- Sharing of equipment should be kept to a minimum and strong hand hygiene practices should be in place before and after.
- Football coaches working with people with impairments must ensure they can adequately cater for any additional needs whilst still avoiding physical contact and maintaining social distancing. Individuals should follow Government guidance relevant to their own impairment or health condition.
- Everyone should self---assess for Covid---19 symptoms before every training session or match. If you are symptomatic or living in a household with possible or actual Covid---19 infection you must not participate or attend. You should stay home and follow the latest Government guidance.
- Anyone who becomes infected after training/matches should report this to the NHS test and trace system.

The FA state that they will continue to work closely with DCMS and Sport England in order to set out good practice guidance for those responsible for delivering different aspects of grassroots football and we will share further information as soon as possible.

In accordance with The FA recommendation for a phased return to play, Wokingham Borough Council Grass pitches will sanction competitive training from Monday 27th July and matches from September 2020.

Further guidance at The FA <http://www.thefa.com/about---football---association/covid---19>

COVID---19 Risk Assessment

Risk Matrix

Risk Factors	Likelihood	Severity/Impact
	Rare	1 Negligible/Trivial 1
	Unlikely	2 Minor/No Injury 2
	Possible	3 Moderate/First Aid 3
	Likely	4 Severe/Medical Assistance 4
	Almost Certain	5 Extreme/Fatal 5

	Severity				
Likelihood	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5
2	2	4	6	8	10
3	3	6	9	12	15
4	4	8	12	16	20
5	5	10	15	20	25

Risk Action Level

Level	Action
1-4 NEGLIGIBLE RISK	No further action required, but ensures controls are maintained and monitored.
5-8 LOW RISK	Develop management plan, monitor and review plan quarterly.
8-12 MEDIUM RISK	Develop management plan, monitor and review plan monthly to consider further mitigations.
15-20 HIGH RISK	Develop management plan, monitor and review plan weekly to consider further mitigations.
25 EXTREME RISK	Develop management plan and prior to commencement consider if it is essential for the activity to occur and all mitigations that can be put in place. Monitor and review at each activity.

COVID---19 Risk Assessment

Risk Score

Risk Score BEFORE management plan and mitigations in place	4x4	16	HIGH RISK
Risk Score AFTER management plan and mitigations in place	3x4	12	MEDIUM RISK

Management Plan

It should be clearly noted that no player will be expected to train if they do not feel comfortable in doing so. Their position within a team will not be under any risk if they do not choose to train during this time.

Attendance for training and matches	Coaches are required to use a spreadsheet to keep attendance records for both teams for matches training and matches. This is important so the club can support the NHS Test and Trace. This should be made available if a case arises. All players and coaches should arrive at training/matches fully prepared in club kit and leave immediately following the activity. No changing rooms are available at sites.
Before training sessions and matches	<p>Players, parents and coaches are asked to proactively check their health status matches before attending training. If any symptoms are present (e.g. a cough or high temperature) then the coach or club must be informed by phone/message. The participant must not come to the training ground and will not be allowed to train. Government self---isolation guidance must be followed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If a participant is self---isolating or living in a household with a person with COVID---19 symptoms, then they must inform the coach or club and the participant must not come to the training ground and will not be allowed to train. Government self---isolation guidance must be followed. ● If a participant is living with a person who is deemed to be extremely clinically vulnerable or clinically vulnerable, then they must make a personal decision whether or not to attend training. Participants are encouraged to discuss this with the coach or club if they wish to. ● Whatever the age of the children and type of activity, a minimum of two FA---DBS checked coaches/adults must always be present. This ensures at least basic cover in the event of an incident.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● During the hot weather it is recommended players wear sun protection, which should be applied themselves or by a parent/ guardian before leaving home. ● Invitation to training will be strictly controlled. It will not be permissible to just turn up and expect to train. Places will be limited based upon the number of coaches available and need to be booked in advance.
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The training venue	<p>Where two different age groups or a large single age group are training should be split into zones marked with cones. Players and Coaches should park and use the closest entrance to where they are training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The toilets will only be opened for emergency use only. Players are advised to use the toilet before leaving home. ● All litter should be taken home.
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Arriving and leaving training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Players and parents are asked to enter the playing field 5 mins before the start time. If you arrive before this time you are asked to wait in your car. ● If a team has been training before you, they will have finished their session at least 20 minutes before your session starts, allowing them time to leave so you arrive at an empty playing field. ● Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from training. The coach is not allowed to provide car-share facilities. ● Hand sanitizers should be used on arrival, prior to starting the session. This will need to be supported by the clubs coaches and volunteers. ● Participants are asked to bring their own hand sanitizer if possible
Training session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Competitive training can take place for all participants, in an outdoor setting provided this takes place in groups of no more than 30 (including coaches). ● The sharing of kit and equipment should be avoided, and participants should bring their own drinks or refreshments, in named containers. ● When the ball goes out of play, it should not be retrieved by non-participants and should be retrieved using the feet rather than the hands where possible. Non-participants may collect if there is the need for a responsible person to collect. Please ensure safe techniques are used to collect and use feet if possible to return. Please wash hands after collection.

