

WIMBLEDON FENCING CLUB RISK ASSESSMENT - COVID-19 SPECIFIC RISKS
Venue: Merici Sports Hall, Ursuline High School, London SW20 8HF
Covid-19 Officer: Alan Grafton, alan@thefencingclub.co.uk
Welfare Officer: James Hamilton, jameshamilton.kingston@gmail.com
May 2021

	Category	Description of Risk	Pre-Mitigation		Mitigation Plan/Actions	Post Mitigation		Resp/ Due Date
			Prob-ability	Impact		Prob-ability	Impact	
	General	Failure to keep up to date with current government/BF guidelines/minimum operating standards	M	H	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read government guidelines including those that specifically relate to sport activities 2. Review risk assessment prior to each session in light of latest government guidelines 3. Sign up to BF's (and/or other relevant bodies) weekly news email to be kept up to date 4. Covid-19 Officer to Attend BF Organized Zoom Meetings 5. Ensure Coach is on BF Coaching register 6. Ensure Welfare Officer is on BF welfare register and qualifications up to date 7. Ensure Club Members are signed up to BF Membership 	L	H	1-3 Coach 4, Covid-19 Officer
	General	Fencing Activity (sparring/lessons) exposes participants to increased risk due to 2m distancing being at risk			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Activity is restricted to groups of a maximum size permitted by Government and BF Guidelines 2. Groups will be expected to remain 2m apart and avoid interaction as far as possible. 3. If necessary, groups will be allocated to specific piste so arranged as to maintain (minimum) 2m Social Distancing between groups 4. Fencers can rotate within the group, but 2m social distancing will be maintained within this group where at all possible. People will not be permitted to move groups within a session. 5. Fencing activities (including 1:1 lessons, pairs work and sparring) where it may not be possible at all times to stay 2m apart will be run in accordance with the BF published adaptations and additional measures to reduce risk. 6. Pistes will be marked out to observe 2m social distancing. 7. Footwork/warm-up exercises must respect 2m social distancing at all times and will not be performed face to face. 			

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					8. No physical contact with other participants (such as shaking hands or high five) 9. Adapted sparring between two individuals in the group can take place and is limited to 2 x 15 hits or 5 x 5 hits, up to a maximum of 20 mins of fencing time (cumulative time between the referee saying "fence" and "Halt") but no more than 30 mins of elapsed time. 10. Coaches will deliver a maximum of 30 min lessons to individuals within a club session, but cannot give lessons to fencers in different groups within the session. 11. Corps a corps, deliberate close quarter actions and any actions that breach the 1m distancing are not permitted. 12. Fleching/running attacks are not permitted, subject to risk assessment. 13. Face coverings should be worn whilst coaching (excluding lessons, see below) and refereeing. Hand signals should be used where possible in place of verbal signals. Whilst not on-piste, face coverings must be worn (unless exceptions apply) 14. Face coverings can be worn under fencing masks for low intensity training. Participants (fencers and coaches) wearing face coverings should monitor their breathing and heart rate and take regular breaks. If face coverings are not being used, fencing mask liners should be worn. Where face coverings are used, coaches should adapt lessons and training to keep physical intensity levels low with frequent breaks. 15. Participants should avoid any shouting/screaming, particularly during 1:1 activities.			

