



COVID-19: SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE

Version: 1.9

Published: SEPTEMBER 10 2021

FOR CLUBS



COVID-19: STEP FOUR GUIDANCE FOR GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL

We want to thank you in advance for playing your vital part in helping our great game get going again. By observing Government guidance and the football-specific protocols, let's work together to ensure the transition back to enjoying football is as smooth and safe as possible. Naturally, we'll provide any updates if any are required going forward.

IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT THAT CLUBS, PLAYERS, COACHES, MATCH OFFICIALS, LEAGUE OFFICIALS, VOLUNTEERS, PARENTS/CARERS AND FACILITY PROVIDERS READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS GUIDANCE ON WHAT YOU CAN AND CANNOT DO AS PART OF THE LATEST STEP OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ROADMAP.

A SUMMARY OF WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT STEP FOUR OF THE GOVERNMENT'S ROADMAP OUT OF LOCKDOWN

On Monday 19th July, England will move to step four of its roadmap in easing Covid restrictions. This means almost all legal restrictions of social contact will be removed. However, the Government is encouraging people to act with caution.

The summary key points are below, with more detail on subsequent pages:

- 1.** On-field adaptations for playing football are no longer required.
- 2.** No limits of how many people can meet.
- 3.** One-metre-plus rule is removed.
- 4.** The **definition of close contact** remains the same, however the rules on self-isolation will be changing from the 16th August.
- 5.** Face coverings no longer required by law, but recommended in crowded indoor settings and may be mandated by some organisations.
- 6.** Changing rooms can be used, however participants should use their own judgment and minimise use where possible to avoid close contact in a crowded area for a prolonged time.
- 7.** No capacity limits for spectators, but good practice is encouraged.
- 8.** Hospitality is permitted without restrictions.
- 9.** NHS Test and Trace QR codes are not required by law, but are encouraged.
- 10.** Free NHS lateral flow testing is available to clubs and The FA encourages clubs to take this up.
- 11.** No domestic travel restrictions. Participants should continue to follow Government advice on international travel for any fixtures/tournaments.

This guidance document applies to all youth and adult football and futsal, including all formats of the game, indoors and outdoors.

COVID-19: STEP FOUR GUIDANCE FOR GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL (CONTINUED)

DETAILED GUIDANCE ON STEP FOUR RESTRICTIONS FOR GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL

ADAPTATIONS TO THE GAME

In previous FA guidance, we set out the required adaptations to the playing of the game, to align to the Government's team sports framework. This included not prolonging elements of the game where players will be in close proximity (i.e. free kicks and corners) and avoiding team huddles and handshakes (for example).

As part of step four, these adaptations will no longer be required by the Government and so have been removed from The FA guidance. However, clubs, leagues and all participants should remain vigilant and be respectful of individuals/teams who may not wish to shake hands before games (for example).

CLOSE CONTACT AND SELF-ISOLATION

The rules on close contact and self-isolation changed on the 16th August. The updated Government guidance can be found [here](#).

If a player tests positive on a team there is not a need for the other players to self-isolate, unless they have been contacted by Test and Trace, have developed symptoms or tested positive themselves.

Following amends to the Covid-19 rules on Monday 16th August 2021 on self-isolation, those individuals who are double-jabbed or under-18 no longer need to self-isolate after being identified as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case, even if that person is within the same household. However, they are strongly advised to get their own free PCR test as soon as possible. PCR tests can be ordered online, by calling 119, or going to a test site.

As double-jabbed people identified as close contacts are still at risk of being infected, they are advised to consider other precautions such as wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces, and to limit contact with other people. If individuals conduct a PCR test and it comes back positive, they must follow the Government guidance on isolation irrespective of your vaccination status. There must also be a two-week gap (i.e. 14 days) between your second vaccination and this

exemption coming into effect. If you are over 18 and not fully vaccinated, you will still need to isolate if you come into close contact with someone with Covid. It is important to note that players must continue to self-assess and if they are experiencing any symptoms and awaiting a test result, they must stay at home.

MASKS AND SOCIAL DISTANCING

In step four, the use of masks will become voluntary in all settings, with the Government advising people to use their personal judgement and to take responsibility, depending on the situation. Government advice is that the use of masks reduce risks to people (both yourselves and those around you) in crowded spaces. Please also note that businesses and organisations may still require masks to be used.

