



COVID-19 Risk Assessment

Identified Risk

Coaching sessions need to be delivered in line with latest COVID-19 government guidelines. If they are not delivered such then participants (coaches and players) are in breach of infection control guidance leading to a risk of transmission and contraction of COVID-19.

Detailed Guidance

Consistent with Government advice, the following outdoor football activity is currently permitted:

- Competitive training can take place for all participants, in an outdoor setting.
- Competitive match play is permitted, with social distancing in place before and after the session, and in any breaks in play.

Additional guidelines and considerations include:

- No spectators are allowed at grassroots football as part of step one of the Government's roadmap. One parent or guardian per child is permitted, where clubs and facilities can safely accommodate this and following all appropriate guidance.
- Sharing of equipment should be kept to a minimum and strong hand hygiene practices should be in place before and after.
- Football coaches working with people with impairments must ensure they can adequately cater for any additional needs whilst still avoiding physical contact and maintaining social distancing.
- Individuals should follow Government guidance relevant to their own impairment or health condition.
- Everyone should self-assess for Covid-19 symptoms before every training session or match. If you are symptomatic or living in a household with possible or actual Covid-19 infection you must not participate or attend. You should stay home and follow the latest Government guidance.
- Anyone who becomes infected after training/matches should report this to the NHS track and trace system.

The FA state that they will continue to work closely with DCMS and Sport England in order to set out good practice guidance for those responsible for delivering different aspects of grassroots football and we will share further information as soon as possible.

In accordance with The FA recommendation for a phased return to play, Farnham United FC will sanction competitive training from Monday 29th March and matches with opposition from other clubs from Saturday 3rd April 2021.

If any team is considering an invitation to play a match against another club side, they must confirm evidence of a completed risk assessment for the proposed venue.

Further guidance at The FA [An Update on the Return of Outdoor Grassroots Football - Surrey FA](#)

Risk Matrix

Risk Factors	Likelihood		Severity/Impact		
	Rare	1	Negligible/Trivial		1
	Unlikely	2	Minor/No Injury		2
	Possible	3	Moderate/First Aid		3
	Likely	4	Severe/Medical Assistance		4
	Almost Certain	5	Extreme/Fatal		5
	Severity				
Likelihood	1	2	3	4	5
1	1	2	3	4	5
2	2	4	6	8	10
3	3	6	9	12	15
4	4	8	12	16	20
5	5	10	15	20	25

Risk Action Level

Level	Action
1-4 NEGLIGIBLE RISK	No further action required, but ensures controls are maintained and monitored.
5-8 LOW RISK	Develop management plan, monitor and review plan quarterly.
8-12 MEDIUM RISK	Develop management plan, monitor and review plan monthly to consider further mitigations.
15-20 HIGH RISK	Develop management plan, monitor and review plan weekly to consider further mitigations.

25	EXTREME RISK	Develop management plan and prior to commencement consider if it is essential for the activity to occur and all mitigations that can be put in place. Monitor and review at each activity.
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Risk Score

Risk Score BEFORE management plan and mitigations in place	4x4	16	HIGH RISK
Risk Score AFTER management plan and mitigations in place	3x4	12	MEDIUM RISK

