

Bexhill United FC Return to Games Risk Assessment



Prepared by Martin Johnson- Vice Chairman Update 2nd December 2020

****Following the end of the second lockdown and Sussex being put into Tier 2 we have now closed the Clubhouse as per Government and FA Rules. The sections marked ** will only apply, if and when Sussex returns to Tier 1 and we are permitted to use the clubhouse again.**

The Club have received the latest guidance from The FA and will ensure all staff and managers are updated with the information below.

Statement from The FA 1st December 2020

We have today issued updated guidance for ‘non-elite’ football in England following confirmation from the UK Government that organised sports can return from Wednesday 2 December.

The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport [DCMS] has this evening [issued updated guidelines on the return to recreational team sport](#) which permits the return of ‘non-elite’ football in England from Wednesday 2 December, and includes all fixtures and training for:-

- Steps 3-6 of the National League System [NLS];
- Tiers 3-6 of the Women’s Football Pyramid [WFP];
- Regional NLS Feeder Leagues;
- Barclays FA WSL Academy League;
- FA Girls Regional Talent Clubs;
- Outdoor youth and adult grassroots football.

Organised outdoor football activity is permitted at these levels across all three tiers from Wednesday 2 December but it is extremely important that clubs, players, coaches, match officials, league officials, volunteers, parents, carers, and facility providers continue to strictly follow both the [UK Government's latest guidance](#) on COVID-19 and respective bespoke guidance documents from The FA.

Organised indoor football and Futsal is permitted in Tier 1 areas if the rule of six is followed and in Tier 2 areas if the rule of six is followed and it is possible for people to avoid mixing with others that they do not live or share a support bubble with. Indoor football is not permitted in Tier 3 areas.

In all three tiers there are exceptions for indoor disability football, sport for educational purposes and supervised sport and physical activity for U18s, which can take place with larger groups mixing.

Training for teams in Tier 3 must have minimal contact.

Travel

Adults can travel to play grassroots football in between Tier 1 and Tier 2. However, adults cannot travel in and out of Tier 3 to play grassroots football. There are exemptions for travel in and out of Tier 3 for U18s, disability teams, volunteers, elite players and for those travelling for work. Players and essential club staff at steps 3-6 of the NLS, tiers 3-6 of the Women's Football Pyramid, the Barclays FA WSL Academy and Regional Talent Clubs can travel into and out of tier 3 areas.

Spectators

Clubs at Steps 3-6 of the NLS and Tiers 3-6 of the WFP remain permitted to accommodate a phased and limited return of spectators in Tier 1 and 2 areas if they follow the UK Governments' latest guidance on COVID-19 and The FA's guidelines for the NLS or WFP. There are no spectators permitted in Tier 3, [as set out in Government guidance](#).

Regional NLS Feeder Leagues, Tier 7 of the WFP and outdoor grassroots football also remain permitted to accommodate socially-distanced spectators but must follow the rule of six and [Government guidance on restrictions in certain tiers](#).

Hospitality

Clubhouses can operate in Tier 1 but must do so by table service (ordered and consumed at the table) only and observing the rule of six. In Tier 2, Clubhouses must close unless they operate as if they were a restaurant. This means serving substantial meals, like a main lunchtime or evening meal. They may only serve alcohol as part of such a meal and all food and drink to be ordered and consumed at the table. Tables can only be same household and takeaway must be eaten or drunk off the club premises. Under UK Government guidelines, bars, pubs, cafes and restaurants in Tier 3 areas must be closed except to sell by takeaway or click-and-collect.

All clubs are required to have a designated COVID-19 officer; complete and publish bespoke risk assessments and action plans; and continue to support [Test and Trace efforts](#).

The 2020-21 FA Youth Cup will continue to be played under the relevant 'elite' club protocol and [the Buildbase FA Trophy and Buildbase FA Vase are set to resume in December](#), along with the Vitality Women's FA Cup.

We implore everyone to strictly follow the UK Government's national COVID-19 restrictions. Any incidents of non-compliance will be reported to the local County Football Association.

