

**RETURN TO PLAY:
COVID-19 2020-2021**



UPDATE: 29/10/20

1.0 BEHC'S COVID-19 OFFICER

In order to return to playing hockey, it is a requirement from England Hockey for all clubs to have a COVID-19 Officer. Our representative is Karen Stevenson and she can be contacted via e-mail karenstevenson99@hotmail.com or mobile 07903 936 384.

The COVID Officer is your first port of call if you:

- Have any issues or concerns regarding COVID-19;
- Have any symptoms; or
- Are asked to isolate or test positive







The COVID Officer's responsibility is to lead the Club's COVID-19 response around the Return to Play workstream and be the single point of contact for people (internal and external) - this includes liaising with England Hockey on COVID-19 matters. It is worth noting that the Club's COVID-19 response is not solely the COVID-19 Officer's responsibility, it is shared amongst the Committee and our members. We all have a responsibility to keep each other safe.

2.0 CURRENT ALERT LEVELS AND WHAT THEY MEAN:

Currently the Club is in Level 2 - High. We can play league hockey but we are not permitted to host teas indoors at our clubhouse. When we travel away we are not allowed to have teas in our opposition's indoor facilities.

ALERT LEVELS

AND WHAT THEY MEAN FOR HOCKEY

 ALERT LEVEL	LEVEL 1 MEDIUM	LEVEL 2 HIGH	LEVEL 3 VERY HIGH	
			CLUBS BASED IN AREA	INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS LIVING IN AREA
 ALERT LEVEL SUMMARY	NATIONAL MEASURES - RULE OF 6 APPLIES IN ALL SETTINGS	NO MIXING OF HOUSEHOLDS INDOORS RULE OF 6 APPLIES OUTDOORS	NO MIXING OF HOUSEHOLDS GUIDANCE AGAINST TRAVELLING IN AND/OR OUT OF AREA LOCAL COUNCILS HAVE POWER TO ENFORCE FURTHER RESTRICTIONS ON SPORT	
 IMPACT ON TRAVELLING FOR HOCKEY	DO NOT TRAVEL TO LEVEL 3 AREA FOLLOW GOVERNMENT SAFER TRAVEL GUIDANCE	DO NOT TRAVEL TO LEVEL 3 AREA FOLLOW GOVERNMENT SAFER TRAVEL GUIDANCE	DO NOT TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF LEVEL 3 AREA AIM TO TRAVEL WITHIN HOUSEHOLD GROUP OR SUPPORT BUBBLE	DO NOT TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF LEVEL 3 AREA - EVEN TO YOUR MEMBER CLUB* AIM TO TRAVEL WITHIN HOUSEHOLD GROUP OR SUPPORT BUBBLE
 IMPACT ON PLAYING HOCKEY	STEP 5 CAN CONTINUE	STEP 5 CAN CONTINUE	INTRA CLUB ACTIVITY OR LOCAL MATCHES VERSUS CLUBS FROM SAME LEVEL 3 AREA ONLY	CAN ATTEND CLUB ACTIVITY WITHIN THE SAME LEVEL 3 AREA ONLY
 IMPACT ON LEAGUE HOCKEY	LEAGUE MATCHES VERSUS CLUBS IN LEVEL 3 AREAS TO BE POSTPONED	LEAGUE MATCHES VERSUS CLUBS IN LEVEL 3 AREAS TO BE POSTPONED	NO LEAGUE MATCHES UNLESS AGAINST TEAMS WITHIN THE SAME LEVEL 3 AREA	NO LEAGUE MATCHES UNLESS PLAYING FOR AND AGAINST TEAMS WITHIN THE SAME LEVEL 3 AREA
 IMPACT ON SPECTATORS	SPECTATORS PERMITTED FOLLOWING THE RULE OF 6 AND SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES	SPECTATORS PERMITTED FOLLOWING THE RULE OF 6 AND SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES	SPECTATORS PERMITTED WITHIN HOUSEHOLD GROUP OR SUPPORT BUBBLE	

*IF YOU LIVE IN A LEVEL 3 AREA BUT THE CLUB YOU ARE A MEMBER OF IS BASED IN A LEVEL 1 OR 2 AREA, DO NOT TRAVEL TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITY ORGANISED BY THAT CLUB. WE ENCOURAGE CLUBS TO ACCEPT PLAYERS THAT CANNOT ACCESS THEIR USUAL CLUB ACTIVITY



PLEASE NOTE THAT GUIDANCE MAY CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE AND RESTRICTIONS MAY BE REINTRODUCED. TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH ENGLAND HOCKEY RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES VISIT WWW.ENGLANDHOCKEY.CO.UK/COVID19. TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH THE LATEST GOVERNMENT GUIDELINES VISIT WWW.GOV.UK/CORONAVIRUS

3.0 INFORMATION FOR PLAYERS, CAPTAINS AND COACHES

We all need to work together and help remind each other of what we need to do in terms of following COVID-19 match day and training guidance so we can continue playing – see section 4.0. We do not want a whole team isolating because we have not followed the basic rules. It is important that we maintain high standards.

Note: The NHS Track and Trace app works on the proximity of phones, it does NOT work on individuals themselves. When at games or training you should leave your belongings (e.g. bags) 2m apart, as well as being socially distanced yourselves, otherwise the app will believe you have been within 2m of someone else (who may then test positive) for the duration of that session. To avoid an incorrect instruction from Track and Trace to isolate, be careful where you put your phone. More importantly do not use the dugouts and follow the guidance around keeping belongings apart so when you are not playing you will be social distancing around your kit.

