



Wey Valley Youth Football Club

COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Identified Risk

If coaching sessions are not delivered in line with latest COVID-19 government guidance, then participants (coaches and players) are in breach of infection control guidance leading to a risk of transmission and contraction of COVID-19.

Detailed Guidance

Consistent with Government advice published on Saturday 18th July, the following outdoor football activity is currently permitted:

- Competitive training can take place for all participants, in an outdoor setting provided this takes place in groups of no more than 30 (including coaches).
- Competitive match play is permitted, with social distancing in place before and after the session, and in any breaks in play.

Spectator groups should be limited to six people per group and spread out in line with wider Government guidance.

Sharing of equipment should be kept to a minimum and strong hand hygiene practices should be in place before and after.

Football coaches working with people with impairments must ensure they can adequately cater for any additional needs whilst still avoiding physical contact and maintaining social distancing. Individuals should follow Government guidance relevant to their own impairment or health condition.

Everyone should self-assess for Covid-19 symptoms before every training session or match. If you are symptomatic or living in a household with possible or actual Covid-19 infection you must not participate or attend. You should stay home and follow the latest Government guidance.

Anyone who becomes infected after training/matches should report this to the NHS test and trace system.

The FA state that they will continue to work closely with DCMS and Sport England in order to set out good practice guidance for those responsible for delivering different aspects of grassroots football and we will share further information as soon as possible.

In accordance with The FA recommendation for a phased return to play, Wey Valley Youth FC will sanction competitive training from Monday 27th July and matches with opposition from other clubs from Saturday 8th August.

Further guidance at The FA <http://www.thefa.com/about-football-association/covid-19>



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COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Management Plan

It should be clearly noted that no player will be expected to train if they do not feel comfortable in doing so. Their position within a team will not be under any risk if they do not choose to train during this time.

Attendance for training and matches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Coaches are required to use their own register to keep attendance records for training and matches. This is important so the club can support the NHS Test and Trace.
Before training sessions and matches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Players, parents, and coaches are asked to proactively check their health status before attending training. If any symptoms are present (e.g. a cough or high temperature) then the coach or club must be informed by phone/message. The participant must not come to the training ground and will not be allowed to train. Government self-isolation guidance must be followed. •If a participant is self-isolating or living in a household with a person with COVID-19 symptoms then they must inform the coach or club and the participant must not come to the training ground and will not be allowed to train. Government self-isolation guidance must be followed. •If a participant is living with a person who is deemed to be extremely clinically vulnerable or clinically vulnerable then they must make a personal decision whether to attend training. Participants are encouraged to discuss this with the coach or club if they wish to. •NSPCC recommended adult to child ratios are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○4-8 years - one adult to every 6 children (1:6) ○9-12 years - one adult to every 8 children (1:8) ○13-18 years - one adult to every 10 children (1:10) •During the hot weather it is recommended players wear sun protection, which should be applied themselves or by a parent before leaving home. •Invitation to training will be strictly controlled. It will not be permissible to just turn up and expect to train. Places will be limited based upon the number of coaches available and need to be booked in advance.
The training venue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Training will take place at Bordon Recreation Ground, while daylight permits, further winter training risk assessment to be covered by the facilities' own assessment. •The pavilion (including toilet facilities) will <u>NOT</u> be available (pending external risk assessment from EHDC). •The pavilion may be opened in the case of a medical emergency



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COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Arriving and leaving training sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teams will be given a 60-minute training slot.• Players and parents are asked to enter the playing field 5 mins before the start time. If you arrive before this time you are asked to wait in your car.• If a team has been training before you, they will have finished their session at least 20 minutes before your session starts, allowing them time to leave so you arrive at an empty playing field.• Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from training. The coach is not allowed to provide car-share facilities.• Hand sanitizers should be used on arrival, prior to starting the session.• Participants are asked to bring their own hand sanitizer if possible.
Training session	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Competitive training can take place for all participants, in an outdoor setting provided this takes place in groups of no more than 30 (including coaches).• The sharing of kit and equipment should be avoided, and participants should bring their own drinks or refreshments, in named containers.• When the ball goes out of play, it should not be retrieved by non-participants and should be retrieved using the feet rather than the hands where possible.• Participants must not spit and should avoid shouting or raising their voices when facing each other.• Set plays: players are encouraged to avoid unnecessarily long set-up or close marking and goal celebrations are discouraged.• Coaches are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training.• Spectator groups should be limited to six people per group and spread out in line with wider Government guidance.• Goal keepers must wear their own gloves and are responsible for ensuring these are cleaned between sessions.• Players must be reminded to keep a 2m distance during training breaks and all clothing, drinks bottles and accessories separate from anyone else.
After training	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hands should be washed at the earliest opportunity and personal equipment should be wiped down with a disinfectant.• Unless necessary, participants should take their kit home and wash it themselves, or by family members.• Everyone must continue to maintain social distancing when leaving the venue.• Everyone should leave through the entrance that they came in form, which should be the closest to their training area.• Anyone who becomes unwell after training/matches should report this to the coach/manager (who must inform the CWO). This must also be reported to the NHS test and trace system. The CWO can help with this.