We would like to thank the football community once again for its hard work, resilience and understanding during such an incredibly challenging period for both the game and wider society.

Training Sessions, Competitive Matches and use of facilities at The Polegrove Sports Ground.

In all cases the NHS Test and Trace QR code is available to use alongside manual logging for those without a smart phone.

1-3	LOW RISK	4-6	MEDIUM RISK	7-9	HIGH RISK
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HAZARD	WHO'S AFFECTED	RISK	CONTROL MEASURE	RESPONSIBLE	RESIDUE RISK
TRAVELLING TO GROUND	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	Players are to travel to the ground individually where possible avoiding public transport. Where this is not possible players are to travel in predetermined travel bubbles which will be the same each week capped at 4 persons maximum. Players are encouraged to wear face coverings if travelling in groups.	MANAGERS AND COACHES	2
ARRIVING AT GROUND	PLAYERS, COACHES, OFFICIALS & SPECTATORS	4	Players to arrive at the ground no earlier than 1 hour and 15 minutes before the game. Players arriving early will not be let in until the specified time. All players will be subject to a temperature check before being allowed to enter the ground, anyone with a temperature exceeding 37.8°c to be refused entry and advised to isolate immediately. Players will be advised which changing area they are using and if they are in split changing groups (i.e.) maximum groups of 8. If there are split changing groups, they will be advised of the protocols	MANAGERS, COACHES, COMMITTEE	2
ENTERING GROUND	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	Players will only be allowed to enter the ground from the turnstile gate. Once inside the ground they will follow the advised route to the changing room.	MANAGER, COACHES	2
Entering/exiting changing room prewarm up	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	For games with spectators. Both teams will be allowed to change in groups with a maximum size of 6 players and 1 coach/physio at a time. Those who are waiting to get	MANAGER, COACHES, OFFICIALS	2

			<p>changed will wait in the clubhouse/outside. Once changed the players will exit the changing rooms via the tunnel and will go to either the pitch or back into the clubhouse via the one way system. (The gates at either end of the grandstand will be open to allow home and away teams to enter and exit separate from each other) In both scenarios the kit will be laid out with players name above/on their respective kit. It is noted that the sharing of team sheets is to be avoided where possible. We would propose that team sheets are typed in advance of the game and emailed prior to the game to the opposition and the match referee. Any amendment can be verbally communicated to the referee and the opposition in the usual fashion. In addition for track and trace purposes the completed team track and trace for should be handed in at the clubhouse by the Lead Contact.</p>		
WARM UP	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	<p>Each team will warm up in separate halves of the pitch and will practice social distancing for as many of the warmup activities as possible. Coaches are encouraged to do as much of their team talk outside as possible. At the conclusion of the warmup in closed doors games all players will return to the changing rooms in the same manner as they entered them. For games with spectators the starting 11 and maximum 2 members of each coaching team will be allowed to enter the respective changing rooms, again entering in the same manner as before. Once teams enter the pitch the substitutes may enter the changing rooms to collect spare shirts.</p>	MANAGER, COACHES	2
Arrival onto the pitch	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	<p>For closed door games the teams will be entering the pitch from different directions at a time agreed with the match referee. For games played in front of spectators, the away team will exit the changing rooms 5 minutes before the scheduled kick off time with the home team following 1 minute later. The match referee will have the responsibility for calling players onto the pitch in this scenario. Players are encouraged to socially distance with no respect</p>	MANAGER, COACHES, OFFICIALS	2

