



## General Introduction

### CHA 'Return to Play':

To enable our members to Return to Play safely at Stage 4 & 5, Cornwall Hockey Association (CHA) has:

- Appointed a Covid Officer, who will liaise with the CHA committee and whom is registered with England Hockey.
- Widely advertised the Covid Officer's name and contact for its members. This is included on the CHA website.
- Produced a Covid-19 specific Risk Assessment to be used alongside the existing playing Risk Assessments for activity delivered by CHA.
- Made readily available, through our website and communications, to all our members, the importance of limiting the spread of Covid-19 and how to go about this in line the the Government's and England Hockey's guidelines.
- Posted the Covid Officer's details of each CHA affiliated club on our website.
- Ensured that in the event of local lockdowns, CHA will follow England Hockey and Government guidance according to the specific implications for hockey, which might vary in each case.
- Are continuing to work with and support our players, coaches, officials and volunteers to return to hockey, when they and/or their parents or guardians feel confident for them to do so.
- Continue to ensure that all participants undergo a self-assessment for any Covid-19 symptoms. No-one should leave home to participate in any form of hockey if they, or someone they live with, has any of the following:
  - A high temperature (above 37.8)
  - A new continuous cough
  - A loss of or change to their sense of smell or taste
- Encouraged all participants to watch the animated video on the England Hockey website outlining their personal responsibilities. These have also been posted on the CHA Facebook for information and can be found on the Covid-19 website page through the England Hockey link.
- Asked participants to consider if their underlying health condition, may caution against participation.
- Under the advice of England Hockey and other NGB's, an awareness that people from the BAME communities may face greater risk from COVID-19. Therefore, BAME participants should talk to our Covid Officer, their coach or an official from their club, to identify and understand the measures that will, and are, being put in place. Based on those conversations, BAME individuals should make a personal decision as to whether the time is right to re-start playing hockey.



## Keeping Members Safe whilst on the Pitch

### For CHA delivered Activity (Development & Academy Centres):

- All players/coaches/umpires/volunteers/spectators, when visiting venues used for CHA sessions, must strictly adhere to the venues policies and procedures, in order to ensure a safe environment for all to train and work in, as well as, sticking to CHA and venue insurance policies. This is vital for us to be able to continue to use these facilities. Please remember this is a “new normal” for all of us; we are in the same situation, so please be patient and courteous to all venue staff and CHA volunteers.
- The Player Pathway Administrator will contact all players prior to DC and AC cycles starting with the details of the sessions.
- All participants are to have signed the player participation agreement for Cornwall Hockey Association Player Pathway Activity available on the England Hockey Website. This must be completed at least 25 hours before a participant’s first session. Parents/guardians will need to sign up for anyone U18 and players may be asked to print their confirmation email from England Hockey, to confirm that they have signed up to the agreement.
- The CHA Covid Officer will liaise with the Player Pathway Administrator to ensure all participants have opted in to play.
- Only participants who have signed up and have confirmation from the Player Pathway Administrator will be allowed to take part in the session.
- All players and coaches will be checked-in using the register function within the schedule section of the England Hockey Player Pathway System for Track & Trace purposes. These players will be contacted prior to their first sessions, to explain any processes.
- Groups will consist of no more than 30 people, per half pitch, including all coaches and volunteers.
- Competitive contact play is permitted.
- Anyone not taking part in hockey training or play, must remain socially distanced, in line with the current guidelines; dug outs and benches should only be used if social distancing can be achieved. There will be, socially distanced, designated areas for any surplus kit to be placed; however, no extra kit, other than what players intend to play in, should be brought to the pitch, as players have been requested to attend their sessions in their playing kit.
- Spectators must remain socially distanced outside of the pitch in discrete groups of no more than 6.
- CHA would kindly ask that all parents and guardians ensure that their child has their own water bottle, hand sanitiser, sun cream and any necessary medication, such as inhaler. All items belonging to their child should be labelled with their name and should not be used by anyone else.
- CHA will liaise with all host facilities, that they use, to ensure pitches are cleaned in line with the Government guidelines, prior to and after sessions.
- The facilities that CHA will use will have hand sanitiser available at the pitch. There are formal handwashing facilities also available.
- We will provide coaches with disinfectants, to clean all playing equipment owned by CHA, prior to and after each session. Where, and when, it is possible, this equipment will be left for a 72 hour isolation period. Sanitised equipment should be used for any follow on sessions.



