



Buckingham Athletic COVID19 Return to Competitive Football Guidelines

Introduction

This document details how we will return to competitive football and compliments the updated guidance document released by the FA on 28 November 2020.

We advise that you should read the FA guidelines first ([click here](#))

A summary of key points to consider from The FA's guidelines are listed for ease below:

- 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;
- Clubs and facility providers should ensure that their facility is compliant with current Government legislation and guidance related to COVID-19;
- Competitive training is now permitted, with groups limited to a maximum of 30 people, including coaches;
- Competitive match play is permitted, with social distancing in place before and after the match, and in any breaks in play;
- Players and officials should sanitise hands before and after a game as well as scheduled breaks throughout a game or training session;
- Ball handling should be kept to a minimum with most contact via a boot and the ball disinfected in breaks of play;
- Goal celebrations should be avoided;
- Equipment should not be shared, and goalkeepers should ensure they disinfect their gloves regularly in breaks in training or matches and thoroughly afterwards. Where possible, coaches should only handle equipment in training;
- Participants should follow best practice for travel including minimising use of public transport and walking or cycling if possible. People from a household or support bubble can travel together in a vehicle;
- Clubs should keep a record of attendees at a match or training session, including contact details, to support NHS Test and Trace;
- Clubs should ensure they are affiliated with their [County Football Association](#).



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IMPORTANT:

If you are showing symptoms of the virus or have been in contact with someone displaying symptoms within the last two weeks, then you must stay at home until an NHS practitioner advises you that you no longer need to remain in isolation

Who is the clubs Covid-19 Officer?

Tony Checkley – however, this task may be passed to another Buckingham Athletic club official if he is not available. Both teams will be made aware of any changes.

Responsibilities:

- Ensure that both teams are aware of the guidance and the rules of the club
- Ensure all volunteers are aware of their tasks for the day
- Responsible for developing a Covid-19 plan and risk assessment.
- Responsible for updating any changes to plan and risk assessment

What do the players need?

Each player should have their own water bottle, hand sanitiser, and any necessary medication (e.g. inhaler).

What if someone needs first aid?

If a player gets injured the physio will assess the situation being socially distanced unless a life or limb-threatening injury necessitates compromising guidelines to provide emergency care.

The physio will be equipped with the appropriate PPE to protect themselves and others if they need to compromise social-distancing guidelines to provide medical assistance.

How can the players help?

We ask that players refrain from chewing gum, spitting, share drinks and are not allowed team hugs and goal celebrations.

The club staff and coaches are having to deal with increased measures to deliver the fixtures so the best of behaviour from players is expected at the club.

What sterilisation of equipment and kit will take place?

Club staff will sterilise equipment before, during and after each game.

Changing rooms, goal posts, dug outs and balls will be sanitised regularly.

What have the club had to do to allow training to re-commence?

COVID19 stations have been set up in the clubhouse, changing rooms and pitch side, holding the following equipment:

- Black Bags (for used gloves and masks)
- Antibacterial wipes
- Concentrated Disinfectant 5l bottles for equipment
- Disposable Gloves
- Sanitising stations and units in clubhouse
- Large Sanitiser refill bottles
- Measuring jug (for the disinfectant to water ratio)



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Are the players and staff covered for insurances?

Yes, our insurers and the FA have confirmed all training at the club grounds is covered under the current policies (Public Liability and Personal Accident)

Has a Risk Assessment been created to cover this period?

Yes, you can find a copy of the Risk Assessment on our website

Spectators

All spectators need to sign in at the gate and pay any match entrance fees by card where possible.

Spectators will be directed to a block number – NO MORE THAN 6 spectators in any block and these can only be from 2 households.

Spectators should NOT MOVE from their designated block number unless a steward has asked. If spectators want to move blocks they must advise the stewards who are in attendance.

PLEASE CHECK IN HERE

NHS APP



Buckingham Athletic Sports & Social Club
Sports Pavilion, Stratford Road, MK18 1JF

EVE PASS