CAPACITY

All businesses and facilities will be able to open in step four, with no caps on capacity (indoors or outdoors).

QR CODES

While there is no legal requirement for use of QR codes, Government is encouraging businesses and facilities to continue using these.

CHANGING ROOMS

Changing rooms can be used. However, given that the definition of close contact is not changing, participants may wish to consider this and minimise use of changing facilities where possible to avoid prolonged contact with people in a crowded space.

Clubs and facilities may also wish to consider taking precautions to avoid close contact, for example, asking participants to socially distance and ensure thorough ventilation.

SPECTATORS

As part of step four, there are no limits on spectators for indoor or outdoor football, this includes parents and carers. All facilities can open without restrictions on capacity; however, facilities should follow [Government guidance](#) on how to best manage crowds, particularly for bigger events.

COVID-19: STEP FOUR GUIDANCE FOR GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL (CONTINUED)

HOSPITALITY

All outdoor and indoor hospitality will be allowed as part of step four and can operate without restrictions on capacity limits or how people order food and drink.

KEEPING YOUR CLUBHOUSE AND EQUIPMENT CLEAN

Keeping your clubhouse clean will reduce the risk of passing the infection onto other people. To achieve this, your cleaning procedures should be thorough and rigorous. A cleaning schedule could include:

- Daily cleaning throughout the clubhouse and facility;
- Identifying high-contact touch points for more regular cleaning (e.g. door handles, grab rails, vending machines);
- Frequent cleaning of work areas and equipment between use;
- Cleaning of shared training equipment after each individual use;
- Having waste facilities and more frequent rubbish collection;
- Removing any non-essential items that may be difficult to clean.

The FA is working with its recently-appointed official hygiene partner, Dettol, to support the return of the grassroots game. You can find more information [here](#).

NHS FREE LATERAL FLOW TESTS

As a further consideration for club safety at this time, The FA encourages clubs to consider the Government's community-testing programme. You can find details on this [here](#).

Rapid lateral flow tests help to find cases in people who may have no symptoms but are still infectious and can give the virus to others. These are currently distributed free by the Government, and you can order packs to be sent to a home address. Where clubs do follow the twice-weekly free community Government testing programme, according to recently published PHE guidance they would meet the criteria for a Low-Risk Pathway, meaning certain

first aid restrictions during Covid-19 can be lifted in this situation. More information can be found in our First-Aid guidance on [TheFA.com](#).

FIRST AID

All participants should ensure they have read the updated FA guidance on First Aid, which can be found on [TheFA.com](#).

TRAVEL

All participants may travel to games with no restrictions in place for domestic travel. Participants should be aware that travelling in cars is now permitted, however this does mean that they will likely be in close contact and should manage any risks linked to this. Any international travel should be in line with [Government advice](#). Players and clubs should consider how they can reduce the likelihood of close contact occurring.

INSPECTING THE EXISTING CONDITION OF YOUR FACILITY

If parts of your facility have not been used for some time, a thorough building inspection and walk-round will allow you to identify any issues and damage. This will help you plan what work needs to be carried out and should include water quality (e.g. for Legionella and other contaminants), drains, gas services, ventilation, alarms/safety systems and pest control.

FINAL CONSIDERATIONS

The guidance you are reading is FOR ALL – players, coaches, club officials, club welfare officers, match officials, league officials, first-aiders, volunteers, parents/carers, facility providers and spectators.

Clubs and facility providers should update their risk assessment regularly and also update their medical emergency action plan around player care, as well as strictly following the first-aid guidance document published by The FA, without exception. This is both to protect players and any club member who is trying to aid the player if an emergency arises.

Whenever this document refers to finding further information on [TheFA.com](#), you'll find it [here](#).

COVID-19 SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT GUIDANCE

Carrying out risk assessments during the Covid-19 pandemic

CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES

Affiliated clubs organising and/or hosting football activities have a legal duty to take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions which are a reasonably foreseeable risk. A risk assessment is a systematic review of the tasks, jobs or processes involved when your club organises, facilitates and/or hosts football activities. The purpose is to identify the significant hazards, the risk of someone being harmed and deciding what further control measures you must take to reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

Risk assessments should cover all risks, including those associated with the Covid-19 pandemic and how the club intends to ensure that its members and activities will operate within the Government guidance.