Wey Valley Youth Football Club

COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Match Venues	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Home match will be Bordon Recreation Ground.● Coaches should use the WYFC WhatsApp group to inform others of friendlies so we can make sure that pitches are booked with plenty of time in between.● Where there is the potential of two games running at the same time, kick offs will be offset, and there will be gaps of 25 minutes between the end of the match and the start of the next.● Toilet facilities will not be open (pending external risk assessment from EHDC), but refreshments will be available from the serving hatch outside the pavilion once the season has started.● When travelling to an away ground for the first time since lockdown, the coach should contact the COVID- and share the opposition club and coach details.● The COVID-Coordinator will check that the opposition club has conducted a Risk Assessment and put in place a suitable COVID plan for the proposed venue.
COVID volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Each team will require a COVID volunteer, they will be required to carry our briefing to parents and players and ensure that the COVID protocols are being adhered to.● They are required to organise cleaning of equipment at the start and end of the match, including goalposts, assistant referee flags and corner flags. Coaches will be responsible for cleaning their own equipment.
Arrival at a match (home or away)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Encourage socially distant forms of transport (e.g. cycling and walking). All other forms of transport should be considered before public transport.● Government guidance should be followed at all times.● Adults and children should only travel with a member of their household or someone within their 'support bubble'. Please note that separated parents, living in different households and those in 'support bubbles' announced by Government on 10 June 2020, can also car share.● Social distancing will be in place as players arrive, coaches should plan arrival activities in advance to encourage players to warm up but maintain distance.● Coaches should set up cones for players drinking stations which are 2 metre spacing and run along the side of the pitch.● The COVID volunteer should work with parents to make sure that the equipment is cleaned.● Players, coaches, and officials should arrive changed and shower at home. Use of changing and shower facilities are not available.
COVID Volunteer briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● For home games the COVID volunteer will talk to parents and players to let them know what COVID protocols are in place for that site. This should include routes to and from facilities from the pitch, parent locations during matches, and how they should leave the venue at the end of the match.



Wey Valley Youth Football Club

COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Pitch Setup	<ul style="list-style-type: none">●Pitches should be set up in the usual manner, following The FA's guidelines of coaches and players one side of the pitch and spectators the other side. COVID-19 volunteers are asked to make sure spectators are social distancing.
Warm up and briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">●Warm ups can and should be considered part of the contact training session, however, activities where lots of players are close together should be avoided (rondos etc). Consider SSG's as an alternative.●Briefing should be carried out at the players' drinking stations; you may need to adjust this to be more hemispherical but maintain 2m distance.●Players should use hand sanitiser at this point before the match.●There can be no group huddles whilst COVID threat is ongoing.●There are no handshake or elbow taps at the start of the match.
During Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none">●Ball handling should be kept to a minimum with most contact via a boot and the ball disinfected in breaks of play.●Youth football coaches are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training.●Goal celebrations should be avoided.
Post-match	<ul style="list-style-type: none">●Please ensure all equipment is cleaned with disinfectant wipes before putting away. COVID-19 volunteers are required to assist the coach in cleaning goals and corner flags, Coaches are required to clean all their equipment including balls, etc.
First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">●Should any player require first aid this will be attended by the parent. The coach will signal to the parent to enter the pitch after the referee has stopped the game. The coach will be present at a safe distance to offer advice on any first aid treatment required.●All managers must have an up to date FA first aid qualification.●All managers must bring a first aid kit to sessions, and the kit must include masks and gloves. These must be worn should an incident occur that the parent is unable to deal with themselves.●First Aid guidance for returning to outdoor competitive grassroots football can be downloaded here from Hampshire FA website.
If a team member develops symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">●If a participant develops coronavirus symptoms and they have been training then they must contact 111 to arrange for a test to be undertaken and contact the manager of the team, who in turn must notify the CWO.●Training for that team (or smaller group if contact has been minimal with the other groups) will not take place until 14 days have passed since the contact or the test is negative.
Equipment and kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">●Equipment should not be shared, and goalkeepers should ensure they disinfect their gloves regularly in breaks in training or matches and thoroughly afterwards. Where possible, coaches should only handle equipment in training.●Soiled clothing should be kept with the player, cleaned, and returned. This includes shirts and bibs.