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	People – Accident & Injury	After extended period of inactivity, participants injure themselves performing movements – e.g. muscle strain	M	M	<p>16. Coaches are BF registered and operating within competency levels</p> <p>17. Participants are advised of the possible consequences of a long-term lay off and the session is to include an appropriate warm-up</p> <p>18. All participants asked about any injuries prior to start</p> <p>19. Participants asked to complete a ‘return to fencing’ questionnaire which asks about the training they have been doing during lockdown</p>	L	L	Coach
	People – Accident & Injury	Participant requires treatment after accident			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Appropriate level of medical cover is on site - PPE is in place & being used by first aid trained individuals (masks, gloves, eye wear, aprons, where appropriate + sanitiser stations). 2. Members requested to bring personal first aid kits with them and where possible encouraged to self-treat. 3. U18s – parents/carers to be available to collect child at short notice in case child requires non urgent treatment. 4. First aid protocols communicated to members (and parents/guardians of U18s) 			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Facility Operator (pre opening) 2. Members 3. Parents 4. Club Secretary (pre-opening)
	People – Communication	Risk that club (and BF) is unable to support communication of government guidelines thus making environment less safe			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All club officials and participants to be members of the club and BF members 2. Encourage everyone to keep interacting/following/using the club’s primary communication methods (email) 3. Signage/Posters warning of the danger of Covid-19 are in place and visible e.g. symptoms, social distancing, hygiene etc. 			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Club Secretary 2 Club Secretary/Coaches 3 Club Secretary

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	People	Risk that people participate in session with Covid-19 symptoms and expose community further			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage individuals to avoid public transport – if unavoidable use masks and gloves (gloves should be disposed of prior to entry to session). 2. Online questionnaire/declaration form to be completed for each session prior to entry to session. 3. Participation records to be retained for all sessions 4. If someone at the session is isolated with symptoms or are a suspected Covid-19 case inform everyone who attended the session. 5. Face coverings and mask liners to be used in accordance with BF guidelines 			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Participants 3. Club treasurer 4. Club treasurer
	People	Risk that participants cannot be easily contacted by club/authorities in the event a participant has a subsequent positive test			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Club membership records up to date 2. All members are BF members 3. Club has an emergency procedure and communications plan in place to alert participants, support and signpost them. Includes welfare officer contact details. 4. Club has in place a system to ensure that accurate attendee records are kept, identifying which attendee participated in which session/group which is stored for a min of 21 days 5. <u>NHS test and trace procedures</u> are understood and permission in place to share contact details and attendee lists in accordance with the NHS procedures. 			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Coaches & Club treasurer 5. Attendee & Club treasurer

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	People	Personal Hygiene standards			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hygiene procedures communicated to all participants <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Cough or sneeze into your elbow or into a tissue. b. Use only single-use tissues and dispose of them in pedal-operated covered garbage cans. c. Avoid touching your face with your hands. d. Wash hands before and after every session (use hand sanitisers if washing facilities not available) 2. Individuals to bring own hand sanitisers 3. Club/Facility to provide sanitiser stations at entry and exit 4. All participants encouraged to shower and wash clothes (including gloves) and clean personal equipment after each session. 5. Personal hygiene reminders to be given by coaches at start and end of each session 6. Posters up to remind club members to maintain hygiene standards 			<p>1b Facility to provide garbage cans</p> <p>5 Coaches</p> <p>6 Covid-19 officer</p>
	People – Visitors	Presence of visitors and spectators increase risk to participants and club officials			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Visitors/parents/spectators ("non-fencers") will only be allowed in the venue if permitted by Government/BF guidelines. 2. In all cases, non-fencers will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ only be allowed provided the capacity of the space is not exceeded ○ be required to complete Online questionnaire/declaration form prior to entry. ○ will be expected to maintain 2m distancing and to wear face coverings at all times (unless exceptions apply) 			

