



COVID 19: Getting back on the pitch – Stage 1 (phase 2)

Version 6: Effective from 29th March 2021

The information below outlines the steps we are taking to keep our members and coaches safe while following the latest [Government](#) and [Sport England](#) guidance on public spaces, outdoor activity and exercise. These guidelines have been developed following the [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): grassroots sports guidance for safe provision including team sport, contact combat sport and organised sport events](#).

Outdoor team sport has been given dispensation to return but must demonstrate that it can continue to be done safely with people complying with the necessary expectations. Government has stated more strongly to all team sports' National Governing Bodies that there are significant expectations that all sports adhere to the necessary social distancing and compliance with the government advice. Failure to adhere to these could lead to the removal of the current dispensation to play if breaches are reported, something that could be a local or national decision. *[Sourced from Sport England]*

Please read the following guidelines carefully, and when you visit the pitch, co-operate with us to ensure the rules of social distancing are adhered to at all times.

General guidelines

- Please follow the Government guidelines on travel when making journeys to and from the pitch.
- Avoid congregating at the pitch entrance, pitch side or in the grass area in front of the pitch and maintain your distance at all times social distancing measure within current government guidelines.
- Only travel to the pitch if you have a confirmed session booked and arrive at the time of your booking, not before.
- Clubs/Users must maintain a list of all participants who attend sessions in case you need to do any contact tracing (perhaps consider teamo play safe app). Relying solely in the NHS app is not sufficient.
- Be ready to vacate the pitch, 5 minutes before the end of your booking to avoid bottlenecks and leave the pitch immediately via the spectator area.
- The hirer will have the responsibility for adhering to guidance both locally and nationally.
- Use of the pitch will be at your own/clubs risk.
- Please do not turn up more than 10 minutes prior to your pitch booking
- Informal sport and physical activity is not covered by any exemptions, and will have to follow the legal gathering limits for outdoors: the 'rule of six' or two households.

Spectators

- No spectators are allowed at the pitch as part of Step 1 of the Government Roadmap. The only exception is for safeguarding purposes, which should be limited to one parent or carer per child (under 18) or per disabled participant. Any parents or guardians in attendance should not mix with others from outside their household or support bubble. Where possible parents or guardians should remain in their cars.

Health, Safety and Hygiene

- Follow guidelines on hand hygiene carefully. Hand sanitising gel should be made available by clubs/users by the main gates, though we strongly encourage participants to bring their own.
- Entry to School facilities will be prohibited; there will be no toilet or changing facilities available.
- Participants should bring their own water bottle, participants will not be able to refill water bottles and the water within the school will be out of use.

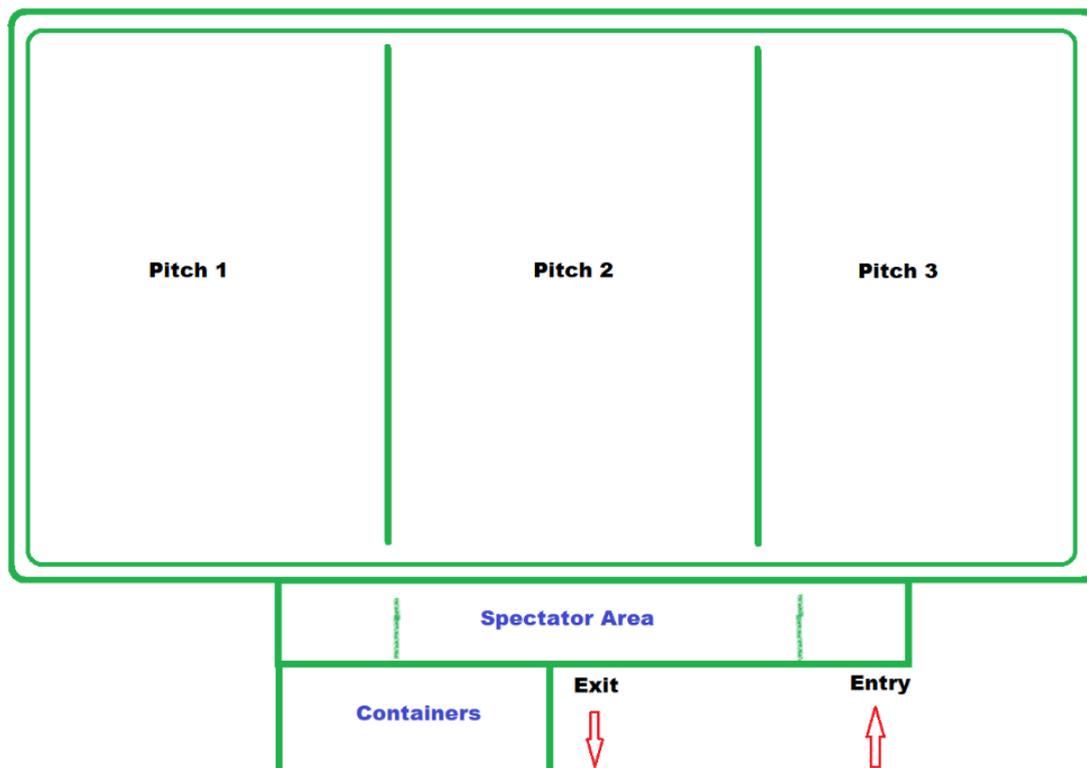
- Do not share food and drink with others, nor should it be brought onto the pitch. It must remain in the spectator area.
- Participants should not come to the pitch if they have a raised temperature, are experiencing any Covid-19 symptoms, are self-isolating or living with individuals that are self-isolating.
- If your participants exhibit any signs or symptoms in the days following your session, please ensure you inform us in case we need to do any contact tracing.

Equipment

- We recommend that you clean and wipe down your equipment including ball, sticks, shin pads in line with your risk assessment and your national governing body guidelines etc before and after play.
- If participants are playing with users outside your household; avoid picking up each other's equipment. Consider nominating 1 person to provide equipment, so that it is easier to keep track.
- Please remind participants to bring the minimum amount of equipment/kit with them and arrive ready to play.
- Any clothing or equipment left on the premises will be removed safely and put into the rubbish bins.
- If you move the goals around the pitch, please ensure you return them to the side of the pitch at the end of your session.

Entering and Exiting the pitch

- The pitch will follow a “one way” system in and out:
 - To enter the pitch, please use the old entrance gate, to the right of the main entrance gate.
 - To exit, please use the main entrance gate via the spectator area.



- At the end of your session please promptly exit the pitch into the spectator area, so that the next group can enter the pitch..
- You should not enter the pitch until the existing users have left the pitch area

During play

- If hiring 1/3rds of pitch, the pitch is divided into thirds and marked by red lines. Players should not cross into adjacent pitch they've been allocated apart from to collect balls.
- Social distancing measures within the current government guidelines should be maintained at all times between individuals of different households, when off the pitch.
- Please refrain from touching any other equipment (such as goals).
- The main gates to the pitch must remain open at all times, opened outwards. Please avoid touching gates and adjacent pitch side fences.
- Use of the dugouts is prohibited. Please do not leave your equipment on the pitch side benches
- Please be ready to vacate the pitch, 5 minutes before the end of your booking to avoid bottlenecks and leave the pitch immediately into the spectator area and exit through the main gate as signposted.

Additionally, we expect clubs/users to have undertaken a full Covid-19 risk assessment that will run in line with our policies and corresponding governing bodies (e.g. The FA, England Hockey)

If this guidance is not adhered to, you will be asked to leave the premises for the safety of others and themselves.

Kings International College pitch committee