



Wey Valley Football Club

COVID-19 Risk Assessment (Issued Aug 2020, Updated Dec 2020 & Mar 2021)

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 2020 and updated in March 2021, 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.
- Spectators at Open Age football matches are not permitted.
- ~~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 FC will sanction competitive training from (~~Monday 27th July 2020~~) Monday 29th March 2021 and matches with opposition from other clubs from (~~Saturday 8th August 2020~~) Saturday 3rd April 2021.
- If any Wey Valley FC team is considering an invitation to play a match against another club side at any location other than at Mill Chase Recreation Ground or Oakmoor School, they must first consult with the Wey Valley FC COVID-19 Officer.

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

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.
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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 a risk assessment carried out by Whitehill Town Council &/or EHDC.• The pavilion may be opened in the case of a medical emergency



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Arriving and leaving training sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Teams will be given a 60 to 90 minute training slot.• Players are asked to enter the playing field 5 mins before the start time. If you arrive before this time you MUST maintain social distancing from others present.• If anyone has been training before you, they should 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.• Any spectators accompanying players must stay socially distanced at all times.• 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, ideally 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 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 sanitiser/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 from, which should be the closest to their training area.• Anyone who becomes unwell after training/matches with COVID-19 type symptoms should report this IMMEDIATELY to the club's COVID-19 Officer who will ensure that the player/participant concerned reports this to the NHS test and trace on 119.



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Match Venues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This risk assessment applies to Wey Valley FC home matches at Mill Chase Recreation Ground. • Club Managers will liaise with each other to ensure that pitches are booked with plenty of time in between games. • 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 may not be open (pending external/internal risk assessment Whitehill Town Council &/or EHDC) • When travelling to an away ground for the first time since lockdown, the manager will make contact with the opposition's COVID-19 Officer and share the relevant risk assessments • The COVID-19 Officer will check that the opposition club has a relevant Risk Assessment(s) for the proposed venue.
COVID-19 Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each team will require a COVID-19 Officer and if required will brief players and spectators regarding the current COVID-19 protocols and ensure they are being adhered to • They will organise cleansing and sanitising of equipment at the start and end of the match, including goalposts and corner flags
Arrival at a match (home or away)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caution should be exercised in car sharing and if asked to do so by the driver, passengers should wear face masks • Adults and children should only travel with a member of their household or someone within their 'support bubble'. People living in different households and those in 'support bubbles' as announced by Government on 10 June 2020, can also car share • Social distancing will be in force when the players arrive at the ground and should continue, where possible, until the match starts • Coaches may choose to set up cones for player drinking stations which are 2 metre spacing and run along the side of the pitch • Use of changing & shower facilities at the ground are currently unavailable
COVID-19 Officer briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The home team COVID-19 Officer will be available for players and spectators to talk to concerning any/all COVID-19 protocols for the site
Pitch Setup	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pitches should be set up in the usual manner, following The FA's Respect guidelines of coaches and ideally players & coaching staff will be on one side of the pitch and all spectators on the other side. The respective COVID-19 Officers are asked to remind spectators to socially distance
Warm up and briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm ups should be considered part of the contact training session and activities where players are close together should be avoided • A briefing may be carried out at the players' drinking stations or otherwise when they are socially distanced • Players should use their own hand sanitiser just before kick-off at half time and after the match • Huddles, handshakes or elbow taps are not permitted at any time



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During Play	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ball handling should be kept to a minimum with most contact via a boot and where possible the ball sanitised in breaks of play• Persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training is to be avoided if at all possible• Goal celebrations should avoid player to player contact
Post-match	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please ensure all equipment is cleaned with sanitiser/disinfectant wipes before putting away. COVID-19 Officers will oversee coaches and nominated players cleaning goals and corner flags
First Aid	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Should any player require first aid during the match they will be attended to by the team's Qualified First Aider (QFA) who may choose to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) if they wish and /or requested by the injured player• QFAs must have an in date FA first aid qualification• All teams must bring a first aid kit to training sessions and matches and that kit must, for the purposes of COVID-19, include face masks, gloves and yellow/orange disposal bags for any clinical waste• First Aid guidance for returning to outdoor competitive grassroots football can be found on Hampshire FA website
If a team member develops symptoms	<p>IMPORTANT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. If a participant or spectator develops COVID-19 like symptoms within 7 days of having been present at a training session or match they must contact 119 to arrange for a COVID-19 test to be undertaken. They will very likely be asked for details of who they attended the event with and in response details of the club's COVID-19 Officer should be given2. Further training or matches for the team (or teams if symptoms arose followed a match) should be suspended for 14 days until the outcome of the COVID-19 test mentioned in (1) above is known
Equipment and kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Equipment should not be shared and goalkeepers should ensure they bring and disinfect their own gloves in breaks in training or match play and thoroughly afterwards• Handling of equipment (by anyone) at matches or training sessions should be kept to a minimum by a minimum number of people• Kit and training wear should either be kept by the player or returned to a single kit bag (bin liner) for post session/match cleaning and sanitising by the team's kit person bibs