

COVID 19 THINGS YOU NEED TO CONSIDER WHEN RISK ASSESSING THE FEASIBILITY OF ORGANISING ROLL UPS FOR MEMBERS

Now it looks as though we can get out on the greens there are several things you need to consider for the safety of your members.

Covid 19 is still with us and will continue to be. It is probable that physical distancing will be in force for a long while too, so how can we have a roll-up and maintain the two metres apart?

It should be easy with a bit of discipline and a lot of common sense, which is the basis of all risk assessment. **Yes**, you do need to carry out a risk assessment so along with this document I've attached a template for risk assessment that you can use as a guide. I've also attached templates for a risk assessment form and guidance on play. I must give my grateful thanks to Angela Cumine for compiling the risk assessment and Dawn Slaughter for assisting Angela in the practical aspects of the assessment. Angela also compiled the guidance template. She had given permission for you to adapt the templates to suit your club but if you do, you must remove Angela and Dawn's names, replacing them with the person/s who have undertaken your risk assessment or altered the templates.

Some of you may think all this is daft as most of the time you'll be outside, but no-one knows for certain how Covid 19 spreads or if you or the person you are playing against has or carries the virus. Currently it would be best to assume everyone can spread it and for everyone to take the necessary precautions fitting for their own circumstances. If this means folk feel more comfortable wearing face masks or shields, and gloves, just **remember** that such items are meant to be worn once, so when removed they need to be thrown away/or washed, not folded or rolled up, put on a table or chair to put back on to go home.

Putting a disposable or re-usable face mask round the neck, the head, in a pocket or on a hard surface is the same as taking it off as it has been contaminated by whatever has come in contact with the neck, head, pocket or hard surface!

Frequent hand washing, use of hand sanitiser and not touching their face must still be part of everyone's everyday routine so reminders around the green would not go amiss. Once home everything that can be, should be washed or disinfected before being placed on soft furnishing or amongst other clothing.

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| First of all you don't want members to turn up "willy-nilly" | So you should think of a way for members to book a rink. | Booking should be in advance, not on the day a member wants to bowl. Keep three rinks out of use, this will give those not on the mat a place to stand whilst still maintaining the personal distancing of 2 metres. |
| How long should a session be | Initially: 15 minutes preparation, 45 minutes of bowling and 15 minutes to clear up would probably suffice. You may want to limit opening to three or four days a week for a while. | i.e. first session 10 am start, players arrive no sooner than 9.45, on the mat for 10, off the mat and ready to leave by 11. Second session 11:30 players arrive no sooner than 11.15 This allows 15 minutes between session one players exit and session 2 players arrival. Don't forget to change the rinks each day so rinks don't get overplayed whilst on any particular colour. (i.e. play |

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| | | on rinks 1, 3 & 5 on first day, rinks 2, 4, & 6 on second day |
| Next is how to get folk in and out of the club. | Ok, if like NPL you are almost in the middle of a field, entry and exit is easy but somewhere like Cambridge Park, with a narrow path between the building and the hedging, needs thinking about. | Easy, if no-one is on the path someone can walk in or out, path already occupied then folk need to wait at either end until the path is clear. Hatching at each end to indicate a “keep clear” area could be adopted and a notice at each end would be a good idea. (i.e. Do not enter if path is occupied). Same goes for enclosed or partially enclosed gateways. |
| EACH CLUB WILL HAVE THEIR OWN PINCH POINT OR PROBLEM AREAS AS FAR AS PERSONAL DISTANCING IS CONCERNED SO YOU MAY NEED TO LOOK AT THESE AS WELL AS THE ABOVE. (I.E. ACCESS TO THE GREEN IS VIA THE CLUB HOUSE, ACCESS TO THE TOILETS IS THROUGH THE CHANGING ROOM OR BAR/TEA ROOM). | | |
| UNFORTUNATELY, WITH PERSONAL DISTANCING LIKELY TO STILL BE IN PLACE, FOLK WILL HAVE TO GO HOME WITHOUT THE USUAL DRINK OR CUPPA AFTERWARDS ALTHOUGH THEY CAN TAKE THEIR OWN WATER FOR USE DURING THE ROLL-UP SESSION. THEY MUST ENSURE THEY LEAVE THE CLUB 2 METRE BEHIND EACH OTHER, UNLESS THEY LIVE TOGETHER. | | |
| Changing Rooms | It would be easier to put changing rooms out of bounds so ask folk to take their kit home with them. | Hopefully everyone will have their bowls and shoes at home but If folk have their kit in a changing room then adopt a “one in, one waiting outside” system until all personal equipment has been removed. Remember door handles need to be disinfected along with other hard surfaces in the room once folk have removed their kit. |
| Toilets | I suspect there will always be at least one person needing to use the toilets so once again a “one in, one waiting outside” policy should be used. | Once they have washed their hands the person using the toilet should use disinfecting wipes to clean the flushing handle, door locks and handles and sink taps before leaving. A dedicated waste bin both inside a cubicle and out should help preventing such wipes going down the pan! Again, all toilet furniture should be disinfected at the end of the roll-up session. |
| Now for the actual roll-up. How many members can play against each other | The Government released a set of steps to ease lockdown restrictions in England on 10th May 2020. This means that individuals may practise bowls on their own or that two or more people from the same household, may play singles or (more than 2 in the household) pairs in the usual manner. However, this does not mean that transmission of COVID 19 to other groups of players is still not a clear risk | |

