



## COVID 19 RISK ASSESSMENT FOR MATCHES

### FA Guidelines on returning to play outdoor competitive grass roots football

Date: 22 <sup>nd</sup> August 2020      Review date: 14 <sup>th</sup> August 2020 when we have a better understanding of the League position regarding matches <b>Updated: 9.10.20</b>				
<p>This risk assessment is written based on the Covid-19 guidance on re-starting football activity, version published: 18 July 2020. Issued by the FA - Guidelines on returning to play outdoor competitive grass roots football. The document was specifically updated to reflect changes to social distancing guidelines which came into effect on the 4<sup>th</sup> July. Social distancing guidelines should be followed between people from different households wherever possible. From July, this means a distance of two metres between people from different households, or one metre plus mitigations (such as face coverings or avoiding face-to-face contact) where 2m is not possible. The aim of the risk assessment is the identification of control measures to reduce risks to the lowest reasonably practicable level by the implementation of preventative measures and mitigating actions.</p>				
TASK	HAZARDS IDENTIFIED	RISK Low/Medium/ High	CONTROLS REQUIRED	ADDITIONAL CONTROLS
Individuals - Prior to matches	Individuals may have virus or symptoms of virus	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Follow Public Health England guidelines i.e if you have a fever, cough or other symptoms contact your healthcare provider, inform your manager and DO NOT attend your match.</li> <li>- All individuals to be made aware of our risk assessment.</li> <li>- Changing rooms will be closed to reduce transmission (if impractical see below)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If in doubt, individuals should not attend matches.</li> <li>- Each coach will keep a record of attendees at a match (as for training session), including contact details, to support NHS Test and Trace. (stored for a minimum of 21 days)</li> <li>- Players should use the toilet at home before attending training or matches as no toilets will be open on site.</li> <li>- Players will need to bring their own water bottles, hand sanitiser and if necessary sun screen, all labelled with their name.</li> <li>- All players should come in full kit, including football boots as changing rooms will be closed.</li> </ul>
If, and <b>only in exceptional circumstances</b> , changing rooms have to be used	Individuals may have virus or symptoms of virus	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Maximum of 6 per changing room,</li> <li>-Social distancing rules should apply</li> <li>-Face coverings should be worn.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Where possible two changing rooms may be used by one team.</li> <li>-Changing room doors should be left open.</li> <li>-If showers have to be used only two people at a time (spray and wipe after every two).</li> <li>-Home manager to be responsible for seeing that changing room surfaces, including seats,</li> </ul>



				toilet tops and door handles are sprayed and wiped after use
Before, during and after a match	Transfer of virus via individuals	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-All equipment to be cleaned before and after use. i.e. goal posts, corner flags and, if supplied by the club, linesman flags, also footballs during breaks.</li> <li>-There should be no sharing of kit or gloves.</li> <li>Social distancing rules should apply where possible during warm ups and cool downs.</li> <li>-No handshakes before or after a match.</li> <li>- No group celebrations</li> <li>- No spitting or chewing gum during training</li> <li>- No shouting at matches as it has been suggested that this can contribute to the spread of the virus</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-It will be the responsibility for each coach to ensure the equipment is disinfected regularly, spray will be supplied by the Club. This will need to be undertaken before and after use.</li> <li>- Bibs will be issued to individual players and should not be swapped with substitutes. Initials can be written on these and parents/carers will be responsible for cleaning.</li> <li>- Players and coaches should bring their own hand gel to use before and after matches.</li> <li>- Subs and coaches should social distance with extra seats outside dugouts.</li> <li>-Referees should be paid electronically where possible (or in an envelope if paying cash)- to agree with referee earlier in the week.</li> <li>-Players and coaches to social distance in any breaks in play.</li> </ul>
During a match	Injuries or incidents	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coach with FA First Aid cover available</li> <li>- Emergency procedure available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If a player gets injured and a member of their household or support bubble is on site they can assist but others will still need to socially distance unless a life threatening, or serious injury necessitates compromising guidelines to provide emergency care.</li> <li>- If a coach is required to administer first aid then they should wear appropriate PPE to protect both parties.</li> </ul>
Spectators			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Social distancing rules should apply.</li> <li>-Where possible spectators should watch from their cars.</li> <li>Contact details will be gathered from spectators for Contact and trace details.</li> <li>-Signage will advise spectators to keep to social distancing rules</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Spectators should avoid congregating,</li> </ul>
Player Drop off and collection	Players or drivers (responsible adult)	Medium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Parents or drivers will be encouraged to remain in their car or come back after the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Players will be asked to make their way to the pitch and not to wait around in groups.</li> </ul>



	may breach distancing guidelines and congregate.		<p>match.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Players should leave as soon as is practical after their match.</li> <li>- Parents should try not to share a car with those outside your household or support bubble. If you need to, try to:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•share the car with the same people each time</li> <li>•keep to small groups of people at any one time</li> <li>•open windows for ventilation</li> <li>•consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle</li> <li>•clean your car between journeys using standard cleaning products –make sure you clean door - handles and other areas that people may touch</li> <li>•ask the driver and passengers to wear a face covering</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The club will co-ordinate matches to ensure no overcrowding.</li> <li>- 5 minutes before practice will allow you enough time to enter the</li> </ul>
Allocation of teams to handle capacity	Too many people in a local area	High	Teams' match times staggered with 45 minutes between finish of one match and start of another (per pitch) to allow for social distancing and for car parking.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Schedule in place to manage allocation</li> <li>- Teams allocated specific pitches to use.</li> </ul>

Note: When arranging a match with the opposition the manager should make the opposing manager aware of the expectations around COVID that the club has.  
**Away matches:** Conversely, you should ask the host manager what expectations they have of you when visiting. You may wish to exchange match risk assessments with the opposing manager: this is acceptable.