

ENGLAND TOUCH

**RETURN TO PLAY
ACTION PLAN**

**VERSION 4
12TH AUGUST 2020**

1. INTRODUCTION

This document sets out the action plan for the England Touch Association to oversee the safe return to play of Touch for our members in England. It covers all aspects of membership, from the social, informal level of the game; to the more structured, formal leagues and events; and finally, the playing and training environments more associated with elite performance.

This action plan is aligned to the ***Return to Recreational Team Sport Framework*** which was submitted to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) for approval on 30th June 2020 and the ***Return to Play*** submissions by the Rugby Football League (RFL) and Rugby Football Union (RFU) to the DCMS which were approved on Friday 7th August 2020.

England Touch would like to thank those at the RFL, RFU, DCMS, Sport England and anyone else that has helped ensure the return to play of Touch in England. We would also like to thank our #OneEnglandTouch workforce, as well as all our members who have continued to support the organisation and sport of Touch during these difficult and uncertain times.

The purpose of this action plan is to provide the necessary mitigations to enable the safe return of Touch activity in all environments. This action plan is designed to minimise the COVID-19 transmission risk whilst taking part in Touch activity and enable participants to make an informed decision about their own risk.

These mitigations allow for maximum groups of participants as set out in relevant government guidance (currently 30) to gather on the playing/training area and for social distancing to be breached in the narrow circumstances required by Touch activity.

Based on the Team Sport Risk Exposure Framework, we have provided an assessment of the transmission risk that a return to playing Touch presents. This assessment is based on the droplet transmission, fomite transmission and population transmission.

The action plan and risk mitigation proposals recognise that these plans may need to be adapted, restricted, or stopped completely subject to the overall threat or local community prevalence of COVID-19.

If you have any questions relating to this or any other briefing document, or around the general implementation of our COVID-19 Return to Play plans, please get in contact with your England Touch COVID-19 contact.

England Touch COVID-19 contacts

- General COVID-19 email – returntoplay@englandtouch.org.uk
 - Lead contact for clubs and leagues – CEO, ***Chris Simon***
 - Lead contact for performance, England and regions – HP Director, ***Ben Powell***
 - Medical Lead for advice – Head of Medical and Sports Science, ***Cari Thorpe***
 - Membership Enquiries – Membership Officer, ***Rich King***
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2. PHASED RETURN TO PLAY OF TOUCH

We are pleased to be able to confirm that following submissions to DCMS by the RFL and RFU that Touch has been approved by government to be able to return in England from **Monday 10th August 2020**.

Our Return to Play roadmap features a six-stage process as shown below:



We are delighted to inform you that we can now move to the next Stage, **STAGE 3: PLAY** which equates to the RFU stage C and the RFL stage 3 of their respective roadmaps.

Subject to all participants ensuring strict adherence to all requirements prior to, during and post activity, we are now permitted to do the following:

- Return to full rules of play for Touch
- Return to full club training
- Removal of the restriction on groups of six, but maintaining numbers below 30 on any one Touch field
- Return of local competitive leagues (in so much as each league is treated as a single venue)

Please note that only **intra-club** activity will be permitted at this stage and no **inter-club** matches, or competitions between clubs should be arranged. ETA affiliated leagues are permitted subject to being based at a single venue. Any activity must also adhere to any local lockdown restrictions put in place, as well as any changes in UK government guidance and in line with current COVID-19 Alert Level.