<p>After training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participants must not spit and should avoid shouting or raising their voices when facing each other. ● Set plays: players are encouraged to avoid unnecessarily long set-up or close marking and goal celebrations are discouraged. ● Coaches are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training. ● Spectator groups should be limited to six people per group and spread out in line with wider Government guidance. ● Goal keepers must wear their own gloves and are responsible for ensuring these are cleaned between sessions. ● Players must be reminded to keep a 2m distance during training breaks and all clothing, drinks bottles, and accessories separate from anyone else. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hands should be washed at the earliest opportunity and personal equipment should be wiped down with a disinfectant. ● Unless absolutely necessary, participants should take their kit home and wash it themselves, or by family members. ● Everyone must continue to maintain social distancing when leaving the venue. ● Everyone should leave through the entrance that they came in form, which should be the closest to their training area. ● Anyone who becomes unwell after training/matches should report this to the Coach/manager (who must inform the CWO). This must also be reported to the NHS test and trace system. The CWO can help with this.
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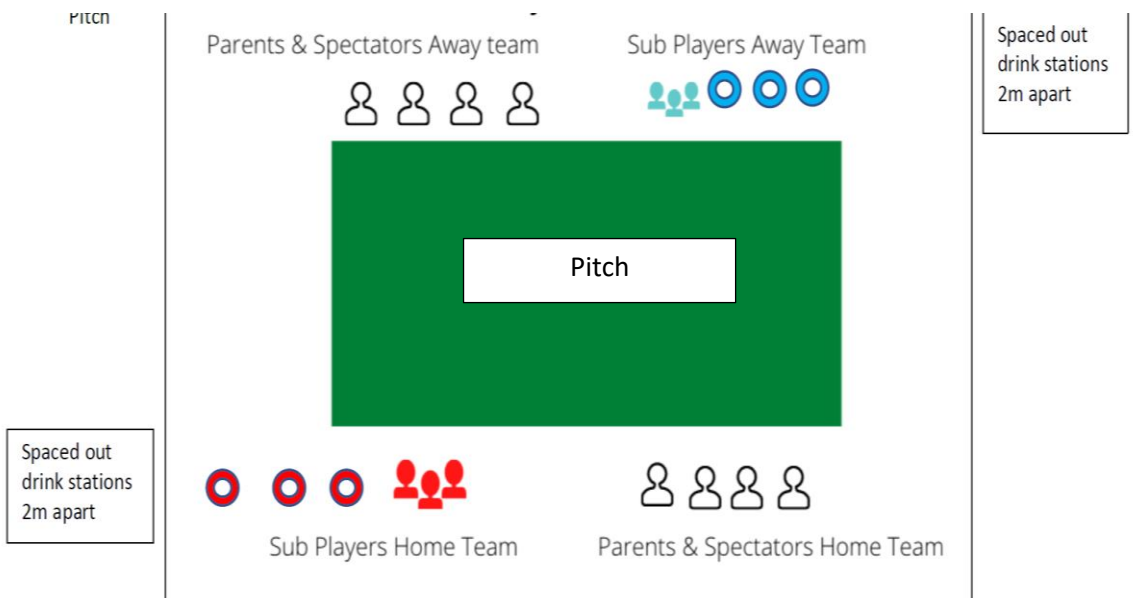
<p>Match Venues</p>	<p>Wokingham Borough Council Match Venues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Barkham Rec ● Cantley Park ● Chalfont Rec ● Elizabeth Rec ● Emmbrook ● Laurel Park (ETC/WBC) ● Ryeish Green ● Sandford Rec <p>Some venue have parking and facilities. It is each teams' responsibility to prepare and set up accordingly when playing at home and that away teams check to protocol for matches with the home club</p>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coaches should use the pitch booking platform for games or contact WBC Sport & Leisure, so we can make sure that pitches are booked with plenty of time in between. www.pitchbooking.com for WBC pitches only ● Use of alternate entrances and one way systems will be used to reduce contact. ● Facilities will be open only at Cantley Park with the men’s & women’s toilets accessible and queuing for the toilet will be outside of the facilities ● When travelling to an away ground for the first time since lockdown, the coach should make contact with the COVID---Coordinator or opposition secretary and share the opposition club and coach details. ● The team manager of each team will check that the opposition club has conducted a Risk Assessment and put in place a suitable COVID plan for the proposed venue.
<p>COVID volunteer</p> <p>Arrival at a match (home or away)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Each team will require a COVID volunteer, they will be required to carry our briefing to players, and ensure that the COVID protocols are being adhered to. ● They are required to organise cleaning of equipment at the start and end of the match, including goalposts, assistant referee flags and corner flags. Coaches will be responsible for cleaning their own equipment. ● Encourage socially---distant forms of transport (e.g. cycling and walking). All other forms of transport should be considered before public transport; ● Government guidance should be followed at all times; ● Adults and children should only travel with a member of their household or someone within their ‘support bubble’. Please note that separated parents, living in different households and those in ‘support bubbles’ announced by Government on 10 June 2020, can also car share. ● Social distancing will be in place as players arrive, coaches should plan arrival activities in advance to encourage players to warm up but maintain distance. ● Coaches should set up cones for players drinking stations which are 2 metre spacing and run along the side of the pitch. ● The COVID volunteer should work with parents to make sure that the equipment is cleaned. ● Players, coaches and officials should arrive changed and shower at home. Use of changing and shower facilities must follow government advice on the use of indoor facilities.

