

Downham Town Football Club



COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT

Downham Town Football Club,
Memorial Playing Field, Lynn Road, Downham Market, Norfolk, PE38 9QE

Introduction

As an affiliated club organising and hosting FA step 6 football activities we have a legal duty to take reasonable care to avoid acts or omissions which are a reasonably foreseeable risk.

This risk assessment has been created to identify the significant hazards and risks that could result in someone being harmed with a particular emphasis on those risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. It includes, where appropriate the identification of suitable mitigation measures that shall be followed by all associated with football activity at our club.

Given the constantly evolving nature of the public health crisis, this risk assessment will be reviewed regular and our mitigation measures updated in line with current government and FA guidance.

In this unprecedented time, we are grateful of feedback from our members, guests and all those associated with our football activities that will help us to continuously improve.

Our Approach

In creating this risk assessment, we have followed the 'Six Key Steps' published by the FA and subsequently by the Mid Norfolk Youth League. Specifically, we have:

1. Kept up to date with Government and FA guidance.
2. Contacted our insurance provider and confirm that we are covered to undertake activities in the current public health crisis.
3. Completed a thorough risk assessment as detailed in the remainder of this document and implemented a process to regularly review the content and mitigations. This assessment has been reviewed and approved by the club secretary who has signed this current version. Subsequent versions will be approved in a similar way.– see below for more details.
4. Updated Club policies where appropriate.
5. Briefed all DTFC youth staff on the content of this risk assessment including the committee, youth team coaches and managers, first aiders, welfare teams,, volunteers, officials and players. This document will be shared with visiting teams before any match..
6. Taken steps to ensure that activity will not be undertaken if the club has any concerns about the safety of club officials and/or participants.

Version Details	Date	Signed
Version 1 – initial version following FA and MNYL guidance	19 th August 2020	DTFC Club Secretary

Key Guidance Points

Below is our response to the key guidance notes outlined by Norfolk County FA:

- A maximum of 30 people are to attend any organised sporting event.
- Participants for both home and visiting teams will provide names and contact details prior to activities taking place
- Our facility is fully compliant with current government legislation and guidance. The club house will remain closed to visitors and non-club staff
- All participants are required to supply their own hand sanitiser, which is to be used, before, at half time and after the scheduled football match.
- We have appointed a designated COVID-19 club co-ordinator – [INSERT NAME]. This person will be responsible for recording contact details of all participants on their team and supply to NHS Track & Trace upon the event of an outbreak.
- Players will be informed that spitting and shouting should be avoided, as the main mode of transmission of the virus is in respiratory secretions.
- Players, coaches and officials will be advised to arrive changed and shower at home.
- Goal posts, corner flags and footballs will be wiped down before, during (half time) and after a match.
- First aiders will wear a mask and gloves where social distancing cannot be followed.
- Spectator groups will be requested to limit their size to 6 people per group and spread out around the pitch.
- Match fee payments including for officials will be cashless where possible I.e bank transfer within 48 hours of match
- Spectators to be informed prior to the match to bring loose change for refreshments to reduce the amount of money exchanged

Health Check Guidance

Participants, staff and spectators are requested to undertake a Covid-19 self-screen prior to attending any of our activities. The table below provides a checklist for doing so as a useful guide:

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) <ul style="list-style-type: none">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.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A new continuous cough.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shortness of breath.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A sore throat.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Loss of or change in normal sense of taste or smell.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeling generally unwell.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Been in close contact with/living with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 in the previous two weeks.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Detailed Risk Assessment