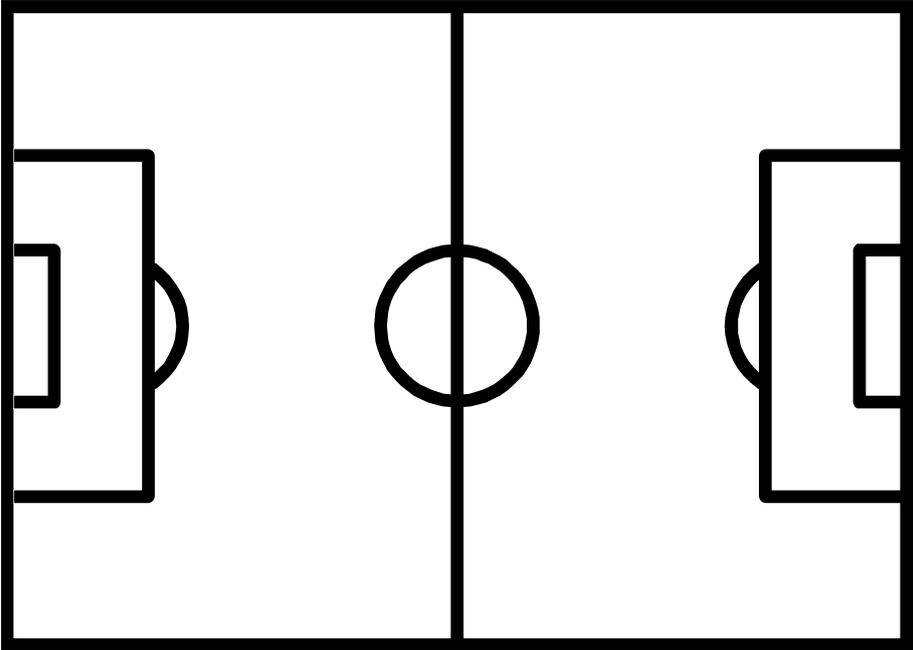
Management Plan

It should be clearly noted that no player will be expected to train if they do not feel comfortable in doing so. Their position within a team will not be under any risk if they do not choose to train during this time.

Attendance for training and matches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone who attends must use the NHS Test and Trace system.
Before training sessions and matches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Players, parents and coaches are asked to proactively check their health status before attending training. If any symptoms are present (e.g. a cough or high temperature) then the coach or club must be informed by phone/message. The participant must not come to the training ground and will not be allowed to train. Government self-isolation guidance should be followed. If a participant is self-isolating or living in a household with a person with COVID-19 symptoms they must inform the coach or club and the participant must not come to the training ground and will not be allowed to train. Government self-isolation guidance should be followed. If a participant is living with a person who is deemed to be clinically vulnerable they must make a personal decision whether or not to attend training. Participants are encouraged to discuss this with the coach or club if they wish to. Whatever the age of the children and type of activity, a minimum of two FA-DBS checked coaches/adults must always be present. This ensures at least basic cover in the event of an incident. During the hot weather it is recommended players wear sun protection, which should be applied themselves or by a parent before leaving home. Invitation to training will be strictly controlled. It will not be permissible to just turn up and expect to train.
The training venue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training will take place at Monkton Lane or another approved venue. Where two different age groups or a large single age group are training, Monkton Lane should be split into pre-identified zones. Players and Coaches should not congregate in or around the car park. Before any contact training takes place, the entrance gate should be opened before training sessions and closed after the final session. This is to allow access for emergency vehicles.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The clubhouse will be opened for emergency use only. Players are advised to use the toilet before leaving home. • Should you need to use the toilets in the clubhouse, anti-bacterial wipes are available in the toilets for users to clean surfaces before use. • Keys will be in a key safe for gate and emergency access.
Arriving and leaving training sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams will typically be given a 60-minute training slot. • Players and parents are asked to enter the playing field five mins before the start time. • If a team has been training before you, please allow them to leave before entering the training field. • Parents are responsible for transporting their children to and from training. The coach is not allowed to provide car-share facilities. • Hand sanitizers should be used on arrival and prior to starting the session. • Participants are asked to bring their own hand sanitizer when possible for use before, during and after sessions. • The club has provided coaches with hand sanitizer which can be used in cases where participants have not brought their own.
Training session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competitive training can take place for all participants, in an outdoor setting. • The sharing of kit and equipment should be avoided; and participants should bring their own drinks or refreshments, in named containers where possible. • When the ball goes out of play, it should not be retrieved by non-participants and should be retrieved using the feet rather than the hands where possible. • Participants must not spit and should avoid shouting or raising their voices when facing each other. • Set plays: players are encouraged to avoid unnecessarily long set-up or close marking and goal celebrations are discouraged. • Coaches are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training. • Spectator groups should be limited to six people per group and spread out in line with wider Government guidance. • Goal keepers must wear their own gloves and are responsible for ensuring these are cleaned between sessions. • Players must be reminded to keep a 2m distance during training breaks and all clothing, drinks bottles and accessories separate from anyone else.
After training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands should be washed at the earliest opportunity and personal equipment should be wiped down with a disinfectant. • Unless absolutely necessary, participants should take their kit home and wash it themselves, or by family members. • Everyone must continue to maintain social distancing when leaving the venue. • Anyone who becomes unwell after training/matches should report this to the coach/manager (who must inform the CWO). This must also be reported to the NHS test and trace system.
Match Venues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home matches will be played at Monkton Lane. • Coaches should book pitches in advance via fixture secretary, Mark Young, so that we can ensure that pitches are booked with plenty of time in between. • Where there are two games running at the same time, particular attention must be paid to arrival and exit instructions.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubhouse facilities will be open at Monkton Lane in phase 2. • When travelling to an away ground for the first time, the coach should make contact with the opposition and ensure that they have conducted a Risk Assessment and put in place a suitable COVID plan for the proposed venue.
COVID volunteer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each team will require a COVID volunteer, who will be required to carry our briefing to parents and players and ensure that the COVID protocols are being adhered to. • The volunteer will encourage supporters and coaching teams to maintain social distancing during play, if required. • They will also be required to organise cleaning of equipment at the start and end of the match, including goalposts, assistant referee flags and corner flags. Coaches will be responsible for cleaning their own equipment.
Arrival at a match (home or away)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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'. Please note that separated parents, living in different households and those in 'support bubbles' can share transport. • Social distancing will be in place as players arrive and coaches should plan arrival activities in advance to encourage players to warm up but maintain distance. • Coaches should set up cones for players drinking stations which are 2 metre spacing and run along the side of the pitch. • Players, coaches and officials should arrive changed and shower at home. Use of changing and shower facilities must follow government advice on the use of indoor facilities – see here for government guidelines.
COVID Volunteer briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For home games the COVID volunteer should talk to parents and players to let them know what COVID protocols are in place for that site. This should include routes to and from facilities from the pitch, parent locations during matches, and how they should leave the venue at the end of the match.