COVID Volunteer briefing

- For home games the COVID volunteer will talk to parents and players to let them know what COVID protocols are in place for that site. This should include routes to and from facilities from the pitch, parent locations during matches, and how they should leave the venue at the end of the match

Example of Pitch setup



Wokingham Borough Council Sites

- **Barkham Recreation Ground Wokingham (No toilet or changing facilities)**
- **Cantley Park (Single use toilets available. No changing rooms)**
- **Chalfont Park (No toilet or changing facilities)**
- **Elizabeth Park (No toilet or changing facilities.)**
- **Laurel Park (Toilets available. Please check with Laurel Park FC & Earley Town Council)**
- **Ryeish Green Sports Hub (Toilets available)**
- **Sandford Park (No toilets available.)**
- **Montague Park 3G and Grass (Toilets only available during hire and must be arranged through WBC)**

MATCH PLAY

Warm Ups	<p>Warm ups can and should be considered part of the contact training session, however activities where lots of players are close together should be avoided (rondos etc). Consider SSG's as an alternative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Briefing should be carried out at the players' drinking stations ● Players should use hand sanitiser at this point before the match. ● There can be no group huddles whilst COVID threat is ongoing. ● There are no handshake or elbow taps at the start of the match.
During Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ball handling should be kept to a minimum with most contact via a boot and the ball disinfected in breaks of play. ● Youth football coaches are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training. ● Goal celebrations should be avoided.
Post-Match	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Please ensure all equipment is cleaned with disinfectant wipes before putting away. Volunteers are required to clean goals and corner flags, Coaches are required to clean all their equipment including balls, etc. ● If bibs were used, these should be taken home and washed by parents.
First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Should any player require first aid this will be attended by the parent. ● All managers must have an up to date FA first aid qualification. ● All managers must bring a first aid kit to sessions, and the kit must include masks and gloves. These must be worn should an incident occur that the parent is unable to deal with themselves. ● First Aid guidance for returning to outdoor competitive grassroots football can be downloaded from Berks & Bucks FA website.
If a team member develops symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● If a participant develops coronavirus symptoms and they have been training then they must contact 111 to arrange for a test to be undertaken and contact the manager of the team, who in turn must notify the Club Welfare Officer. Details must also be sent to sport@wokingham.gov.uk ● Training for that team (or smaller group if contact has been minimal with the other groups) will not

Equipment and kit	<p>take place until 14 days have passed since the contactor the test is negative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">●Equipment should not be shared, and goalkeepers should ensure they disinfect their gloves regularly in breaks in training or matches and thoroughly afterwards. <p>Where possible, coaches should only handle equipment in training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">●Soiled clothing should be kept with the player, cleaned and returned. This includes shirts and bibs.
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COVID---19 Risk Assessment

Actions to complete as a Committee

- **Assign a Covid-19 Officer for each team**
- **Read and follow the protocols listed**
- **Read and complete The FA Risk Assessment and store on club website**
- **Share this protocol with opposition leading up to the fixture (Each facility is unique so please inform opposition on the sites set up)**
- **Please sign to say you accept the information and your club will follow the protocol set by The FA**

Signed: _____

Print Name: _____

Club: _____

Date: _____

Please return this form via email to sport@wokingham.gov.uk

Scanned or photographed versions can be accepted.