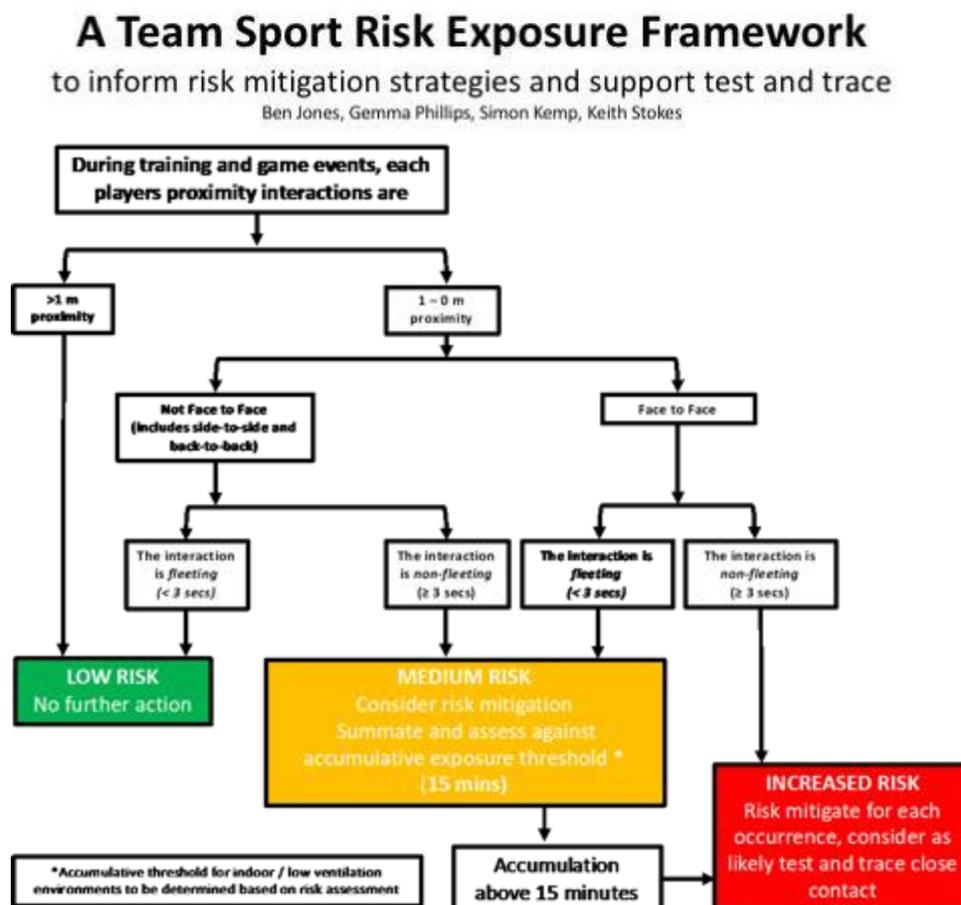
Subject to a satisfactory review of **Stage 3** we hope to be able to move to **Stage 4** and beyond in the Autumn. At each stage of the process a review of the previous stage will be completed and documented, with any issues recorded and escalated to key stakeholders as necessary.

The following protocols remain in place for **ALL** stages of Return to Play and this will continue to be the case until we advise otherwise.

- Personal hand sanitisation immediately prior to, during and immediately post each session (or game). Participants should bring their own sanitiser (min. 60% alcohol) to all Touch activity.
- Maintenance of robust records for track and trace. This must be done at all levels of participation and in all playing environments.
- Regular self-assessment of any COVID-19 symptoms and the reporting to relevant bodies and authorities of any positive symptoms for track and tracing purposes.
- Minimising the use of public transport and car-sharing.
- Minimising the dwell time prior to and post activity and ensuring participants come 'ready to play' wherever possible.
- Ensure social distancing measures of 2m are adhered to at all times, except during permitted training activity and matches. Details of social distancing measures for England can be found [here](#).
- Minimising the use of any public facilities whilst training, e.g.: toilets and changing rooms, and where it's necessary, ensure venue operators have robust COVID-19 hygiene plans in place.
- Minimum equipment sharing and where necessary, ensuring strict hygiene protocols using sanitiser with minimum 60% alcohol content
- Ensuring ALL activity is risk assessed by the member club, league or other entity, and that suitable operational plans are in place for all involved.
- Ensure any individual with underlying health conditions or those at high risk are aware of the risks of participating and encourage players to disclose underlying conditions to organisers.
- Ensuring adherence to our strict [safeguarding and welfare policies](#), especially for U18s.
- Prior to the re-start of any activity all clubs, leagues, events and other groups must appoint one (or more) person(s) to take on the role of COVID-19 Officer. This person will be the main point of contact for England Touch to communicate with until further notice. This will primarily be done through a COVID-19 WhatsApp Group and email.
- Prior to the re-start of activity and also prior to progressing to the next stage of Return to Play, each club, league, or other entity must complete a [self-declaration form](#) confirming that they have implemented all measures requested in the Return to Play action plan and confirming who their COVID-19 Officer is.

3. REDUCING THE RISK OF TRANSMISSION IN TOUCH

In partnership with Sport England a number of team sports devised a '*Return to Recreational Team Sport*' Framework that is predicated on the below 'Exposure Framework'.



3.1 ASSESSMENT OF RISK IN TOUCH

Based upon the above interaction model and analysis of the sport, the assessment of risk in Touch has been classified as low, or medium in nature. There are have been no high-risk factors identified. There are limited face-to-face incidents in Touch, but they are fleeting in nature. There are a few occasions where interaction gets close to being longer than three seconds, but these do not create a face-to-face situation.

