



**SOUTHPORT**  
FOOTBALL  
CLUB

# Creating a Covid-19 Secure Stadium



*This document sets out guidance on how to work, operate and participate in Football (with Fans) while minimising the risk of spreading COVID-19.*

## **Introduction**

The document is based on the current advice as of Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and subject to change. The information in this document should be made readily available to all members of staff, playing or otherwise, bar staff, volunteers, visiting teams, match officials, volunteers, and spectators.

The guidance in this document is derived from advice across a multitude of agencies, including but not limited to, The UK Government, The Football Association and Sport England.

Although some sections of this document may not have a direct impact on your role it is imperative to read the full document as ***EVERYONE HAS A PART TO PLAY TO ENSURE WE REMAIN COVID SECURE.***

## **Before Reopening**

**Risk assessment**      **1.0**

**Objective:**              To make sure that area of the stadium areas of the stadium are clean and ready to operate.

**Recommendation:**      Prior to allowing spectators back into the stadium all areas are sprayed by the Club using Ramsol Sanitizer This spray is proven to kill coronavirus within five minutes (EN14476). It is food safe (EN1650) as well as proven to kill bacteria (EN1276).

**Lab Report Sheet:**      Appendix 1

**Further mitigation**      It is recommended that as well as spraying all contact points and indoor spaces prior to opening that the changing rooms, hospitality suite etc are sprayed once the first half as commenced.

## **Access to Stadium for Spectators**

**Risk assessment**      **1.6 & 1.7**

**Objective:**              To limit the contact point upon entering the stadium and ensure this is done in a well-ventilated area.

**Recommendation:**      All spectators access the stadium via Gate 1 or Gate 5. Entry is upon the following conditions.

- Ticket purchased online to support track and trace.
- All spectators asked to read and confirm they are negative all aspects of self-screen.
- Must sanitise hands upon entry.

**Further mitigation**      It is recommended that all spectators have a face mask upon their person for use with indoor spaces such as the toilets.

## **Managing Capacity**

**Risk assessment**      **1.8**

**Objective:**                      To ensure distancing is possible by limiting the number of spectator's access to the stadium.

**Recommendation:**          Capacity capped using the minimum viable numbers based on the stadium sports authority (method 2) of seating.

**Further mitigation**          Spectators encouraged to, where possible, make use of the terrace space as opposed to the main stand.

## **Moving in, out and through the stadium**

**Risk assessment**      **1.9**

**Objective:**                      To ensure distancing is possible by limiting the number of spectator's access to the stadium.

**Recommendation:**          Stadium split into coloured sections with access limited into each

**Further mitigation**          Lounge guests to access the stadium by exiting via the 1881 door and using Gate 3 to access their seats.

Only limited and selected staff allowed access to the tunnel area and lounge.

## **Supporting Test and Trace**

**Risk assessment**      **2.0**

**Objective:**                      To assist the Test and Trace service by keeping a temporary record of all staff and customers.

**Recommendation:**          Access to the stadium for everyone (Staff, players, volunteers and match officials) is done via online ticketing system.

**Further mitigation**          No ticket sales beyond 1400 Saturday and 1800 midweek.

### **Children within the stadium**

**Risk assessment**      2.1

**Objective:**              To ensure distancing of spectators and children within the stadium.

**Recommendation:**      Stewards to pay attention to the movement of unsupervised children between 12-17 years old.

**Further mitigation**      Any Children who fail follow guidance after a holistic approach to educating them shall be removed and a ban considered.

### **Tunnel / Changing Room Ventilation**

**Risk assessment**      2.2

**Objective:**              To increase tunnel and changing room ventilation.

**Recommendation:**      Install two Sealey VEN250 Portable Ventilators. These are ideal when high volume of air is required.

### **Players, officials, and Staff Equipment**

**Risk assessment**      2.3, 2.4

**Objective:**              To reduce the risk of cross contamination with equipment.

**Recommendation:**      Players and officials to bring their own labelled water bottled. Cones and balls to be sprayed using Ramsol prior to use.

Match balls to be sprayed prior to match and spread around the vicinity playing area,

**Further Mitigation**      Any match balls that leave the playing area into the spectators is not reused until cleaned.

## Hand Hygiene

**Risk assessment** 2.7

**Objective:** To increase the awareness of importance of good hand hygiene.

**Recommendation:** Twenty hand sanitizer units will be installed around the stadium indoors and out. Condition of entry to sanitise hands at entry point.