3.1 Players:

All players must opt in by signing a Participation Agreement. New and existing players cannot attend a session without completing the England Hockey Participation Agreement. Coaches are not able to accept individuals at a training session or match that has not completed an agreement. Agreements can be sourced from the COVID Officer or you Club Captain. **No sign – No play**

If you have any signs / symptoms of COVID-19 please do not attend a training session or a match. Inform your captain and the COVID Officer.

If you test positive for COVID-19 and are asked to fill in a field that is asking for contacts, please do not put the COVID Officer down as they will be told to isolate. The field is only for people you have been in close contact with.

3.2 Captains and Coaches:

A register must be taken at every session and match, this is done using Pitchero.

- Captains must make sure team selections are accurate by Friday 6pm. If there are changes after this, including no shows on match day, captains MUST message the COVID Officer so the registers are updated.
- Captains must ensure the match details are correct and visible on Pitchero (this includes start time and location) and that all coaches / managers / umpires are indicated by Friday 6pm.
- The Coach or delegated person must mark everyone present at a training session on the training registers on Pitchero on the day of the training. This must also include coaches.

The COVID officer collates the registers and sends them to England Hockey each week so it is vital they are up to date as above. This is not a quick process so please help by doing as requested.

If you are unsure if someone is registered please speak directly to the COVID Officer.


4.0 MATCH DAY AND TRAINING GUIDANCE

HOCKEY'S BACK!


MATCH DAY & TRAINING GUIDANCE

ON THE PITCH


FOLLOW HOCKEY'S RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES



SOCIAL DISTANCING RULES CAN ONLY BE BROKEN WHEN THE BALL IS 'IN PLAY' (MEANING YOU MUST BE 2M APART DURING WARM UPS/Cool DOWNS & BREAKS IN PLAY)




NO TEAM HUDDLES, TEAM GOAL CELEBRATIONS OR CONGREGATING IN DUGOUTS



THERE ARE NO 'HOCKEY BUBBLES' BUBBLES ARE WHERE SOCIAL DISTANCING ISN'T ABLE TO BE MAINTAINED IN PLACES SUCH AS SCHOOLS OR HOUSEHOLDS


30



TRAIN IN DISCRETE GROUPS OF UP TO 30, BUT PLAY WITH NORMAL SQUAD SIZES


OFF THE PITCH

FOLLOW GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE




IF YOU NEED TO TRAVEL TOGETHER:
- KEEP TO THE SAME SMALL GROUPS
- OPEN WINDOWS FOR VENTILATION
- WEAR A MASK


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IF SOCIALISING AFTER ACTIVITY ADHERE TO THE GOVERNMENT'S SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDANCE



ANY SPECTATORS TO REMAIN SOCIALLY DISTANCED WHILST ATTENDING TRAINING AND GAMES



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IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO UNDERSTAND & ADHERE TO THE RETURN TO PLAY GUIDANCE TO KEEP YOURSELF, TEAMMATES & OTHERS SAFE

4.1 What does the above guidance actually mean in practice?

Whilst at Training:

- Groups are not permitted to be larger than 30. Coaches will manage and implement this.
- Do not touch the balls, cones, or any equipment that is not personal to you. The coach can only do this.
- Maintain social distancing at all times when stationary and listening to instructions, and during a warm up.
- Maintain social distancing when walking to and from the pitch.
- Ensure your belongings, particularly phones, are kept 2m apart. For example if your phone is in your bag and you have the NHS Track and Trace App, it will think you have been next to another person. If that person tests positive under Track and Trace, then you may be contacted and asked to also isolate!
- Do not use the dug outs as you cannot social distance in them!
- You must not share equipment including bibs.

Match Day - Home:

- We will be introducing venue check-in QR codes at College Meadow and Avery Hill. The Club encourages everyone coming on to these sites, to sign in via the NHS Track and Trace App.
- Please arrive no more than 30 minutes prior to the start of your game to prevent you being in contact with others for longer than necessary.
- Arrive changed as there are no changing facilities only toilets.

- Only 2 people in the toilet facilities at one time. Please wait outside until there is space.
- Only access the pitch when the current team has left the pitch.
- Please exit the pitch as quickly as possible to allow the next team on.
- Ensure belongings are kept 2m apart (as above).
- Do not use dug outs.
- Captain (or designated person) must take note of the spectators present and send them to the COVID Officer after the game.
- Captain (or designated person) must ensure the spectators are socially distancing - 2m apart.
- Whilst warming up remain socially distanced.
- During teamtalks players must be 2m apart.
- Players must remain 2m apart during short corner huddles.
- Remain 2m apart during any breaks in play.
- Do not touch the match ball; some umpires will stop time whilst it is sanitised and may issue green cards if they feel time is being wasted for persistence breaks in play.
- You must not share equipment - including penalty corner face masks.
- Take hand sanitisers and use regularly.
- Avoid touching your face.

Match Day - Away:

- Captains must liaise with the opposition, obtain their COVID procedures and share them with the team.
- 2m social distancing rules still apply.
- Players (and any spectators) should take a facemask to the game as some clubs ask for these to be worn whilst walking through their facilities.
- Ensure players belongings are 2m apart.
- When traveling in cars windows should be down and facemasks worn. Try and stick to the same travel buddies where possible. Keep each other safe!

After ALL Games:

- You must not gather in more than groups of 6 outdoors and you must maintain social distancing.
- Any team photos must follow social distancing.
- Any photos placed on social media must reflect social distancing or we will be asked to remove them by England Hockey. The COVID Officer will receive correspondence from England Hockey as it's considered a breach of their guidance.

Let's Keep Playing Hockey Safely!