Training should be restricted to **low risk** as far as possible, i.e.: >1m proximity, or if 1m or less, then any face-to-face contact must be for < 3seconds. For activity that is low risk training periods should be restricted to a limit of 75 minutes during **STAGE 3: PLAY**.

Where training is **medium risk**, i.e.: < or 1m proximity, but not face-to-face for three seconds or more; or face-to-face, but fleeting in contact (<3 seconds), this activity should be restricted to a limit of 20 minutes in any one session during **STAGE 3: PLAY**.

Based on an analysis of games, the average time spent in instances of medium risk activity during a standard 40minute game of touch is lower than 20 minutes. As such, it has not been necessary to make any rule amends to the game format or length of matches.

3.2 COVID-19 SYMPTOM CHECKS

Prior to attending any matches or training activity, all participants (including spectators) must undergo a self-assessment for any COVID-19 symptoms. No one should leave home if they have a temperature (above 37.8 °C), a new continuous cough, a loss of, or change to, their sense, smell or taste. This check should take place prior to any Touch related activity and confirmed when registering their attendance. The latest advice on symptoms can be found [here](#).

3.3 TEST AND TRACE

England Touch will be insisting that all clubs, league operators and tournament organisers support the NHS Test and Trace efforts by collecting the appropriate contact information. England Touch will be advising that all contact information is stored for a minimum of 21 Days in line with the Government Guidance. In line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and in line with the GDPR principles, the information will only be used only for the purpose of NHS Test and Trace. Up to date government guidance will be circulated via this [link](#).



Before every training session, or match, all clubs, league operators and other organisers should have a process in place to confirm and record that participants and parents have undertaken a self-assessment. Ideally this should be completed prior to arrival at any venue. This can either be paper based, via an on-line form, such as google, or via an app. Clubs, league operators and other organisers must ensure necessary precautions are taken to store data securely and in line with data protection policies.

If an individual shows any symptoms, they should not participate and follow [NHS and PHE guidance on self-isolation](#) with immediate effect. They should also notify the relevant Club

COVID-19 Officer as soon as possible and ensure they have a test within 48 hours of symptoms showing.

If the symptoms were present within 48 hours of attending a club/league session, then the COVID-19 Officer should contact all individuals that attended the relevant training session/match to advise other participants within the group that was attended.

All participants should be made aware of the when to self-isolate and what action to take [here](#).

In the instance of a confirmed positive case then the Club COVID-19 Officer should report it to England Touch using the COVID-19 incident report form [here](#).

3.4 EQUIPMENT USE

- Equipment sharing should be minimised with only essential equipment shared at appropriate stages of return to play.
- Where possible use existing lines or temporary line marking to mark out pitches to avoid unnecessary use of cones. Cones should be put out and collected by the same person on each pitch, preferably by the coach or official.
- Where possible players should arrive in washed kit ready to train, or play. If possible, players should change kit before travelling home and kit should be taken with them and washed following activity. If bibs/vests are needed, they should be allocated to a player at the start of the activity and for the duration of the session and must not be shared in any instance. The person collecting the bibs/vests must wash/sanitise their hands after doing so. All bibs/vests must be cleaned after each use.
- All participants are advised to bring their own water bottles, towels and sanitiser. The sharing of water bottles, towels, clothing or other items should always be avoided.
- Any other equipment used should be cleaned after each individual use.
- For training, balls should be kept with a group/field and cleaned and sanitised before, during and after each activity. They should not be shared between groups and cleaned/sanitised at least every 15 minutes.
- For matches, a minimum of two balls should be available per field. The ball should be replaced for a clean one at every opportunity, at least following the scoring of a try and when it leaves the field of play. The previous ball should be sanitised ready for use. If there is a no natural stoppage after a maximum period of 15 minutes, the coach or official should temporarily call time off whilst the ball is cleaned or changed for another.
- Either a bucket with clean water and soap, or equivalent sanitiser or cleaning equipment, should be available for each group or field. Towels to dry the balls and hand sanitiser for the person washing the balls should also be available.

4. ENGLAND TOUCH: COVID-19 CODE OF CONDUCT

This document applies to **ALL** Touch participants and includes, but is not exhaustive to the following: players, coaches, referees, match officials, support staff, league organisers, club volunteers, other England Touch volunteers and spectators. If you have any questions, or are unsure of anything, please get in touch with your England Touch COVID-19 Officer.