- Where it is not feasible to leave any used equipment for a 72 hour isolation period, the coach, or identified individual, will be responsible for cleaning and disinfecting the equipment thoroughly, before the use by another group, will be allowed.
- Player Pathway Administrator/Coaches to remind participants at each session that playing social distancing guidelines are to be adhered to. This to also include reminders that there are to be no hand shaking, huddles or sharing of water bottles.
- Only coaches, volunteers or an identified individual will collect equipment during and after the session. Players will be told not to pick anything up, including balls. If the ball goes out of play, players will be expected not to pick up the ball with their hand and, instead, use their stick to bring the ball back into the playing area.
- The Player Pathway Administrator will issue a Player and Parent information sheet ahead all sessions. This information sheet will reiterate the requirement to maintain social distancing in line with guidance. The information sheet will include details relating to the pitch lay out, session timings, requirements for entering and exiting the pitch. This may include the use of separate pitch entrances/exits for different groups to maintain allowable numbers per session. Information sheet to include the cleaning processes being utilised by the session Coaches. Information sheet to include England Hockey 'return to play' guidance poster and a link to the England Hockey video.
- Coaches will be provided with the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), facemasks and gloves, for their first aid kit, to ensure the continued safety of the first aider and patient.
- Should someone display any of the recognised symptoms of Covid-19 during a session, this is to be immediately raised to the coach who will then do the following:
  - Isolate and assess the affected individual away from other participants ensuring a 2m distance at all times.
  - If the coach needs to encroach the 2m distance from the affected individual then they will ensure appropriate PPE will be worn (gloves, mask & eye protection). Equipment to be suitably disposed of following use.
  - The coach will contact the participants emergency contact and request that they attend as soon as possible to collect the individual and then follow NHS guidance regarding isolating and testing. The participant's parent/guardian will be expected to make contact with CHA's covid officer who will ensure actions are then taken in line with EH guidelines.
  - In exceptional circumstances should participant's life or limb be at risk then facility first aid guidance to be followed for emergency medical treatment.
- Spitting will not be tolerated. If an individual is caught excessively spitting, or been asked, by the CHA volunteer, to stop multiple times, this may result in further disciplinary action, to those individuals identified, in line with England Hockey Code of Ethics & Behaviour.
- Chewing gum before, during or after playing or training is strictly forbidden. This is because it can lead to a higher risk of cross contamination and therefore, this may result in further disciplinary action, to those individuals identified, in line with England Hockey Code of Ethics & Behaviour.
- No shouting excessively.
- No handshakes, or unnecessary bodily contact, throughout the time on the pitch and the use a stick tap at end of game, is advised.
- When players are not engaged in training, or match play, they should adhere to the social distancing rule of 2 metres. Dug outs and benches should only be used if social distancing can be achieved. This will be carefully monitored by the lead coach or identified individual.



- Players should arrive promptly and in time for their session and leave immediately afterwards. Congregating outside the venue will not be tolerated, and may result in further disciplinary action, to those individuals identified, in line with England Hockey Code of Ethics & Behaviour.

For CHA organised activity (Junior club leagues & tournaments, County competitions and the Cornwall cup & Plate):

- CHA will provide participating clubs with the covid risk assessments and process in place at the hosting club/venue. It will therefore be the responsibility of the participating clubs to ensure these are followed.
- It is the responsibility of all junior clubs entering the inter-club junior tournaments to have all the England Hockey requirements in place, within their own clubs.
- All participating clubs must have their own covid19 Risk Assessment.
- The host club will be responsible for all pitch safety requirements, including cleaning of the pitches, large equipment, risk assessments and ensuring information posters are displayed.
- Individual clubs are responsible for ensuring their own equipment is cleaned.
- To help limit number of people at venues, during the tournament, CHA will consider the following when producing schedules:
  - Schedules planned for groups of 30, this may mean initially limiting team numbers.
  - Reduced number of games or splitting into different venues.
  - Divide competitions where possible to boys/girls/mixed and run separately with, if possible, breaks in between to allow one group to leave the pitch area, before another arrives.
- Each individual club is responsible for ensuring they take the required attendance register, for Track & Trace purposes, for their teams at all tournaments they attend and electronically send to England Hockey, within the 24 hour period, post tournament. Clubs to store registers for 21 days.
- Should any of the participants develop symptoms, the participating club is responsible for ensuring the EH process for managing confirmed or suspected covid cases is followed.

## Contact Information

### **Cornwall HA Covid Officer:**

Jules Millward [Vice-chair-cha@outlook.com](mailto:Vice-chair-cha@outlook.com)

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Full information and all England Hockey guidelines can be found [here](#) and should be read in conjunction with this return to play plan.