

COVID-19 RISK ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK FOR RUGBY CLUBS



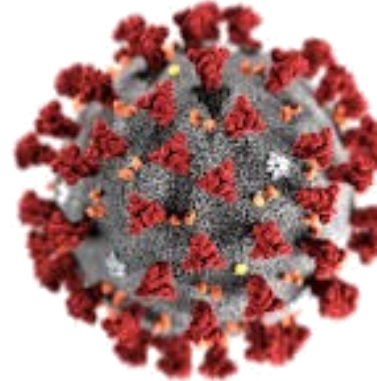
This document is not a risk assessment, this document is information and guidance to support rugby clubs during the completion of their Covid-19 risk assessment.

RISK: Spread of Covid-19	WHO CAN BE AFFECTED: ANYONE can be infected including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees, visitors, members, coaches, teachers, instructors• Vulnerable groups including elderly, pregnant workers, those with existing underlying health conditions
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Managing, preventing and controlling risk

The HSE requires businesses, including sports clubs and venues, to identify management responsibilities with regard to managing risks and to put contingency plans in place.

If the club has direct employees then someone competent should be appointed to help meet health and safety duties and take responsibility for controlling any identified risks. This person could be inside or outside of the club or venue. For all clubs, we recommend that someone takes responsibility for coordinating the management of risk and keeps records of the steps taken to mitigate these (businesses with five or more employees are required to keep records of any significant risk and this is good practice for all businesses).



Re-opening sports and leisure venues which have remained closed during the Covid-19 lockdown will be cause for celebration when it is safe to do so, but clubs and businesses also need to be aware of potential risks and challenges. These range from the heightened threat of legionella in buildings that have been shut for a long period, to the challenge of adapting to new social distancing rules as the lockdown is eased.

Risk assessments should already be a tool your club uses on an ongoing basis and the RFU have a number of resources to help. Visit our Insurance Centre <http://englandrugbyinsurance.co.uk/risk-assessment-tool> to find out more.

Covid-19 has clearly added another element of risk and the first step in making your workplace 'Covid-19 secure' is to complete a risk assessment and review existing policies, such as your infection control policy (if you have one).

Covid-19 is a biological hazard, and like any workplace hazard, appropriate control measures will need to be put in place to reduce the risk of someone being infected. Normally, the goal is to eliminate hazards where possible; however, unlike a faulty piece of equipment, the virus cannot simply be removed. Instead, the aim is to introduce suitable and sufficient control measures to reduce the risk of contracting the virus to as low a level as is 'reasonably practicable'. In other words, precautions should be implemented, but the time, cost and effort involved in implementing a control measure should be reasonable, when compared to risk posed by what you are controlling.

The government's new safe working [guidance](#) outlines, by sector, what controls are appropriate and how to implement them. Based on these guidelines, your Covid-19 risk assessment should consider the following actions and you should record what you are doing, specific to your premises, to manage the risk. Remember to keep up to date with guidance from government, as this will continue to evolve.

If you have any queries visit the RFU Insurance Centre www.englandrugbyinsurance.co.uk. RFU HELPLINE: 0121 698 8001.

The table below identifies some example actions that the club might take to manage the risk of the virus spreading. Not all will be applicable to your particular club or venue and there will be risks specific to your own premises that also need to be considered.

Action to be considered	Action taken (will be specific to each club or venue)
Is an appropriate gap maintained between employees, coaches, members, players and any other persons that may be visiting the facility?	
Are screens needed at customer-facing areas?	
Can seating areas be reorganised to ensure social distancing can be maintained?	
Are appropriate provisions in place to ensure social distancing can be maintained in clubhouse, office, delivery and eating/bar areas?	
Are appropriate handwashing facilities in place, including hot and cold running water, soap and disposable hand towels? Alternatively (or additionally) is sufficient hand sanitiser available at appropriate locations?	
Are disposable tissues available to reduce the threat of transmission?	
Is there an effective action plan in place to deal with someone with suspected symptoms, should it be necessary?	
How can you ensure appropriate areas such as hand-contact points are disinfected to prevent spread (consider what to do and how often)?	
Are you able to display education pieces, such as a symptoms chart and handwashing guidance, throughout the workplace to raise awareness and promote safe practices?	
How can you plan to monitor employees' health and wellbeing?	
How can ensure you remain up to date with the latest guidance from government, public health and the RFU?	
Consider employees use of face coverings. Employees should be allowed to wear face coverings, along as it does not affect other PPE use and therefore put them at increased risk.	
Is kit and equipment cleaned and disinfected before and after use?	
Is kit and equipment stored securely?	
What measures are you putting in place to minimise the sharing of kit/equipment?	
How are you ensuring water bottles are not shared?	