We are all very excited at the prospect of resuming training, friendly fixtures, leagues and tournament Touch. However, it is vital that all participants realise that without careful adherence to our Return to Play plans and government guidance on social distancing, continuation of Touch activity and matches may not be possible. As such, it is extremely important that all participants in Touch adhere to this Code of Conduct.

It is important to remember that the risk associated with returning to sport cannot be completely averted, but with adhering to return to play guidance, risk assessments and government guidance, these risks can be minimised. It is also very pertinent that all participants understand that they should make their own decision about when they feel comfortable to return to play, based on when they feel comfortable. This is particularly important for those high at risk, or those who have been shielding in recent months.

ALL participants should ensure that they adhere to any government advice issued, as well as England Touch's standard [Code of Conduct](#). In addition, ALL participants, should also adhere to the following England Touch COVID-19 specific Code of Conduct:

- **Be Self-Aware:** Ensure that you self-assess for COVID-19 symptoms each time you attend any Touch related activity.
- **Be Responsible:** If you display symptoms, stay at home. Ensure you are fully aware of all England Touch Return to Play guidance and government guidance.
- **Be Vigilant:** Ensure that you maintain social distancing wherever possible. This is particularly important when not playing or training. Ensure you do not shout, spit, shake hands, high-five or embrace teammates or the opposition.
- **Be Hygienic:** Practice and maintain good hygiene at all times; wash your hands before, during (in the sub-box), and after any Touch related activity. Bring your own hand sanitiser to all Touch activity.
- **Be Proactive:** Ensure that you report anything that contravenes this Code of Conduct, the Return to Play guidance and/or government guidance to your Club COVID-19 Officer, or directly to England Touch.
- **Be Prepared:** Ensure that you bring all necessary equipment and belongings that cannot be shared: water bottle, food, clothing, personal equipment etc.

Each club may need to adjust (and reserves the right to adjust) this COVID-19 Code of Conduct dependent on their particular situation and any guidance that may have changed due to their location.

For further information, please get in touch with your England Touch COVID-19 Officer by emailing returntoplay@englandtouch.org.uk.