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	People – Staff & Officials	Additional people (facility staff, club officials, club coaches)			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Other than participants, only nominated officials and facility staff allowed in the salle (additional nominated club welfare officer/adult must be present at all times for all sessions with U18s) – increase management controls 2. Appropriate ratios of club officials to participants per session to ensure social distancing and good coaching practice 3. Social distancing according to current government guidelines is in (2m) is in place 4. Numbers of households participating in session is in line with current government guidelines 			
	Equipment	Risk that the equipment facilitates the spread the virus			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No sharing of equipment between members of different households (unless they have been disinfected following protocols between usage) 2. S&C equipment to be placed minimum 2mts apart 3. Disinfectant/anti-viral wipes to be made available for general use 4. Protocol in place for use of spools/boxes. (remove fencing glove, sanitise hands, touch equipment, sanitise hands, replace fencing glove) 5. Outdoor sessions, avoid touching gates, benches etc. 			
	Environment	Density of people breaches guidelines			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan of space/salle exists demonstrating maximum safe numbers based on government guidelines (9.29m² per person) and how 2m social distancing can be maintained as far as possible 2. Protocols over start and end of sessions to allow for social distancing to be maintained during entry/exit/drop-off/pick-up and communicated to all club members and parents/carers 			

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	Environment	Usage of water fountains, toilets and changing areas			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participants requested to bring own water in personal bottles – no water fountains etc. 2. Participants will be asked to turn up ready to participate-as changing facilities will not be available. Toilet facilities will be available but are subject to general Social Distancing guidelines 			
	Environment	Entry/Exit and Seating			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where possible ensure entry and exit routes in the building are different 2. Limit lift usage to smaller number than the recommended max to avoid close contact/maintain social distance 3. Reduce the seating capacity in any meeting rooms by removing chairs to increase distance between participants to required social distances when face to face meetings are necessary. 4. Fire alarm testing prior to opening, procedures for evacuation in place, maintaining social distancing 			
	Environment	Ventilation (Indoor spaces)			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep ventilation/toilet/lift well fans on continuously 2. Open windows where possible to ventilate the area 3. Leave doors (<i>not fire doors</i>) wedged open and close at the end of the working day. (signage in place to avoid ventilation opportunities to be used as entry points for unauthorised people) 			

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	Environment	Facility Cleaning (Indoor)			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior to opening club a Deep Clean will have been completed by facility management (NB <i>check latest government guidance and liaise with facility operator</i>) 2. Confirm that cleaning will be completed pre and post each opening day 3. Request that facility put a cleaning record to be placed in each room – detailing what is to be cleaned 4. No personal equipment to be left in salle to allow cleaning 5. Disinfectant wipes to be made available for general use 6. Door handles, light switches, equipment to be wiped between each session 			
	Activity	Activity breaches guidelines			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No hand shaking at any time 2. Fencing activity at all times to be in accordance with BF guidelines. 3. Reminders will be posted in salle and coach will do pre-session briefing which includes description of permitted activity 4. All sessions contents to be pre-planned by coaches in accordance with their competency levels and checked for compliance (with Club, BF, government guidelines). 5. Where density of people in an indoor space is near the limits that social distancing and maximum occupancy (9.29m² per person) will allow, sessions will not be highly aerobic – avoiding high intensity 6. Use of face coverings mask liners in accordance with PHE/BF guidelines 			

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	Safeguarding & Welfare	Mental health of members that might not be able to return to club – due to shielding/isolation			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue online training sessions (adhering to BF online session guidelines) 2. Continue online social evenings 3. Avoid negative priming in emails – in these ‘terrible times’, ‘disaster’ 4. Keep in contact with members regularly 5. All coaches and club officials to do free mental health awareness training available through BF website. 			
	Safeguarding & Welfare	Time away from sport increases risk of historic disclosures			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Be aware of changes in behaviour, 2. Ask people ‘Are you OK’ 3. Reach out to people who have ‘disappeared’ – through parents contact details for U18s. 			
	Safeguarding & Welfare – Mental Health	Parents or Athletes having an unrealistic sense of what (and how fast) a ‘return to competition’ will happen putting unnecessary stress on athletes to achieve			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coach to do a session with parents of athletes and athletes seeking BYC & GBR qualification to set expectations 			
	Other	Exchange of Cash increases risk of transmission			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make sessions available online through Fibodo (online payment facilities available) 2. Contact bank to get a contactless machine for club account/download cashless app. 			

Date of Review:

COVID-19 Officer:

