

**COVID-19 Risk Assessment for Restarting Competitive Youth Football**

This risk assessment is in-line with Hampshire FA’s guidance published 18th July 2020 “Covid-19 Guidance on re-starting outdoor competitive grassroots football”.

Last updated: July 2020:

**Prevention**

Everyone (participants, managers, coaches and spectators) should self-assess for Covid-19 symptoms before every training session or match.  Anyone who is symptomatic or living in a household with possible or actual Covid-19 infection MUST NOT participate or attend training sessions or matches.

Covid-19 symptoms:

* A high temperature (above 37.8 degrees Celsius)
* A new, continuous cough
* A loss of, or change to, their sense of smell and taste
* Parents MUST inform Downton Football Club (see below) if anyone in their household has been symptomatic or has had a positive Covid-19 test in the last 14 days. Once 14 days have lapsed, participants and spectators may return to training and/or matches. In addition, any participants who have been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace because they are a contact of a known Covid-19 case, must not exercise outside their home or garden or with others.

**Participant Requires First Aid or Displays Covid-19 Symptoms**

If participant/s discloses feeling unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, parents to be contacted immediately to collect their child/children.  Child/children to be isolated away from other participants until they are collected.

In the unlikely event emergency first aid needs to be administered, the first aider must wear PPE equipment to include face covering and disposable gloves.  All managers have been issues with these items.

Hand sanitizer MUST be used immediately after any contact with a participant who requires first aid.

Should there be a confirmed Covid-19 case training will cease for 14 days for the whole team.

**Travel to Training and Matches**

All participants and other attendees should follow best practice for travel:

* Walk or cycle, where possible
* Household or support bubbles can travel together in a vehicle.

**Pick Up and Drop Off Arrangements**

All training sessions have a 10/15 minute gap between sessions, parents are therefore required to leave the venue as swiftly as possible to limit contact with others.

**Hygiene Practice**

Sites have been provided with their own hand sanitizer and are required to inform the Welfare Officers when they need further sanitizer.

Players, managers and coaches MUST sanitize their hands before, during (break in play) and after the training session and match.

Sharing of equipment must be avoided where possible. Children, where possible, should not handle equipment.  Bibs should only be used once, and not transferred across players, and washed immediately after use.

Equipment is to be regularly wiped down with the appropriate cleaning equipment after every session.

Footballs should be disinfected as often as possible when the ball has been handled.

Goalkeepers should ensure they disinfect their gloves before and after training and matches.

All participants MUST refrain from spitting.

Water bottles should be named and not shared with anyone else, under any circumstance.  Coughing and sneezing should be into the elbow and not into hands.  Any child/children intentionally coughing on another participant, or threatening, to will be removed from the training session immediately and their parent informed.

Players should try and ensure they do not touch their face.

**Track and Trace**

Downton Football Club support the Track and Trace efforts and will enforce the following:

* Managers MUST collect the names of all players attending each training session (dated) and match. Managers must record and retain their list until told otherwise.
* Failure to do so may result in future training or matches being cancelled.

Participant’s information will be held for a minimum of 21 days in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and in line with GDPR principles.

**Review Process**

Spot checks will be regularly carried out by Downton Football Club Covid-19 Officers to ensure that all managers and coaches are adhering to the guidance.  If a manager or coach is not adhering to the guidelines, the training session will be stopped immediately.

Parents have been informed of the guidance and procedures in place. Consent gained by parents reading the letter and allowing their child/children to attend training sessions and matches.

These guidelines will be constantly reviewed, any changes will be communicated to all managers, coaches and participants parents as well as Downton Football Club committee members.

Should managers or coaches have any questions, these should be raised with the Chairman, Vice Chairman, Head of Youth and/or Child Welfare Officers.

**Safeguarding**

All Downton Football Club managers and coaches hold a valid and current CRC (Criminal Record Check), and have undertaken the necessary safeguarding training. There will be at least one First Aider at every training session.  Parent helpers or other volunteers are not permitted to assist until they have undergone the necessary CRC check and safeguarding training.

Parents will be aware that the period of isolation may have resulted in their child/children becoming anxious or unsure as to whether to resume football. Parents should only support their child/children’s return to football when they feel confident to do so. If parents have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Child Welfare Officer or Head of Youth on the following numbers or email address:

Rebecca Crowley, CWO, rebecca.crowley@manorfields.wilts.sch.uk 07590 766641

Dan Newman, Chairman, dan.airwaves@hotmail.co.uk 07900 370600

Rae Hughes, Vice Chairman, raehughes21@sky.com 07717 857860

Fran Mathers, Head of Youth Fpmathers@aol.com 07795 280776

**Outcome of the Risk Assessment**

Downton Football Club has assessed the risks and put measures in place in order to reduce the risk of Covid-19 so far as is reasonably practical.