RETURN TO PLAY

BEFORE TOUCH

ACTIVITY



CHECKLIST AND ACTIONS FOR 'BEFORE' ACTIVITY

Who	What	Actions
Administrators, Clubs, Officials, League Providers, Tournament Organisers	Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All clubs, league operators and other organisers should ensure they are affiliated members of England Touch with fully paid membership before returning to any form of Touch activity. • All clubs, league operators and other organisers must advise England Touch who their COVID-19 Officer by completing the required self-declaration form. The COVID-19 Officer is responsible for ensuring all Return to Play procedures are in place and that they are communicated to all participants, including, but not limited to players, coaches and officials. • All clubs, league operators and other organisers should ensure they have read and understood the England Touch Return to Play guidance and the Government guidance. • All clubs, league operators and other organisers should only return to play touch when they have undertaken risk assessments of their facilities, operating procedures and activities and have the appropriate measures in place to provide a safe environment for all participants. These measures should be aligned to England Touch Return to Play guidance and the Government guidance. The aim is to reduce the risk of contracting the virus to as low a level as possible through implementing a series of control measures. A template risk assessment is attached to this document and is also available as part of the England Touch Return to Play guidance. • All clubs, league operators and other organisers should ensure they adhere to England Touch regulations, including our safeguarding and welfare policies, especially for U18s, who's return to playing touch may be the first contact that juniors have had with peers for some time. Clubs, league operators and other organisers should also refer to DofE guidance on protective measures for out-of-school settings, identifying practical steps to minimise the risk of transmission for children attending touch training and matches. Clubs, league operators and other organisers must also take steps to safely manage the need for social distancing especially with younger children. • All clubs, league operators and other organisers should ensure adequate first aid provision continues to be in place for all activity. Whilst injury in Touch is uncommon, especially at local club and league events and activities, where an injury does occur, any first aid treatment is done so with sanitised first aid kits, face masks and social distancing. Ensure all first aiders are appropriately briefed. Additional advice on first aid during the COVID-19 pandemic is available from St John Ambulance here.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All clubs, league operators and other organisers should ensure they have adequate insurance cover in place, either through England Touch, or through an alternative provider.
NHS Test and Trace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All clubs, league operators and other organisers must support NHS test and trace efforts by collecting name and contact information on participants at both training and matches. This can either be paper based, via an on-line form, such as google, or via an app, or QR code. This information should be stored for a minimum of 21 days in-line with the Government Recreational Team Sport Framework and collected/processed in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and in line with GDPR principles. It should be used only for the purpose of NHS test and trace. Clubs and facility providers should follow current UK Government NHS test and trace guidance, which is available here.
Pre-attendance symptom check and general hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All clubs, league operators and other organisers must ensure that all participants are aware of good personal hygiene before, during and after activity. No one should feel pressured to return to touch activity until they feel comfortable to do so. It should be made clear to participants that it is their own (or where applicable parents/guardians) decision to opt in to participate in touch activity. Before every training session, or match, all clubs, league operators and other organisers should have a process in place to confirm and record that participants and parents have undertaken a self-assessment. Ideally this should be completed prior to arrival at any venue. This can either be paper based, via an on-line form, such as google, or via an app, or QR code. Clubs, league operators and other organisers must ensure necessary precautions are taken to store data securely and in line with data protection policies. All clubs, league operators and other organisers should share any changes to operations.
Venues and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All clubs, league operators and other organisers should ensure any facilities used are in accordance with England Touch Return to Play guidance and the Government guidance. Where applicable, signage should be used to indicate one-way systems, reminders to register on arrival, and to socially distance. If for any reason persons need to be indoors at any time, clubs, league operators and other organisers should ensure all participants adhere to government guidance with regards the wearing of suitable face coverings, or masks and appropriate provision should be made to ensure safety and safeguarding.
Numbers at training or matches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All clubs, league operators and other organisers should complete a COVID-19 risk assessment to assist them with determining the number of people allowed onsite at any time. The total number will vary dependent on the size of each facility and number of pitches.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants should be able to remain socially distanced at all times. The only exception will be on the field of play where there can be no more than 30 participants in a training group (or match) on any single training space, or touch field. Multiple groups of 30 must be completely separate and remain socially distanced from one another at all times. • Clubs, league operators and other organisers may want to consider staggering training and matches to accommodate numbers on site and reduce the risk of transmission. • Clubs, league operators and other organisers should also consider other factors relating to the venue, such as car parking, toilet facilities, hand washing/sanitising stations, access restrictions, the impact on capacity of groups from the same household versus individual visitors and any other contributing factor.
Everyone (anyone who is attending any Touch related activity)	Covid-19 Self-Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to attending any matches or training activity, all participants (including spectators) must undergo a self-assessment for any COVID-19 symptoms. No one should leave home if they have a temperature (above 37.8 °C), a new continuous cough, a loss of, or change to, their sense, smell or taste. This check should take place prior to any Touch related activity and confirmed when registering their attendance. The latest advice on symptoms can be found here. • If an individual shows any symptoms, they should not participate and follow NHS and PHE guidance on self-isolation with immediate effect.
	Travel to Touch related activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants should follow best practice for travel including minimising use of public transport and where possible walking, or cycling should be used wherever possible. • People from the same household or support bubble can travel together in the same vehicle. Wider car sharing should be limited and follow the Government’s safer travel guidance, which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All passengers should wash their hands (for at least 20 seconds) or sanitise their hands before entering and after exiting the vehicle. Ask the driver and passengers to wear a face covering • Try to share transport with the same people each time and open windows for ventilation • Consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle, traveling side by side or behind other people, rather than facing them, passengers facing away from each other. • Cleaning the car between journeys using standard cleaning products – cleaning the door handles and other areas that people may touch • Limiting the time spent at garages, petrol stations and motorway services. Passengers should wash their hands (for at least 20 seconds) or sanitise before re-entering the vehicle

For further information, please get in touch with your England Touch COVID-19 Officer by emailing returntoplay@englandtouch.org.uk



RETURN TO PLAY

DURING TOUCH

ACTIVITY



CHECKLIST AND ACTIONS FOR 'DURING' ACTIVITY

Who	What	Actions
Everyone (anyone who is attending any Touch related activity)	Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important that ALL participants adhere to the England Touch Code of Conduct and enclosed COVID-19 Code of Conduct. • All activity should take place outdoors • Maximum of 30 participants per group on a single touch field, or half standard rugby field (or equivalent space). For smaller spaces please ensure you adjust activity and group size accordingly and reflect this in your risk assessment. • Sessions or matches should have regular breaks – at least every 15 minutes to ensure the ball and equipment can be cleaned and sanitised • All participants should remain socially distanced during breaks • Total duration of training should not exceed 75 minutes and the time spent in medium risk activity should not exceed 20 minutes in any one session. Matches can remain at 40 minutes. • Everyone should refrain from touching their faces
Everyone (anyone who is attending any Touch related activity)	During breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All participants in touch activity and matches should remain socially distanced during breaks during and after activity • All participants should bring their own water bottles, towels and sanitiser (min 60% alcohol content). The sharing of water bottles, towels, clothing or other items is not permitted.
Everyone (anyone who is attending any Touch related activity)	Use of equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equipment sharing should be minimised with only essential equipment shared at appropriate stages of return to play • Where possible use existing lines or temporary line marking to mark out pitches to avoid unnecessary use of cones. Cones should be put out and collected by the same person on each pitch, preferably by the coach or official • Where possible players should arrive in washed kit ready to train, or play. Kit should be taken home and washed following activity. • If bibs, or vests are needed for activity, they should be allocated to a player at the start of the activity and for the duration of the session and must not be shared in any instance. The person collecting the bibs/vests must wash/sanitise their hands after doing so.



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All bibs/vests must be cleaned after each use. • Pitch checks should be carried out by the coaches before activity commences. If any goal post protectors are needed these should be cleaned after each activity. • Team water bottles should not be used and strapping, or tape should not be shared • Any other equipment used should be cleaned after each individual use. • In matches, at least two balls should be available for play, but balls should be kept with a group/field and cleaned and sanitised before, during and after each activity. • Either a bucket with clean water and soap, or equivalent sanitiser or cleaning equipment, should be available for each group or field. Towels to dry the balls and hand sanitiser (min 60% alcohol) for the person washing the balls should be available • In matches, the ball should be replaced for a clean one at every opportunity, at least following the scoring of a try. The previous ball should be sanitised ready for reintroduction. • If there is a no natural stoppage after a maximum period of 15 minutes, the coach or official should temporarily call time off whilst the ball is cleaned or changed for a clean one.
Officials, Coaches and League operators	Juniors and safeguarding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone coaching, officiating, or who is responsible for juniors in activity should ensure they adhere to England Touch regulations, including our safeguarding and welfare policies
Officials, Coaches and League operators	Planning and delivering activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All coaches are to complete a COVID-19 coaching risk assessment before activity • Ensure the pitch area is correctly marked out and safe to use prior to activity with a minimum of half a pitch per 30 participants • Consider how to instruct, demonstrate and feedback to players in a way that adheres to social distancing guidelines • Manage activity time and matches so no period of training activity last more than 15 minutes without the ball being cleaned or changed for a clean one and players cleaning and sanitising. • Design sessions that follow the current guidance and regulations. • Remind participants to maintain social distancing in the transition between activities or during rest periods. • Clean any equipment after each use. • Refrain from shouting where possible.



Officials	Officiating activity and matches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out any coin toss themselves, or alternatively use another method, e.g.: rock, paper, scissors at a distance. • Carry only essential kit checks and maintain social distancing in doing so • Consider using hand signals more to reduce the need to clarify any decisions. • Refrain from shouting where possible. • Whistles should not be shared.
Officials, Coaches, League operators and First aiders	Injury treatment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs, leagues and other providers should ensure first aid provision continues to be in place and ensure that all first aiders are made aware of the updated guidance on first aid treatment during the COVID-19 pandemic. As with normal practice, first aiders should only carry out first aid treatment that they have been trained to do. • Clubs, leagues and other providers should ensure first aid equipment includes the necessary PPE which should be worn before any treatment is delivered. • First aiders should ensure good hygiene by washing their hands regularly, especially before and after any treatment is delivered. • Follow social distancing at all times outside of delivering treatment and even then, try to maintain at least a 1m+ distance where possible. Be aware of cross contamination risk and avoid close face-to-face contact. • Be aware of any wider changes in first aid protocols due to COVID-19. • Additional advice on first aid during the COVID-19 pandemic is available from St John Ambulance here.
Spectators	General	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/carers are permitted to observe a session at a distance from a safeguarding perspective, but they should observe social distancing guidelines. • Supporters, parents, and other spectators must remain socially distanced whilst attending activities or matches. • Numbers must comply with Government guidelines and the space available identified through the risk assessment.