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| | When more than folk from the same household can play | <p>As long as those not on the mat maintain the 2metre personal distance from other folk, by standing on the adjacent empty rink, a singles or pairs game should be easily accomplished.</p> <p>Each skip should stand on the adjacent empty rink until their turn to direct their team. Each player should always handle their own bowls, so no putting the opponent's bowls on the bank or in their bag for them!</p> <p>A triple is a bit of a problem, as far as the 2metres is concerned, but if there are two empty adjacent rinks it should be easy to achieve.</p> |
| The Mats | <p>Initially, as these sessions should just be a practice session: Singles</p> <p>Pairs</p> | <p>One person should pick up and place the mat/s at all times. One mat could be used at both ends or the mats left at full length throughout the session.</p> <p>Each lead could have their own mat. It would be easy to establish that one lead handles the mat at one end whilst the other looks after the mat at the other end. Initially neither skip should touch the mat at any time.</p> |
| The Jack. | <p>Initially, as these sessions should just be a practice session: Singles</p> <p>Pairs</p> | <p>Each player has their own jack and places it where the winner of the end indicates.</p> <p>If the club has white and yellow jacks then one of each should be used to help leads identify which jack is theirs.</p> <p>One skip should pick up and place the jacks as guided by the winner of the rink.</p> <p>it is suggested initially that jacks and mats are placed with distance being varied by the jack placement.</p> |
| Measuring | <p>Initially, as it is only a roll-up no measuring should be necessary as judgement by eye should suffice.</p> <p>It's possible that there is always one person that insists on a measure!</p> | <p>Any measuring should be done by one person using their own equipment. It is only a roll-up so if the distance between jack and bowl is too great for one person then the players should agree which bowl is nearer or discount the contested bowls. The parts of the measure touching jack and bowl should be wiped with</p> |

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| | | an alcohol wipe during the game then disinfected AT the end. |
| Two Metre Sticks | Initially, as it is only a roll-up the two metre sticks should not be used. | As with the mats and the jacks, although the twos in a triple could take control of the sticks at each end. |
| <p>MATS, JACKS AND STICKS SHOULD BE DISINFECTED AFTER USE, ESPECIALLY IF THEY ARE GOING TO BE USED IMMEDIATELY AFTER SOMEONE ELSE HAS USED THEM. THIS SHOULD BE DONE BY THE PLAYER DESIGNATED TO HANDLE THEM DURING THE SESSION. ALTHOUGH MOST CLUBS WILL HAVE ENOUGH MATS FOR THEM TO BE USED IN ROTATION. (I.E. PUTTING DISINFECTED MATS JUST USED IN A PILE, POSSIBLY MARKED "JUST USED"). I DOUBT EVERYONE OWNS THEIR OWN MATS AND JACK, BUT IF THEY DO THEN THEY SHOULD USE THEM, ENSURING THEY ARE DISINFECTED AFTER USE AND NO-ONE ELSE HANDLES THEM. PUSHERS SHOULDN'T BE USED; PLAYERS SHOULD PICK UP THEIR OWN BOWLS AND PLACE THEM BEHIND THE MAT A SHORT DISTANCE (OR ON THE EMPTY RINK) AWAY FROM THEIR OPPONENTS. THE SKIP'S BOWLS SHOULD, WITH CARE, BE KICKED TO A SUITABLE SPOT.</p> | | |