**Further Mitigation** Signage to encourage hand washing and a guide on how best to do it displayed at every sink within the stadium. Hand Sanitizer stations located near touch points.



## Use of Outside Toilets

**Risk assessment** 2.8

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of spreading of COVID-19 within the bathrooms.

**Recommendation:** Larger outside bathrooms limited to 2 or 3. Stewards to manage a queuing system.

**Further Mitigation** Signage to encourage hand washing and a guide on how best to do it displayed at every sink within the stadium. Hand Sanitizer stations located near all touch points. Toilets to be sprayed with Ramsol after kicking off in preparation for high footfall at half time.

It is recommended that all spectators wear a face covering inside the toilets.

## Use of Chewing Gum

**Risk assessment** 2.9

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by gum being spat out or disposed of in bins.

**Recommendation:** A complete ban on chewing gum.

### **Use of Chewing Gum**

**Risk assessment**      **3.0**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by spitting sylvia.

**Recommendation:**      A complete ban on spitting by all stadium entrants. Stewards to manage spectators. Match officials asked to monitor and encourage players to avoid spitting on the field of play.

### **Treatment of Injuries (Inside)**

**Risk assessment**      **3.1**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 between medical practitioners and participants.

**Recommendation:**      Only one player permitted to access the physio room at any one time. Player to wear a face covering. Medical practitioners to wear visor, gloves, mask and disposable apron.

**Further Mitigation:**      Manual therapies (massage) to be banned until guidance allows.

### **Treatment of Injuries (Field of Play)**

**Risk assessment**      **3.2**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 between medical practitioners and participants.

**Recommendation:**      Medical Practitioner to wear gloves, disposable apron and face mask whilst treating players.

**Further Mitigation:**      Manual therapies (massage) to be banned until guidance allows.

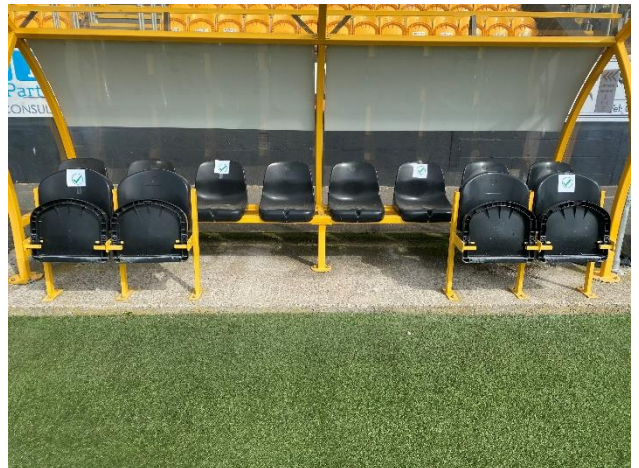
### **Technical Areas**

**Risk assessment**      **3.3**

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 in the technical areas.

**Recommendation:** Only 4 occupants per technical area. Each Club to decide who these are.

**Further Mitigation:** Seats marked with green ticks for those to be used.



**Seating of substitutes and Club Staff**

**Risk assessment** 3.4

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 in the seated area.

**Recommendation:** Area of 56 seats marked off in section C of the main stand. This area is to host Home team substitutes and club staff only. Seating to be marked using the Stadium Safety authority guidelines, Maximum seating capacity in the area is 20.

A similar area will be marked off for visiting substitutes, staff and Directors in Section D of the main stand. This area will consist of 70 Seats with maximum seats to be used in the area is 26.

**Further Mitigation:** Seats marked with green ticks for those to be used.





### **Use of Press Box**

**Risk assessment**      **3.5**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 in the press box.

**Recommendation:**      Maximum number of 4 only within this area. To consist of Home Club staff only. Seats that can be used marked with Green ticks.

### **Additional Press Seating**

**Risk assessment**      **3.6**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 in the press box.

**Recommendation:**      An area of 70 seats to be reserved for media. These seats for use will be marked with Green ticks to state they can be used. Maximum use of 25.