For further information, please get in touch with your England Touch COVID-19 Officer by emailing returntoplay@englandtouch.org.uk



RETURN TO PLAY

AFTER TOUCH

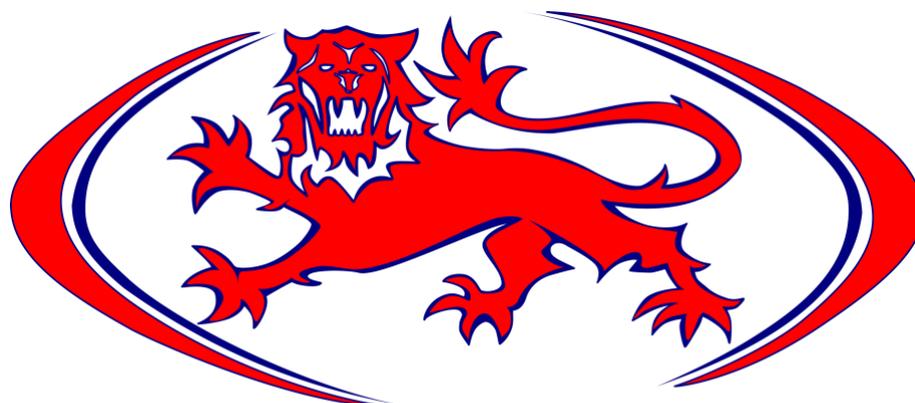
ACTIVITY



CHECKLIST AND ACTIONS FOR 'AFTER' ACTIVITY

Who	What	Actions
Everyone (anyone who is attending any touch related activity)	General hygiene	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hands should be washed at the earliest opportunity prior to leaving any venue by all people. • All personal equipment should be wiped down with disinfectant; individuals should take their own kit home and wash it themselves • All other equipment should be wiped down with disinfectant. • We encourage coaches to maintain a record of the regular cleaning of club or team equipment that players use and review the risk assessments undertaken in between sessions.
Everyone (anyone who is attending any touch related activity)	Social distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After training, games or a tournament, government mandated social distancing guidelines should be maintained at all times. This should include changing rooms, showers, indoor facilities, food facilities, meeting areas, car parks, etc.
Everyone (anyone who is attending any touch related activity)	NHS Test and Trace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If an individual shows any symptoms, they should not participate and follow NHS and PHE guidance on self-isolation with immediate effect. They should also notify the relevant Club COVID-19 Officer as soon as possible and ensure they have a test within 48 hours. • If the symptoms were present within 48 hours of attending a club/league session, then the COVID-19 Officer should contact all individuals that attended the relevant training session/match to advise other participants within the group that was attended. • All participants should be made aware of the when to self-isolate and what action to take here. • In the case of a confirmed positive case then the Club COVID-19 Officer should report it to England Touch using the COVID-19 incident report form here.
Administrators, Clubs, Officials, League Providers, Tournament Organisers	Venues and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All clubs, league operators and other organisers should ensure any facilities used are in accordance with England Touch Return to Play guidance and the Government guidance. • After activity ensure any issues are reported to venue and facility operators and any updated to risk assessments are implemented.

For further information, please get in touch with your England Touch COVID-19 Officer by emailing returntoplay@englandtouch.org.uk



ENGLAND TOUCH

RETURN TO PLAY

**RISK ASSESSMENT
TEMPLATE FOR
CLUBS, LEAGUES AND
OTHER PROVIDERS**



TEMPLATE RISK ASSESSMENT FOR CLUB, LEAGUE AND OTHER OFFICAL PROVIDERS

This template has been produced for England Touch club, league and other member organisations to be able to conduct their own risk assessment when it comes to planning a Return to Play. A risk assessment needs to be submitted to England Touch prior to the recommencement of your activity.

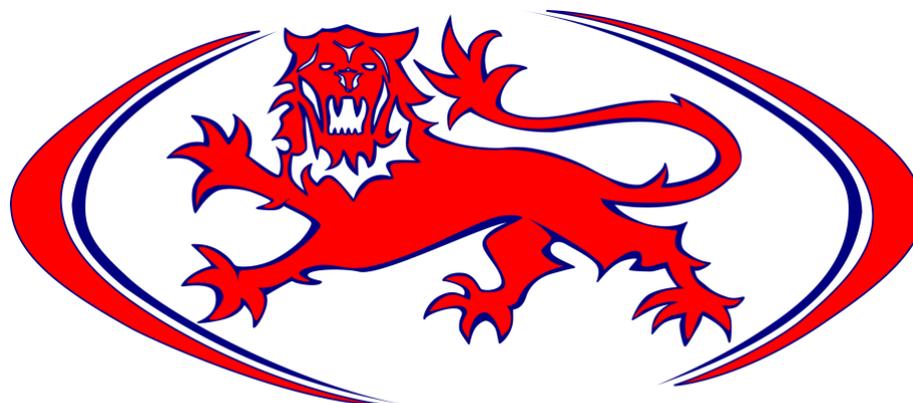
Date of assessment: Your name:

Club or league name: Your role:

AREA OF POTENTIAL RISK	SPECIFIC RISK	WHO IS IMPACTED	INITIAL RATING (HIGH / MEDIUM / LOW)	MITIGATING ACTIONS	REVISED RISK (HIGH / MEDIUM / LOW)
e.g.: on arrival at the venue	e.g.: There is no signage or other information relating to the risks and practices around COVID-19.	Players, coaches, officials, administrators	MEDIUM	Advise the venue and request the matter is dealt with. In the meantime, take you own signage and notices and remind all participants of self-assessment, social distancing and personal hygiene prior to, during and post activity.	LOW

Areas of potential risk for consideration include: hand washing facilities, availability of individual and club/league sanitiser and disposable towels, cleaning and disinfecting equipment before, during and after activity, safe storage and handling of equipment, minimise sharing of equipment, no sharing of personal items, including: water bottles, towels, food and drinks, no hand shaking, huddles, or touching the face, no close physical contact outside of the game, car parking space on arrival, access to/from fields, shared use of toilets and other indoor facilities, restricted pitch size, additional equipment needs, sharing of site/fields with other users.

Please return your completed Risk Assessment to your England Touch COVID-19 Officer by emailing returntoplay@englandtouch.org.uk



ENGLAND TOUCH

RETURN TO PLAY

**RISK ASSESSMENT
TEMPLATE FOR
COACHES**



TEMPLATE RISK ASSESSMENT FOR COACHES

This template has been produced for England Touch club, regional and national coaches to be able to conduct their own risk assessment when it comes to planning a Return to Play for specific training sessions. This risk assessment should be regularly reviewed and amended as circumstances change.

Date of assessment:

Your name:

Club or league name:

Your role:

AREA OF POTENTIAL RISK	SPECIFIC RISK	WHO IS IMPACTED	INITIAL RATING (HIGH / MEDIUM / LOW)	MITIGATING ACTIONS	REVISED RISK (HIGH / MEDIUM / LOW)
Hygiene	There are limited hand washing facilities on site as activity takes place in a park	Players, coaches, officials, administrators	MEDIUM	Make sure all participants bring their own hand sanitiser. Ensure additional supplies are available for individual use, as well as necessary supplies for equipment and club/league personnel	LOW

Areas of potential risk for consideration include: hand washing facilities, availability of individual and club/league sanitiser and disposable towels, cleaning and disinfecting equipment before, during and after activity, safe storage and handling of equipment, minimise sharing of equipment, no sharing of personal items, including: water bottles, towels, food and drinks, no hand shaking, huddles, or touching the face, no close physical contact outside of the game.

For further information, please get in touch with your England Touch COVID-19 Officer by emailing returntoplay@englandtouch.org.uk

ENGLAND TOUCH RETURN TO PLAY RESOURCES

- [England Touch COVID-19 webpage](#)
- [England Touch welfare and safeguarding guidelines](#)
- [England Touch COVID-19 incident reporting form](#)
- [England Touch COVID-19 Officer registration and self-declaration form](#)
- [Government guidance for out-of-school settings for children and young people](#)
- [Government guidance on COVID-19 outbreak FAQ's](#)
- [Government guidance on maintaining records for NHS Test and Trace](#)
- [Government guidance on NHS test and trace and how it works](#)
- [Government guidance on safer travel for passengers](#)
- [Government guidance on social distancing](#)
- [Government guidance on the phased return of sport and recreation](#)
- [NHS and PHE guidance on self-isolation](#)
- [RFL Return to Play plans](#)
- [RFU Return to Play plans](#)
- [St John's Ambulance additional advice on first aid during the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

England Touch COVID-19 contacts

- General COVID-19 email – returntoplay@englandtouch.org.uk
 - Lead contact for clubs and leagues – CEO, **Chris Simon**
 - Lead contact for performance, England and regions – HP Director, **Ben Powell**
 - Medical Lead for advice – Head of Medical and Sports Science, **Cari Thorpe**
 - Membership Enquiries – Membership Officer, **Rich King**
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