Area of risk	Risk rating, Red, Amber, Green (RAG)	Solution/migration	RAG rating after applying the solution	Review date/action
Cross-contamination of playing kit	Amber	The kit will be collected by the secretary and placed in a secure bag to take to the person who washes the kit, kit will be handled using gloves and mask until placed in the washing machine	Green	Ongoing- game by game.
A large number of unplanned spectators at a game	Amber	Spectators to be advised to remain in groups of six spread out around the pitch in designated area	Green	Ongoing- game by game.
Spread of the virus through playing/training equipment (balls, flags, goals etc...)	Amber	Equipment to be cleaned prior to activities and handling of equipment during activity kept to a minimum, balls to cleaned at half time during games	Green	Fortnightly
Spread of the virus through playing kit	Green	Kit is professionally cleaned after each game	Green	Close
Spread of the virus through spitting/shouting	Red	Players will be advised that spitting is prohibited. Whilst shouting cannot be controlled, goal celebrations will be limited	Amber	Ongoing- game by game.
Spread of the virus through body contact (Matchplay, shaking hands etc...)	Red	Hand shakes will be replaced with fist bumps or arm taps. Contact during match play can't realistically be stopped but players will try to avoid face to face contact.	Amber	Ongoing- game by game.
Spread of the virus through drinking bottles	Amber	All players to provide and use their own drink. Drinks to be kept in a separate area per team	Green	Ongoing- game by game
Participant travel to games	Green	Travel arrangement to limit the number of player per vehicle where possible or ensure players travel in the same group	Green	Close
Administering first aid	Amber	First aiders to wear gloves and a mask when administering close proximity aid	Green	Ongoing- game by game
Not able to respect 1m plus social distancing in changing facilities	Red	Limited numbers allowed in the changing room at any time, players to remain in the same groups, this will apply to officials as well as players	Green	Ongoing- game by game

Area of risk	Risk rating, Red, Amber, Green (RAG)	Solution/migration	RAG rating after applying the solution	Review date/action
Use of shared shower/toilet facilities		Limited number allowed in showers at any time, full cleaning process in place for post games		Close
Access to playing venue		Access is not restricted and ample parking is available to maintain social distancing		Close
Match participant displaying COVID-19 Symptoms prior to activity		Match participants will be requested to self screen prior to matches using the guidance provided. Anyone displaying symptoms shall report it and not attend		Ongoing- game by game
Match participant has sudden onset of COVID-19 symptoms during activity		Players will be asked to leave immediately and all other players and spectators informed of the situation to seek testing		Ongoing- game by game
Match participant displays COVID-19 symptoms after activity		Records of participants will be kept for each activity. All participating will be informed to seek testing		Ongoing- game by game
The need for PPE for administering First aid		First aiders to have access to appropriate PPE		Fortnightly
Goal celebrations- these should be avoided at all times.		Players to be briefed before the game to limit group goal celebrations		Ongoing- game by game
Goalkeepers should disinfect their gloves regularly		Goalkeepers to bring their own gloves and ensure they are regularly cleaned/disinfected. Coaches to check that goalkeepers have been doing so		Ongoing- game by game.
Making match fee payments.		Payments, including to match officials to be cashless where possible		Ongoing- game by game
Risk of contamination through purchase of food/drink		Tea and coffee to be served in disposable cups, dispensed wearing gloves and masks. Only prepackaged food/snacks to be sold. All goods to be sold outside where possible		Ongoing- game by game
Handling of cash for food/drink purchase		Club to investigate contactless payments. In the meantime, handling cash to be kept to a minimum by minimising change required – teams to inform spectators to bring loose change to avoid exchange of money. Those serving to wear gloves.		Ongoing- game by game

Club Details:

Club Name: Downham Town Youth Football Club

Club Home Venue (Address): Memorial Playing Field, Lynn Road, Downham Market, Norfolk PE39 9QE	COVID-19 Co-Ordinator: Name: Address: Contact telephone number: Email:	Designated Safeguarding Lead (If Applicable): Name: Address: Contact telephone number: Email:
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Emergency Procedures	
Location of nearest defibrillator:	Hillcrest Primary School, Downham Market, Norfolk, PE38 9ND
Name of the designated runner to bring defibrillator to site:	First aiders on-site
Location of any access barrier keys:	N/A
Emergency vehicle access:	Pitch accessible
Air Ambulance landing station:	Space adjacent to pitch