<p>Pitch setup</p>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>SUPPORTERS SUPPORTERS</p> <hr/>  <p>COACHES COACHES</p> <p>SUBSTITUTES SUBSTITUTES</p> </div>
<p>Warm up and briefing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm-ups can and should be considered part of the contact training session, however activities where lots of players are close together should be avoided. • Briefings should be carried out at the players' drinking stations, whilst maintaining 2m distancing. • Players should use hand sanitiser before the match. • There can be no group huddles whilst COVID threat is ongoing. • There are no handshake or elbow taps at the start of the match.
<p>During Play</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ball handling should be kept to a minimum with most contact via a boot and the ball disinfected in breaks of play. • Hands and balls should be disinfected where possible in breaks of play, during quarter and half-time breaks for example. • Coaches are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play and training.
<p>Post-match</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please ensure all equipment is cleaned with disinfectant wipes or spray before putting away. Parents are required to clean goals and corner flags, Coaches are required to clean all their equipment including balls, etc. • If bibs were used, these should be taken home and washed.
<p>First Aid</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All managers must have an up to date FA first aid qualification. • Should any player require first aid this will be attended by the parent, unless the injury is serious and requires specific medical attention.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All managers must bring a first aid kit to sessions, and the kit must include masks and gloves. These must be worn should an incident occur that the parent is unable to deal with themselves. First Aid guidance for returning to outdoor competitive grassroots football can be downloaded here from Surrey FA website.
If a team member develops symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a participant develops coronavirus symptoms and they have been training then they must contact 111 to arrange for a test to be undertaken and contact the manager of the team, who in turn must notify the CWO. Training for that team (or smaller group if contact has been minimal with the other groups) will not take place until 14 days have passed since the contact or the test is negative.
Equipment and kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing of equipment is discouraged and goalkeepers should ensure that they disinfect their gloves in breaks where possible. Where possible, only coaches should handle equipment in training. Soiled clothing should be kept with the player, cleaned and returned. This includes shirts and bibs.

Actions for Committee

Actions to complete as an Exec Team	Target Date	Status
Undertake test sessions to run through process	18th July 2020	Actioned
Provide information for coaches and managers	18th July 2020	Actioned
Provide information for players and parents for circulation.	18th July 2020	Actioned
Ensure equipment provided by the club – hand sanitizer, gloves and face masks are available at all training sessions.	Review weekly (check stock)	Ongoing
Undertake monitoring of sessions using monitoring form.	Review weekly	Ongoing
Track and record any players developing symptoms that attend training.	Review weekly	Ongoing
Committee meeting to discuss if any further mitigation needs to be undertaken. And share learnings for other managers.	21 st August 2020	
Committee meeting to finalise guidance for friendlies.	21 st August 2020	
Managers meeting to discuss and review guidelines for both training and matches.	21 st August 2020	