			handshakes, huddles etc. permitted		
During the Game	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	5	Staff & Substitutes are encouraged to socially distance on the side of the pitch and additional chairs will be provided for both dugouts. The home and away teams' substitutes will warm up at separate ends of the pitch, warming up along the goal line at their respective ends. Players, Staff & Substitutes are encouraged to avoid unnecessary touching, shouting, spitting etc where practically possible. At the start of the game only 3 balls (all sanitized) will be live at any one time. One on the centre circle & 1 on a cone either side of the halfway line. Where a ball leaves the pitch and cannot be returned immediately, a sanitized ball will enter the pitch from either the dugout or the cricket pitch side. The ball that has been replaced will be returned to either the dugout of the cricket pitch side where it will be sanitized before being put back into position. Sanitization equipment will be located on both sides of the ground and there will be a designated person on each side responsible for sanitizing the ball. Once a player has been substituted and is not re-entering the game, he is encouraged to return to the changing room and get changed before joining the rest of the team in the dugout. All players organise their own water bottles. Sharing of bottles is not permitted	MANAGER, COACHES	2
Stoppages in play	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	During stoppages of play players are to group with the management team for water, instructions etc. During these stoppages players and coaches must maintain social distancing rules.	MANAGER, COACHES	2
Half time	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	The starting 11 and maximum 2 members of each coaching team will be allowed to enter the respective changing rooms, again entering in the same manner as before i.e. in through either end of the grandstand entrances. Substitutes are encouraged to stay on the pitch during half time	MANAGER, COACHES	2
Full Time	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	At the end of the game it is encouraged that the debrief takes place on the pitch before the teams enter the changing rooms. Teams will be allowed to enter the	MANAGER, COACHES	2

			changing rooms in the same manner as described above for before the game. Where players are to enter in small groups, they are encouraged to change quickly to allow their team members to change.		
Changing/showering	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	All players must place their own used kit in the kit bag and not leave it on the floor. Players are encouraged to shower at home, RDC have advised that the showers are not to be used this year. Players are also encouraged to place all rubbish, used tape etc into the bin provided. When leaving the changing rooms, players will follow the one-way system and exit as describe above	MANAGER, COACHES	2
Use of clubhouse postmatch **	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	Where the clubhouse is available for use after the game, players will be able to use the facilities in line with the clubhouse RA. All bags will be stored at the entrance of the clubhouse and not on the floor or anywhere else. The changing areas will be sanitized at the conclusion of games in line with the clubhouse RA	MANAGER, COACHES, COMMITTEE	2
Leaving the ground	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	Players will exit the ground via the main gate. Players are encouraged to exit in a timely fashion and not on mass	MANAGER, COACHES, COMMITTEE	2
Travelling home	PLAYERS, COACHES & OFFICIALS	4	Players are to travel from the ground individually where possible or in predetermined travel bubbles which will be the same each week capped at 4 persons maximum.	MANAGER, COACHES	2
Spectator movement and positioning within ground	ALL	5	Covered Seating - 2 out of every 3 Seats to be taped up out of use. Seats in use not to be directly behind or in front of one that is in use. Spectators must not swap seats. Stand to be sanitised before and after matches Maximum of 6 people to a group. Standing spectators encouraged to us all space available including behind the goal to assist social distancing.	ALL	2
Refreshment Facilities	ALL	7	Serving area, one customer at a time with socially distance	ALL	3

			<p>queue gap Polystyrene cups only to be used Tea hut staff member to put milk in drinks on request rather than allowing spectators to make their own, sachet sugar and stirrers will be available Only one member staff in tea hut No access to other volunteers to tea hut during match.</p>		
Entry Into Club**	All	5	<p>Follow entry into clubhouse as indicated by the “Entry, Exit” signs Whenever practicable possible clubhouse doors to wedged open to prevent contact. Door handle to be sanitised periodically. Door signage to indicate entry and no exit. Hand sanitiser to be available upon entry.</p>	BAR MANAGER AND STAFF	2
Pedestrian Movement within Clubhouse**	ALL	4	<p>From clubhouse door entry a one way system is in operation via the bar area to the seating and subsequent flows to the exit door and toilets Direction arrows and social distancing markers.</p>	ALL	2
Bar Operation & Service**	BAR MANAGER AND STAFF	6	<p>Bar and Bar area will be free of all unrequired equipment.</p> <p>A maximum of two bar staff will be on duty in bar area.</p> <p>Bar hatch to be down at all times.. One way system in place - orders to be placed at one end of bar and collected from the other. No teas or coffees served at bar. Card Payments are the preferred method of payment. All drinks will be provided in disposable cups or plastic glasses.</p>	BAR MANAGER	2