The public health crisis is constantly developing and so should clubs' response to it. Clubs are responsible for ensuring that risk assessments are completed, continually reviewed in light of changing Government guidance, feedback and observations from staff.

RISK ASSESSMENTS – FIVE KEY STEPS

Club officials and coaches should keep the below five steps in mind at all times to ensure the safety of participants.

Clubs should review the measures implemented in response to these regularly, particularly when Government advice or guidance changes.

- 1.** Keep up to date with Government and FA guidance. Please ensure that they are followed at all times and communicate the guidelines to all individuals connected with your club. Please see the latest detailed FA guidance on grassroots football activity.
- 2.** Contact the club's insurance provider to ensure that your club is suitably covered to undertake activities in the current public health crisis. See additional notes below.
- 3.** Undertake regular risk assessments of the club's activities, ensuring that each one is named, signed and dated by those completing and approving it – see below for more details. Risk assessments are 'living documents' and should be updated and reviewed regularly and kept in active use to mitigate any new or changing risks. Undertake specific employee/volunteer risk assessments for anyone undertaking high-risk roles or tasks.
- 4.** Adapt activities and update the club's policies in light of steps 1-3. Policies to be updated include: Health and Safety Policy; and Data Privacy Policy to cover the handling of data.
- 5.** Ensure that everyone – board/committee members, coaches, first aiders, volunteers, parents and players – is aware of the club's Covid-19 protocols.

Do not undertake an activity if the club has any concerns about the safety of club officials and/or participants.

COVID-19 SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT

COMMUNICATIONS WITH PARENTS/CARERS RE: ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN

Coaching children, as we all adjust to changing requirements in respect of Covid-19, will have its challenges. Parents/carers need to be kept informed and make their decision on what they feel is right for their child.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of issues clubs may want to consider when preparing a risk assessment during the Covid-19 pandemic:

1. Gaining informed written consent for involvement in any activity.
 - a. Where a child is aged 15 years or younger then parents/carers must give informed written consent via a consent form or e-mail trail, before their child can take part in football activity. Clubs need to decide how they retain a record of those parents/carers who have given consent (e.g. retain email, log consent form). NB: While The FA supports informed written self-consent from those aged 16 and 17 years of age – in these unusual times clubs may wish to seek parent/carer consent for these two age groups as well.
 - b. Clubs need to ensure that parents/carers are fully informed about any football activity being considered and the measures that are in place to ensure that the activity follows current Government guidance. Identify how the club will do this e.g. by providing written information to parents/carers outlining the activity being offered and measures being taken to manage risks via and inviting permission via a consent form (see [FA safeguarding Guidance Notes 8.2](#) for an example form), or via an e-mail.

If consent is sought via e-mail, clubs will need to ensure they use wording such as:

requires parental consent before your child takes part in any football activities.

By replying to this e-mail and stating “**I consent for my child to take part**”, you are confirming that you have read and understood the activities being offered to your child and agree with the measures the club has put in place to manage any risks, including its Covid-19 measures in line with current Government guidance.

A copy of the club's risk assessment/management documentation (**can be found here/is attached to this email**)

If your child has any specific medical conditions, please ensure that you discuss these with the club welfare officer and or coach and agree the best way to support your child's needs e.g. you staying to watch nearby and taking responsibility to administer the medication. For your information the club may use a form such as the one in [FA safeguarding Guidance Notes 8.2](#) to gather any relevant information from you. **If your child has Covid-19 symptoms they must stay at home and follow Government advice.**

If you wish to withdraw consent to your child participating in any or all activities, please notify

in advance, or as soon as possible.

COVID-19 SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

2. Parents should be told to ensure that their child has their own water bottle, hand sanitiser, sun cream and any necessary medication (e.g. inhaler). All items belonging to their child should be labelled with their name and should not be used by anyone else.
3. The impact of Covid-19 may have caused some children to become anxious or unsure about resuming activity. Concerns may relate to levels of fitness, skill or friendship groups, others will be delighted to be able to return to football. Clubs should only support their return to football when they and their parents/carers feel confident for them to do so. Clubs should offer to speak to parents/carers of children about potential issues if needed and make gradual introductions if needed.
4. For more information on safeguarding children and the suitability of staff and volunteers please see The FA's guidance found [here](#).