### **Substitute warm up areas**

**Risk assessment**      **3.7**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 during warm up.

**Recommendation:**      To make a request to the League and Football Association that allow substitutes to warm up as follows:

- Home team      –      To warm up behind Assistant Referee 1
- Away team      -      To warm up opposite Assistant Referee 2

### Photographers

**Risk assessment**      **3.8**

**Objective:**              To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.

**Recommendation:**      To access the field of play by utilising any pitch gate other than the tunnel pitch gate. Access to the main stand if required to be done using the steps either end of the main stand

### Payment of Match Officials

**Risk assessment**      **3.9**

**Objective:**              To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by not using cash.

**Recommendation:**      Match officials submit fees and expenses the day before match. These are processed on a Monday for Saturday matches and Wednesday for Tuesday matches.

As a business account we are unable to make weekend same day transactions.

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### **Match Officials Pre-Match Meeting**

**Risk assessment**      **4.0**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by moving meetings to an outdoor space.

**Recommendation:**        In dry warm weather this meeting should take place on the pitch as a time agreed with the match officials.  
In wet weather this should take place in the main stand.

### **Match officials room**

**Risk assessment**      **4.1**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by ensuring match officials are kept separate as far as possible from payers.

**Recommendation:**        Match officials' room to be relocated to the manager's office with signage added to remove boots prior to going up the stairs.

### **Post Match Food**

**Risk assessment**      **4.2**

**Objective:**                      To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by ensuring players and staff do not enter the lounge.

**Recommendation:**        Post match pizza's will be delivered to the referee's room and both changing rooms. This food must be consumed in the changing room or taken out of the stadium.

### **Boardroom**

**Risk assessment**      **4.3**

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of spreading Covid-19 by closing the boardroom. (FA Guidance)

**Recommendation:** To close the boardroom and have this space used by the manager and coaching staff pre match. Spray upon starting the match at which point the dishwasher can utilised. Anyone in this space should wear a facecovering.

### **Post-Match Media Interviews**

**Risk assessment** 4.4

**Objective:** To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 that interviews do not take place indoors.

**Recommendation:** A media space to be used for Home Manager interviews will be set up at the rear of the main stand. A similar space will be set up for the away team.

Reference	Area of Risk	Additional Risk	Risk Rating : Red, Amber, Green	Solution / Mitigation	Rating post mitigation /	Review post activity and by whom.
1.0	To make sure that all areas of the stadium are clean and ready to operate.	Areas that have not been used since the bar area reopened.	Red	Ramsol Sanitizer spray to all areas of the stadium and contact points.	Amber	
1.1	To reduce the risk of spreading covid-19 to the lowest reasonably practicable level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bar Staff</li> <li>• Changing Rooms</li> <li>• Lounge Space</li> </ul>	Red	Increase the frequency of handwashing. Sanitize hands upon entry and temperature checks. Side by side working as opposed to facing. Screen / barriers between staff. Reduce contact by using 'fixed teams'	Green	
1.2	To minimise contact with surfaces, staff, and volunteers within the stadium.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stadium seating area.</li> <li>• Lounge space</li> <li>• Stadium access points</li> </ul>	Red	Primary control is to utilise handwashing / sanitising stations.  Informing staff, volunteers, guests etc about visiting the premises prior and at the point of arrival.	Green	

				<p>Contactless payments across all areas of the business.</p> <p>Signage throughout the stadium.</p> <p>Fixing doors open to reduce contact points.</p> <p>Avoid paperwork being transferred.</p>		
1.3	<p>Guidance RE staff conduct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Signed code of conduct</li> <li>Clarity on acceptable /unacceptable practice</li> </ul>	<p>Staff may not be aware of the work place requirements to ensure we remain COVID-19 secure.</p>	Amber	<p>Staff fully briefed and made aware of acceptable / unacceptable behaviour.</p>	Green	
1.4	<p>Risk assessments done for anyone carrying out high risk roles/tasks</p>	Yes	Red	<p>Any roles / tasks deemed high risk are prohibited.</p>	Green	
1.5	<p>Covid-19 protocols briefings shared and practised with committee/ volunteers</p>	No	Red	<p>Club protocols and Government updates in respect of Covid-19 to be shared.</p>	Green	

1.6	All spectators to enter the stadium via Gate 1 or Gate 5	Social distancing the queue.	Amber	Crush barriers set up and signage to encourage 2 metre spacing.  Reduces the contact point at turnstiles.	Green	
1.7	All spectators to have a temperature check prior to entry.	None	Red	Temperature check reduces the risk of a symptomatic person entering the stadium.	Green	
1.8	Managing Capacity	Social distancing in main stand, lounge area and terraces.	Red	Capacity announced by carrying a seating plan using the minimum viable.  Tickets booked online only with numbers capped based on task above.	Green	
1.9	Moving in, out and through the stadium	Staff are used to movement between areas without restriction.	Red	Using markers to guide staff and guests coming into or leaving the stadium.  Defining process alternatives for entry / exit points. Using stewards on each entry.  Coloured coded zones with access managed into each.	Green	

