

# COVID

## Frequently Asked Questions



Updated 12<sup>th</sup> May 2021

This guidance might be updated in due course

### **1. What is a formal organised activity for athletics and running and how do we know if we are meeting that standard?**

A formal organised activity is where athletics and running is taking place in a Covid-secure environment. The operations guidance we have produced covers the key considerations you will need to work through in order to determine if your environment can be classed as [Covid-secure](#). Individual venues may have additional considerations you need to take into account so always liaise with the venue operator / land owner if appropriate. England Athletics will not be assessing any environment to determine whether it meets the criteria for being Covid-secure other than those we use for our own events.

### **2. What is the role of the Covid co-ordinator?**

Please see the details in our operations guidance.

### **3. I have seen the term 'Covid action plan' and would like to know what format this needs to be in and what information it needs to include?**

An action plan is a document that outlines the process you are following to make your venue and activity Covid-secure and would detail information such as the owner (Covid Officer/ Coordinator), risk assessments being carried out, tracking protocol and communication plans with all members and participants. See the operations guidance for more information.

### **4. How is our insurance affected by Covid?**

Normal Club insurance remains in place if affiliated to England Athletics and if the relevant risk assessment and actions plans are put into place.

Normal Coach insurance (and leader) remains in place if the UKA Coaching license is valid and if the relevant risk assessment and actions plans are put into place.

Normal competition insurance remains in place if the event is licensed and if the relevant risk assessment and actions plans are put into place.

Intra club competition that does not require a license will be covered by club insurance if affiliated to England Athletics and if the relevant risk assessment and actions plans are put into place.

## **5. I have seen information about different group sizes and ratios. What exactly is the guidance recommending?**

For Covid-secure environments, England Athletics is not imposing a limit to the number of participants at a facility or at a club training session due to the diverse nature of training facilities, public spaces, and meeting points. Please see the operational guidance for factors to consider.

Where a venue is owned or operated by a third party there may be restrictions in place covering overall numbers on site, so you need to take these into consideration separately in addition to the official England Athletics guidance.

Our recommended coach / leader to athlete / runner ratio is 1:12 for all settings for all age groups. To be clear for coaches and leader activity, for every 12 runners or athletes in a group at any age group there needs to be at least one coach or leader in place.

## **6. Can indoor training take place for children and adults?**

Yes, indoor training can take for adults and children;

- Indoor formal organised activity: capacity stipulated by venue.
- Indoor informal activity: 6 or less.

Sports facilities should follow any relevant measures in the [sport facility guidance](#), which will be updated ahead of Step 3 and will include ventilation measures. The maximum occupancy of each indoor facility should be limited by providing a minimum of 100 sq ft per person.

## **7. Can ancillary facilities be opened?**

Yes. Sport providers and participants can use clubhouses and hospitality facilities in line with government [guidance on hospitality settings](#), and there's specific [advice for sport facility operators](#) (these government guidance pages will be updated with the Step 3 guidance ahead of Step 3). People using clubhouses and hospitality facilities must adhere to legal gathering limits and wider government guidance.

## **8. Can I travel for training and competition?**

You should minimise travel and avoid making unnecessary journeys (for example, by combining trips where possible), but you can leave your home to exercise and take part in informal and organised sport and physical activity. Always check that it's safe to travel before you set out to take part in sport or recreation.

You can travel to training and competitions by mini bus, coach or car share, however you must follow the [UK Government guidance for safer travel](#), which will be updated ahead of Step 3.

## **9. Where disabled people need support from a carer or personal assistant during activity, will this be allowed, e.g. a visually impaired person needing a guide runner?**

Yes. People who provide essential support (e.g. carers) to disabled people are exempt, and don't count towards gathering limits. Therefore, disabled participants can be supported by a carer(s)/personal assistant(s) while taking part in exercise. This can be in addition to others from your household, support bubble or one person from another household – this could be a coach.

Up to two carers for a disabled person, needing continuous care, aren't counted towards the gatherings limit on two or more people exercising outside.

## **10. If a member tests positive or shows symptoms of covid-19 what do we do?**

As part of the club Covid-19 action plan you should ensure any member or participant who has attended a session and subsequently tested positive for Covid-19 is logged with Covid Coordinator. Please see flowchart in the appendix of the Operations Guide for Club Training.

## **11. Do you need to wear a face covering inside an indoor sports facility?**

You don't need to wear a face covering while exercising. Visitors are not required to wear a face covering in sport facilities; however, they should be encouraged to wear face coverings in enclosed public areas when not engaging in sport and physical activity.

Coaches, Officials and/or volunteers are not required to wear face coverings while present in a work or volunteering capacity.

## **12. Are spectators allowed?**

Spectators will be permitted to view events on both public and private land in Step 3, but need to adhere to social distancing rules. Spectators need to adhere to social gathering limits (groups of 30 outdoors and six people/two households indoors).

Spectators are allowed indoors, but the total number of all participants, coaches, officials and spectators must be aligned with the ventilation rates permitted by the particular venue. The maximum occupancy of each indoor facility should be limited by providing a minimum of 100 sq ft per person. The [indoor sports facility guidance](#) must be followed.