COVID-19 SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

VENUE

It is important to note that the [definition of close contact](#) remains the same in step four. Examples of close contact include:

- Face-to-face contact under one metre for any length of time – including talking to someone or being coughed on;
- Being within one metre of each other for one minute or longer;
- being within two metres of each other for more than 15 minutes in total in one day.

This means that while it will no longer be mandated to wear masks or socially distance, businesses and facilities should think carefully about how best to avoid risk of transmission.

To assist, they may want to consider the following:

1. ARRANGEMENTS TO MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING

- If the venue is open to the public, consider how this will be managed in relation to the Club activity to maintain social distancing;
- Signage to direct the flow of people to assist social distancing;
- Ground markings to remind people of social distancing;
- Reduce congestion at entrances and exits;
- Access to and from toilet facilities;
- One-way systems in/out;
- Consider how parking arrangements will be affected.

2. FACILITIES

- Clubs should ensure that they provide accessible facilities and comply with health and safety legislation;
- In step four, the use of masks will become voluntary in all settings, with the Government advising people to use their personal judgement and to take responsibility, depending on the situation. Masks have been shown to be effective in mitigating risk and are still advocated for crowded areas or for meeting people who you do not normally meet, therefore The FA recommends that clubs consider the risks very carefully.
- Ensure access is still provided to accessible toilets, accessible parking bays and accessible access into facilities;

3. PROMOTE GOOD HYGIENE AND REGULARLY CLEAN FACILITIES

- Facilities and equipment must be kept clean – if the club has its own venue, ensure regular daily cleaning of the facilities. In particular, identify high contact touch points for which should be cleaned on multiple times across the day more regular cleaning (e.g. door handles, grab rails and vending machines). Follow the Public Health England guidance [here](#) for cleaning in non-healthcare settings and if a Covid-19 case is reported at the facility;
- Direct people to where they can wash their hands;
- Provide signage to remind people of the importance of washing their hands thoroughly;

COVID-19 SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

- Players should be informed that spitting should be avoided, as the main mode of transmission of the virus is in respiratory secretions. In addition, clubs should consider enforcing a complete ban on chewing gum, as it is either spat out or rolled into a ball and taken out and thus poses a high risk of cross contamination. Club officials may wish to put a disciplinary measure in place in relation to spitting and chewing gum;
- Encourage participants bring their own named hand sanitiser (use alcohol-based hand sanitiser);
- Provide paper towels for drying hands and sealed bins for placing paper towels and tissues in. If there is any concern that someone may have had symptoms of, or been infected with Covid-19, ensure these are double-bagged in line with Government guidance;
- If hiring a facility, ask for details on how the facilities are compliant with the Government's guidance and ensure club officials are familiar with the procedures that should be followed.



COVID-19 SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

HEALTH CHECKS, INJURIES AND ILLNESS

Please refer to medical training and check if a current Medical Emergency Action Plan (MEAP, see page 22), which you will find on TheFA.com [here](#), has been written for the event or venue. See also The FA First Aid Guidance.

If there is a first aider or other medical personnel present, they should be equipped with the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) before treating anyone to protect themselves and others should they need to compromise social distancing guidelines to provide medical assistance during training or matches. They should have updated themselves on any changes in first aid procedure that will be required as a result of the pandemic. This should be obtained from their training organisation or from Resuscitation Council guidance.

HEALTH CHECKS AND INSURANCE

Before travelling to the session

Clubs should request that each participant undertakes the following self-screen check list before travelling to a training session or other football activity. If they answer 'yes' to any one of them they should not travel to the training session and follow all applicable Government Guidance (e.g. call NHS 111). It is important to remember some people can pass on the virus before they develop symptoms, or never have symptoms despite being infectious. Despite everyone's best efforts, these cannot be screened out of training.

