



## Covid-19 Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Q - Can clubs open toilet facilities to members?

A – Yes, clubs can allow restricted access to toilet facilities subject to a risk assessment and strict cleaning protocols. The Health and Safety Authority (HSA) have published a useful cleaning guidance document which can be accessed through the link below:

[https://www.hsa.ie/eng/topics/covid-19/return\\_to\\_work\\_safely\\_templates\\_checklists\\_and\\_posters/employers\\_checklist\\_no5\\_cleaning-and-disinfection1.pdf](https://www.hsa.ie/eng/topics/covid-19/return_to_work_safely_templates_checklists_and_posters/employers_checklist_no5_cleaning-and-disinfection1.pdf)

SportNI have also published a useful guide for reopening of facilities:

<http://www.sportni.net/return-to-sport/re-opening-sports-facilities-2/re-opening-considerations/>

### 2. Q - Are all ages allowed to train at the Club?

A - Yes, all ages can return to train. It is advised that members under the age of 18 train in groups with those in the same age category (***\*please note this does not refer to coaches / support staff who are facilitating the training session***) and members over the age of 18 (Senior) should train with those in the same age category.

### 3. Q – Can members 70 year of age and older return to the club?

A - Members 70 years of age or over are strongly advised not to attend club activities as they are classed as being in a very high-risk group. For clarity, this decision is a matter for the individual to decide.

### 4. Q – What happens if I, or members of my club have travelled outside of Ireland?

A - Anyone who has travelled outside of the Irish republic or Northern Ireland over the past 14 days has a legal obligation to stay home and self-quarantine. The exceptions are the countries on the travel green list, which will be updated here:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/8868e-view-the-covid-19-travel-advice-list/>

<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-countries-and-territories-exemptions>

### 5. Q - Do we have to complete the members health questionnaire each time we attend the club?

A - Yes, the members health questionnaire is a declaration of how you feel just before you use the club facilities. It is essential that no one is showing symptoms of Covid-19 on the day of training, hence the need to complete the form prior to attending each training session.

### 6. Q - Can I attend training if I feel well but have been sent for a COVID-19 test?

A - No, not until your test results are known. If your result is negative for COVID-19 then you can resume club activities if you feel well enough to do so.



**7. Q - Who is responsible for reporting suspected or known cases of COVID-19 to the HSE/NHS?**

**A** - Notification should be made by a general practitioner (GP) as soon as they become aware or suspect that a person on whom they are in professional attendance with, is suffering from or is the carrier of an infectious disease.

**If you suspect you have COVID-19 DO NOT GO TO THE SURGERY, PHARMACY OR HOSPITAL – unless you have severe breathing problems.**

In ROI contact your GP or follow instructions here

<https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/testing/how-to-get-tested.html>

In NI follow instructions here <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-testing-and-contact-tracing> to see if you need to be tested.

**8. Q - Do we need to continue sanitising our hands pre and post training, observing correct etiquette re coughing, and cleaning all equipment after use?**

**A** - Yes, the established protocols regarding sanitary behaviour will remain in place until government guidelines are relaxed.

**9. Q- What qualification does a Club Covid-19 Officer have?**

**A** - The appointed Club Covid-19 Officer does not need any formal qualification please see link to a detailed description of the role below:

<file:///C:/Users/david/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/IE/NPAKQ3R3/Club-Covid-19-Officer-converted-1.pdf>.

All appointed Covid-19 Officers **MUST** complete an online Sport Ireland Covid-19 Officer course please see link below:

<https://www.sportireland.ie/covid19/course>

**10. Q - Can the Club Covid-19 Officer role be shared?**

**A** - Yes, it can be shared between several people provided they are working together and have clear communication on what and who is responsible for different areas.

**11. Q - Can an existing club officer take on the Club Covid-19 Officer role?**

**A** - Yes, provided that the person appointed has the time to carry out the role effectively.

Please see link to role description below:

<file:///C:/Users/david/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/IE/NPAKQ3R3/Club-Covid-19-Officer-converted-1.pdf>

**\* We encourage all of our members to download and use the COVID-19 Tracker apps released by governments and found through accessing the links below:**



ROI - <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/da832-download-the-covid-tracker-app/>

NI - <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-stopcovid-ni-proximity-app>

## 12. Q - Can changing rooms and showers be used?

A - Changing rooms and showers are not to be used during this time. Where hand washing facilities are contained within changing facilities then access to this area will only be to use the sinks for that purpose.

## 13. Q - How many participants can we have indoors to train at any one time?

A - This number will be based on the **inside capacity of your club** and should be decided by your club when conducting the Covid-19 club risk assessment. Please note clubs **MUST** take into consideration safe social distancing protocols.

In ROI up to 30 can train indoors if the capacity and social distancing protocols can be maintained.

## 14. Q - When can we start doing pad work and sparring?

A – During this phase clubs can only operate non-contact training without the use of additional equipment. This is to enable social distancing during training sessions. The IABA are in the process of drafting protocols for clubs to move to the next phase of allowing the use of pads, punch bags and sparring sessions. At this time the IABA are aiming to reintroduce these activities in **September**, however any reintroduction of such activities **MUST** adhere to guidelines from both governments (ROI & NI) and any new protocols will be required to be signed off by both governments before the next phase can start.

Note that punch bags can be used where strict social distancing and cleaning can be maintained and is included within your risk assessment.

## 15. Q - When are we likely to return to competition?

A - At this time the IABA are aiming to reintroduce National Competition in **October**, however any reintroduction of such activities **MUST** adhere to guidelines from both governments (ROI & NI) and any new protocols will be required to be signed off by both governments before they can be implemented. The IABA are in the process of drafting protocols which will have to take into consideration all current government guidelines for proximity and number of participants, coaches, officials, spectators and PPE.

## 16. Q – Can club members participate in drills involving the use of punch bags?

A - If a club can ensure that strict protocols which adhere to Social Distancing restrictions and the appropriate cleaning of equipment can be implemented in relation to punch bag drills then they can partake in these activities.



**17. Q: Can a club allow new members to join during the period while Covid-19 restrictions are in place?**

**A:** Any club wishing to allow new members to join during this period, will firstly need to risk assess the matter before making any decision on accepting new members (does the club have adequate space/capacity to facilitate new members with social distancing restrictions in place, how will the club educate new members re: IABA Covid-19 protocols, etc). Following this risk assessment, clubs who are in a position to facilitate new members can do so, provided that all relevant IABA documentation has been completed and that IABA protocols and official government guidelines are strictly followed by the club and the new member/s.

**\*Note these FAQs will be updated as queries are sent and addressed as well as when directives come out from Department for Transport, Tourism and Sport / Sport Ireland / HSE.ie and NI Executive / Sport NI / PHA announce easing of restrictions.**