2.0	Supporting Test and Trace	GDPR Compromise	Red	Access to the stadium is carried out by scanning via the ticket system.  No ticket sales after 1400 Saturdays and 1800 midweek.	Green	
2.1	Children within the stadium	Children between 12-17 without an adult.	Red	Stewards advised to play close attention to unsupervised children in respect of social distancing.	Amber	
2.2	Tunnel / Changing room ventilation.	Air flow in an otherwise closed area.	Red	Sealey VEN250 Portable ventilator set up and tunnel and players entrance.		
2.3	Players own named water bottle.	Sharing of bottles that are unmarked.	Amber	All participants to use own bottle.	Green	
2.4	Cones and Bibs		Amber	All cones and bibs washed prior to usage on match day.	Green	
2.5	Warm up balls		Amber	All warmup balls cleaned before use.  Any that enter the spectator areas to be cleaned again prior to use.	Green	
2.6	Match Ball		Amber	All match balls cleaned before use.  Match balls to be kept separate from warm up.		



				Any that enter the spectator areas to be cleaned again prior to use.		
2.7	Hand Hygiene		Amber	Increased level of sanitiser stations within the blueprint of the stadium. Using hand sanitizer is a condition of entry.  Hand washing technique signage displayed in every bathroom.	Green	
2.8	Access to toilets (Outside Spectators)	Yes – Risk of overcrowding.	Red	Limited numbers in toilet. Recommendation is no more than 3 in the larger toilets. Queuing system over seen by stewards.  Provide paper towels for drying hands and sealed bins for placing paper towels and tissues in. If there is any concern that someone may have had symptoms of, or been infected with Covid-19, ensure these are double-bagged in line with Government guidance	Amber	
2.9	Use of Chewing gum	Yes – Risk pf contamination.	Red	Chewing Gum banned from all sessions & training.	Green	
3.0	Spitting	Yes – Risk of cross contamination	Red	Ban on spitting	Amber – Difficult to enforce.	

3.1	Treatment of injuries. (Physio Room)	Risk of Cross contamination	Red	<p>Only one player and Physio to be in the medical room at any one time for pre- and post-match injury treatment.</p> <p>Player and physio to both wear a face covering.</p> <p>Physio to wear disposable apron and visor.</p> <p>Exception being in the event of serious injury. risk to life necessities compromising guidelines.</p>	Amber	
3.2	Treatment of players on field.	Risk of contamination	Amber	<p>Physio to wear PPE whilst situated within the technical area.</p> <p>PPE to comprise of gloves, mask, (Face shield optional) and disposable apron.</p>	Green	
3.3	Technical Areas		Amber	<p>Seating limited to 4 person per technical area.</p> <p>Regardless if any coach /</p>	Green	

				<p>manager opts to stand the maximum capacity is 4.</p> <p>Seats for use are marked with Green ticks.</p>		
3.4	Seating of Substitutes, Club Staff and Visiting Directors		Amber	<p>Areas marked off in section C (Home Team) and Section D (Away Team). Seats to be used will be marked with green ticks on which can be used.</p>	Green	
3.5	Use of Press Bob		Amber	<p>Maximum use limited to 4 only. Seats marked for use and Home Club only to access.</p>	Green	
3.6	Additional Press Seating		Amber	<p>Area of 70 seats marked of in Section D of main stand to seat 26 media personnel.</p>		
3.7	Substitute warm up area.		Amber	<p>Home team to warm up behind AR1 and Away team opposite AR2.</p>	Green	
3.8	Photographers		Amber	<p>Access pitch via any gate other than main pitch gate.</p> <p>Access to main stand by stairwell at either end of main stand.</p>	Green	
3.9	Payment of Match Officials		Amber	<p>Payment made by bank transfer only.</p>	Green	

3.4	Managing someone who becomes symptomatic.	Yes – Serious risk of spreading between anyone within the stadium.	Red	Person removed from stadium and club to seek advice from The FA and PHE on how to report.	Red on the grounds of high risk of spreading during contact sport.	
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