TABLE 1: SELF-SCREENING CHECK LIST PRIOR TO EACH TRAINING SESSION

Each participant should self-screen prior to arrival at training to ensure they do not have any of the following symptoms (confirmed by a parent for those under age 18), as these are potential indicators of Covid-19 infection.	Check negative	Check positive
A high temperature (above 37.8°C) Some clubs may include on-site temperature checking of participants as part of their SOP, this is more relevant to clubs who employ medical staff.		
A new continuous cough.		
Shortness of breath.		
A sore throat.		
Loss of or change in normal sense of taste or smell.		
Feeling generally unwell.		
Persistent tiredness		
Been in close contact with/living with a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19 in the previous two weeks.		
Finally, are you or anyone in your household/bubble self-isolating whilst waiting for a test or test results for Covid-19?		

COVID-19 SPECIFIC CONSIDERATIONS FOR A SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Arrival at the venue

Coaches at the club should check that each participant completed the self-screen check list before attending and if so, if the self-screen checks were negative for all participants. Ensuring everyone understands the importance of this simple process being completed before travelling is essential to avoid potential transmission.

If a participant says they forgot to self-check before their arrival, then the coach should ask them the health check questions before they join any group at the facility. If they answer 'yes' to one or more of the questions, participants must not take part in the activity and should be told to safely return home.

During the session

Please refer to The FA First-Aid guidance, for how to manage the situation if anyone appears to be symptomatic during the session. You can find this guidance on The FA.com [here](#).

4. INJURIES

If a player gets injured, a member of their household or support bubble, can aid them if for example they are watching from their car, but others will still need to socially distance unless a life threatening, or serious injury necessitates compromising guidelines to provide emergency care.

In all cases, NHS guidance on further management should be followed.

5. INSURANCE

Clubs must ensure the relevant insurance cover (public liability and personal accident) is in place.

Please note that even with insurance cover, clubs must still follow Government guidance at all times.

For details on the National Game Insurance Scheme cover during Covid-19 click [here](#).

Please contact your County FA if you have any insurance cover-related queries.

PLANNING TRAINING SESSIONS AND OTHER FOOTBALL ACTIVITIES

EQUIPMENT

Please refer to the 'Useful information' section below for Government guidance on cleaning in non-health care settings.

Key considerations for clubs:

- Clean equipment between uses:
 - Identify who will regularly maintain the equipment hygiene e.g. balls, cones, goalposts and bibs;
 - Thoroughly clean the equipment e.g. balls, cones, goalposts, etc.;
 - Bibs should not be used unless they can be washed between sessions.
- Limit sharing of equipment where possible:
 - Ensure equipment is handled as little as possible by as few people as possible;
 - Each participant should bring to training their own water bottles, sun cream and medication each of which should be clearly labelled with their name.
- Have strict hand hygiene:
 - If individuals are going to share equipment, including balls, always ensure the individuals' hands are thoroughly cleansed using alcohol-based hand gel, if clean running water and soap are not available, before and after use.



GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT

EVENT DETAILS	
EVENT: (e.g. Under-10s coaching sessions)	DATE:
CLUB LEAD NAME, ROLE FOR SESSION AND CONTACT NUMBER:	
SECOND ADULT NAME, ROLE FOR SESSION AND CONTACT NUMBER:	
DESIGNATED SAFEGUARDING PERSON NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS:	

CLUB POLICIES AND PROCEDURES BEING FOLLOWED	YES	NO
Safeguarding children		
Adults at risk		
Social media use		
Use of photograph and filming		
Anti-bullying		
Code of Conduct, including acceptable behaviour		
Equality, diversity and inclusion		
Managing challenging behaviour		
Other(s): e.g. parent/carers consent		

VENUE DETAILS (e.g. Club)	
VENUE NAME AND ADDRESS:	
VENUE LEAD CONTACT NAME:	
CONTACT NUMBER:	
VENUE GPS CO-ORDINATES:	
WIFI ACCESS:	

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES	
Emergency Action Plan:	YES NO
Location of nearest defibrillator:	
Name of designated runner to bring defibrillator to incident site:	
Location of any access barrier keys:	
Emergency vehicle access:	
Air ambulance landing station:	

INSURANCE COVER	YES	NO
Personal Accident and Public Liability insurance cover		

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

BELOW IS A NON-EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF ISSUES CLUBS MAY WANT TO CONSIDER WHEN PREPARING A RISK ASSESSMENT DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC:

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
EXAMPLE Informed written consent to participate.	EXAMPLE Yes, must have parent/ carer consent. Additional risks, e.g. younger age groups – understanding of social distancing is limited.	EXAMPLE Possibly, it depends on the disability or impairment. Discuss with participants to assess this.	EXAMPLE Amber	EXAMPLE Parents/carers to be advised of Covid-19 arrangements prior to consenting for their child to participate. Discuss with adult participants.	EXAMPLE Amber as not been done before. Implement in line with guidance, note impact and review.	EXAMPLE Majority of children managed social distancing, work with relevant parents to reinforce with a handful.
Parents briefed on activity and have given informed written consent to do activity 8.2 ²						
Consent to be photographed/filmed 8.2 and 8.3						
Consent for contact via social media and to have info on/be visible on social media 6.1 and 6.2						

¹ Disability is a protected characteristic, under the Equality Act, 2010. Clubs should champion inclusive football activity in line with their equality and/or inclusion policies

² These numerical references refer to downloads on the safeguarding section of TheFA.com [here](#)

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
Clear procedures for referring safeguarding concerns and managing allegations against staff 2.1 & 2.2						
Children and parents/ carers given DSO details and how to raise concerns 7.1						
EXAMPLE Staffing ratios: - Clearly defined lead and support roles.	EXAMPLE Yes – lead coach and 2nd adult. Brief both on roles and responsibilities.	EXAMPLE Yes – check individual understanding with staff and adult players.	EXAMPLE Red	EXAMPLE Follow Government Covid-19 and FA guidance. Discuss risks and how being managed.	EXAMPLE Green	EXAMPLE Review learning and share across club.
Staffing ratios: - Defined lead/support roles; - Supervision under-18 volunteers. 5.5						
Guidance re staff conduct: - Signed Code of Conduct. - Clarity re: acceptable/ unacceptable practice. 5.2 (CWO); 10.12 (Respect Codes)						

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
Risk assessments done for anyone carrying out high risk roles/tasks						
Covid-19 protocols briefings shared and practised with committee/volunteers						
Covid-19 protocols briefings done with club members						
Participants trained to do self-screen checks before travelling to session						
Coaches trained to check that self-screen checks have been done and were all negative						

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
Travel arrangements 5.4						
Drop off/pick up arrangements e.g.: • Accessible parking; • Signage; • Social distancing; • Managing parents.						
Changing/showers: • Consider Government guidance on close contact 8.4						

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
Access to toilets, e.g.: - Supervision; - Hand-washing and/or rub 'washing' facilities; - Paper towels and sealed bins or double-bagged³.						
Site boundaries, e.g.: - Public access; - Roads; - Location of facilities; - Drop-off point and access to pitches/training areas.						

³ Double bag in line with Government Guidance, if there is concern that someone may have been symptomatic or infected with Covid-19.

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
EXAMPLE Site boundaries, e.g.: - Public access; - Roads; - Location of facilities.	EXAMPLE Yes, supervision to use toilets/cross roads whilst social distancing.	EXAMPLE Unknown – review with adult players and coaches.	EXAMPLE Red	EXAMPLE Agree and communicate protocols with children & parents.	EXAMPLE Amber	EXAMPLE Review after practice and share learning.
Group size 5.5						
Participant additional needs, e.g.: • Deaf players (BSL signers); • Blind players; • Wheelchair accessibility; • Learning disability; • Autism; • ADHD; • Pan-disability; • Impairment-specific; • Interpreters where English not spoken. 7.2 and 10						

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
EXAMPLE Playing area, e.g.: - Clearly marked to support social distancing.	EXAMPLE Yes, support children to maintain social distancing.	EXAMPLE Yes, support adults to maintain social distancing.	EXAMPLE Amber	EXAMPLE Cones to de-mark zones.	EXAMPLE Green	EXAMPLE Review with players and coaches and share learning.
Playing area, e.g.: Clearly marked to support social distancing						
Players own named, e.g.: - Water bottle; - Hand gel; - Sun cream; - Medication.						
Equipment, e.g.: - Cleaning. - Limit sharing. - Hand hygiene.						
Planned activity, e.g.: - Age-appropriate; - Social distancing.						

