



Horsham Sparrows FC

Covid Risk Assessment – Important information for managers

This document gives details of how we should safely proceed as a club now that friendly games are permitted and the leagues have confirmed the start dates for the coming season. The FA has published a very comprehensive risk assessment template which you should familiarise yourself with and the following important information which has been taken from it should be digested and acted upon.

Parental consent

It is important that every parent understands the implications and risks of their child participating in matches and that therefore, we require their consent before an activity is undertaken. An email such as this should be sent and the replies collated and recorded:

*Horsham Sparrows FC requires parental consent before your child takes part in any football activities. By replying to this e-mail and stating "I consent for my child to take part", you are confirming that you have read and understood the activities being offered to your child and agree with the measures the club has put in place to manage any risks, including its Covid-19 measures in line with current Government guidance. A copy of the club's risk assessment/management documentation (can be found here/is attached to this email) If your child has any specific medical conditions, please ensure that you discuss these with the club welfare officer and or coach and agree the best way to support your child's needs e.g. you staying to watch nearby and taking responsibility to administer the medication. For your information the club may use a form such as the one in **FA safeguarding Guidance Notes 8.2** to gather any relevant information from you. If your child has had Covid-19, or symptoms for more than seven days, you must seek medical approval from your family doctor before they can restart any football activity.*

If you wish to withdraw consent to your child participating in any or all activities, please notify in me in advance, or as soon as possible.

A copy of the risk assessment template should be attached to the email.

For Adult teams, the text should be adapted to reflect the player gives consent.

Self assessment for Covid symptoms prior to attendance

It is important that you remind your players/parents that anyone shows symptoms of Covid-19 or has been in contact with someone displaying symptoms within the last two weeks, then they should stay at home until an NHS practitioner advises them that they no longer need to remain in isolation.

Health Checks

Managers should ask that each participant self screen prior to attending any football activity. Refer to the table on page 8 of risk assessment template for a concise list of questions to ask.

Using the Risk assessment template

The PDF is editable and although much of the information has been added there are areas for you to add your own information. This should accompany any correspondence with parents and opposition teams and it should also be used as a source of reference.

Important: It should also be used in conjunction with any local risk assessments (such as those issued by third party venues, schools etc) where further restrictions may be imposed. Versions for all training venues will be available in due course

Contact details

You and the visiting team should ensure they have the contact details of everyone in attendance. This is to be in accordance with the current government track and trace policies in place.

Travelling to and from the venue

Encourage socially-distant forms of transport (e.g. cycling and walking). All other forms of transport should be considered before public transport. Adults and children should only travel with a member of their household or someone within their 'support bubble'.

Guidance for parents

Spectators will be asked to maintain social distancing and avoid standing in close proximity to others outside of their 'bubble'. They should also...

- Remain in any designated areas (such as behind the respect barrier)
- Avoid touching any equipment
- Refrain from returning the ball to play.
- Arrive at and leave the venue promptly
- Avoid all other areas of the venue not designated for football
- Contact their club if they or any member of their household show any symptoms of Covid during or within 14 days of attendance

Guidance for players

Players (or parents of players under 16) should ensure the following points are observed.

- Each player should have personal hand sanitiser.
- Handshaking should be avoided
- All personal clothing and equipment should be labelled and not shared.
- Players should maintain social distancing when off the field of play
- Touching equipment should be avoided

Injuries policy

If a player gets injured, a member of their household or support bubble, can aid them if for example they are watching from their car, but others will still need to socially distance unless a life threatening, or serious injury necessitates compromising guidelines to provide emergency care.

Summary

- Be mindful that parents may have concerns about their child returning to group activities.
- Always promote self assessment amongst your squad and their parents
- Use due diligence and ask for self checks before each session commences
- Sent the risk assessment to opposition teams
- Double check any local restrictions/risk assessments
- Keep attendance records