			<p>No bottles or cans are to be served over the bar Bar staff to wear PPE optional mask and gloves, in all cases good hand hygiene is imperative. Bar and bar area to be sanitised periodically during use</p>		
Use of Toilets**	ALL	6	<p>All toilets to be used on a one in one out basis Only one cubicle to be available in each toilet Signage to indicate usage and operation A waiting area to be marked for each toilet and indicated Hand sanitiser to be available for customer use Toilets to be sanitised on a regular basis</p>	BAR MANAGER AND STAFF	2
Seating Arrangements**	ALL USERS	6	<p>Tables to be arranged at 2M apart and marked accordingly Each table will be allocated with up to a maximum of 6 chairs. Tables or chairs cannot be moved from their allocated position and customers are not allowed to move from table to table. Upon a table becoming available it must be sanitised and cleaned prior to use by a new group of occupants Used cups will be collected by bar or support staff in PPE and disposed of.</p>	BAR MANAGER AND STAFF	2
Capacity Control and Management**	ALL USERS	7	<p>Upon service at the bar all customers must be seated. No standing in the function room is allowed When all seating is accommodated additional customers must stand outside</p>	BAR MANAGER AND COMMITTEE	2

			of clubhouse. Regular checks undertaken outside of premises to ensure customers are socially distancing in groups of no more than six and total capacity not exceeding 30 Pool table to remain covered and not in use Dart board to remain out of use.		
PPE Equipment & cleaning regime**	ALL	7	Hand sanitiser to be accessible and available throughout clubhouse Following areas to be periodically sanitised throughout use. Bar and Bar Area, Tables and Chairs, Toilets, All door handles Following areas to be fully cleaned as required. Full PPE provided for staff, including masks, gloves.	BAR MANAGER AND COMMITTEE	2
			TRAINING		
Travelling to & Arriving at Training	PLAYERS AND COACHES	5	Persons to travel to training in line with government instructions. 1. If travelling on public transport wear a facemask. 2. Arrive at the designated time, not hanging around in groups outside the ground, especially on the footpath. 3. Sanitize hands upon arrival using the sanitizer provided 4. See your individual coach for a temperature check before beginning training 5. Only players invited to train for the session to attend	MANAGER AND COACHES	2
Setting up Training Equipment	MANAGER AND COACHES	4	All sessions to be planned so the coaches only use minimalistic equipment. No equipment is to be shared between groups. 1. Coaches will wear protective gloves while setting up the training equipment and throughout the session. Gloves to be thrown away at the end of the session.	MANAGER AND COACHES	2
Equipment Use During Session	PLAYERS AND COACHES	5	Coaches must wear gloves unless they are actively taking part in the session. (if a coach is taking an active part in the session, one of the other coaches will clear away the session	MANAGER AND COACHES	2

			at its conclusion). 2. Players cannot touch any equipment with their hands unless wearing gloves. (goalkeeper gloves are acceptable for keepers) 3. If bibs are used, they are to be washed at the conclusion of every training session.		
Equipment at End of Session	MANAGER AND COACHES	5	Coaches must wear gloves unless they are actively taking part in the session. (if a coach is taking an active part in the session, one of the other coaches will clear away the session at its conclusion). 2. Players cannot touch any equipment with their hands unless wearing gloves. (goalkeeper gloves are acceptable for keepers) 3. If bibs are used, they are to be washed at the conclusion of every training session.	MANAGER AND COACHES	2
Players	PLAYERS AND COACHES	6	1. Hygiene breaks built into sessions 2.Players are to bring their own water bottle to every training session. Sharing of bottles is not allowed. 3.Players are not allowed to make physical contact with each other unless essential for the training activity. 4. No spitting 5. Appropriate training wear should always be worn 6.Players are not to touch equipment unless they are wearing gloves 7. Designated storage area for players shoes, drinks etc to be set up. Players can enter this area in their groups only	MANAGER AND COACHES	3