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
EXAMPLE Relevant medical information in respect of participants.	EXAMPLE Yes, if information is unknown.	EXAMPLE Yes, if information is unknown.	EXAMPLE Red	EXAMPLE Gather info prior to activity; risk assess; agree with relevant parties who needs to know any confidential info and share accordingly.	EXAMPLE Amber	EXAMPLE Review and implement any learning.
Relevant medical information in respect of participants 8.2						
Emergency contact numbers for participants 8.2						
Self-Health check procedure (see Health checks & insurance notes)						
No spitting, e.g.: - Hygiene protocol; - Disciplinary procedures.						
No chewing gum, e.g.: - Hygiene protocol; - Club disciplinary procedures.						

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

GRASSROOTS CLUB SAFEGUARDING RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

Area of risk	Is there an additional risk to children?	Is there an additional risk to disabled ¹ or impairment-specific participants (children and adults)	Risk rating: red, amber, green (RAG)*	Solution/mitigation (Consider what if...?)	Solution/mitigation RAG rating	Review post-activity and by whom
EXAMPLE Managing injuries (see The FA's First-Aid guidance notes for returning to outdoors competitive grassroots football).	EXAMPLE Yes, member of household to manage unless life- or limb-threatening.	EXAMPLE Yes, member of household to manage unless life- or limb-threatening.	EXAMPLE Red	EXAMPLE Risk assess, discuss scenarios and protocols.	EXAMPLE Amber	EXAMPLE Review and implement any learning.
Managing injuries (see The FA's First-Aid guidance notes)						
Access to Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for First Aiders (see The FA's First-Aid guidance notes)						
Managing someone who becomes symptomatic (see The FA's First-Aid guidance notes)						
Local medical centres/first aid arrangements (See The FA's First-Aid guidance notes and the Medical Emergency Action Plan. The latter is overleaf)						
Emergency evacuation procedures						

* Risk ratings: red (serious issues and risk/interventions needed immediately); amber (some issues/being managed/needs monitoring); green (on track).

MEDICAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

THIS MEDICAL EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN IS TAKEN INTO CAREFUL CONSIDERATION

CLUB NAME:	
CLUB ADDRESS:	
POSTCODE:	

FIRST-AIDER/HELPER INFORMATION	
Name	Mobile Number

FIRST-AID EQUIPMENT AND FACILITY	
Item	Location
Defibrillator	
First-Aid kit	
Stretcher (if required and trained stretcher bearers present)	
First-Aid Room	

ACCESS ROUTES		
1. For Ambulance	2. First-Aid Room to Ambulance	3. Pitch to Ambulance

OTHER INFORMATION	
Nearest Hospital address: (with Emergency Department) Note: Include contact no.	
Directions to hospital:	
Journey Time:	
Nearest Walk in Centre (WIA) address:	

GRASSROOTS CLUB RISK ASSESSMENT (CONTINUED)

RISK ASSESSMENT COMPLETED BY:

NAME: _____
CLUB ROLE: _____
SIGNATURE: _____
DATE: / / _____

NAME: _____
CLUB ROLE: _____
SIGNATURE: _____
DATE: / / _____

CHECKED BY CLUB COMMITTEE MEMBER:

NAME: _____
CLUB ROLE: _____
SIGNATURE: _____
DATE: / / _____

END NOTE:

Clubs are advised to undertake regular risk assessments of the club's activities, ensuring that each one is named, signed and dated by those completing and approving it. Risk assessments are 'living documents' and should be updated and reviewed regularly and kept in active use to mitigate any new or changing risks. Clubs should undertake specific employee/volunteer risk assessments for anyone undertaking high-risk roles or tasks.

DISCLAIMER:

This guidance is for general information only and does not constitute legal advice, nor it is a replacement for such, nor does it replace any Government or PHE advice; nor does it provide any specific commentary or advice on health-related issues. Affected organisations should therefore ensure that they seek independent advice from medical practitioners, or healthcare providers, prior to implementing any re-opening plan, as required. Independent legal advice should be sought, as required and depending on your, or relevant circumstances.

While efforts have been taken to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of publication, the reader is reminded to check the Government website to obtain the most up-to-date information regarding social distancing and any other Government measures.



FOR ALL

The Football Association
Wembley Stadium
London HA9 0WS
T: +44 (0)800 169 1863
F: +44 (0)800 169 1864
W: TheFA.com