

Wilmslow Hockey Club: Members Covid Update 3rd December

I am pleased to be writing this update to let you know that England Hockey has confirmed that clubs in all Tiers can resume training and matches from Wednesday 2 December.

You will also now be aware that Cheshire East is in the new Tier 2 and Greater Manchester is in the new Tier 3. This has brought in some stricter rules so please read the update in full.

Guidance for Members living in Tier 1 and Tier 2

- **In the new Tiers 1 and 2, training and matches can resume from December 2. All activity must comply with our current COVID guidance.**
- Spectators are permitted in Tier 1 and Tier 2 areas but only if following the "rule of 6" and social distancing guidelines.
- A key change announced relates to travel arrangements, where **car sharing is now not allowed outside of your household or bubble** and will apply to adult teams travelling for hockey within both Tier 2 and Tier 3. This means **you cannot provide any lifts to anyone outside your household even if you are travelling within your own Tier and there are no exceptions for a "hockey bubble" of players.**
- The bar, as it cannot serve alcohol without food, will be closed so **please ensure that you have arranged for the clubhouse to be opened if you don't have keys.**
- The Clubhouse will be open for toilets and changing rooms.

Guidance for Members living in Tier 3

- Any Player who lives in a Tier 3 area can continue to play hockey. However, this can only be intra club matches against teams within the same Tier 3 area.
- You should not travel between neighbouring Tier 3 areas, even if they share the same border. Each Tier 3 area is seen as separate, they are not one continuous area.
- **Spectators are not permitted in Tier 3 areas for adult activity**, therefore no spectators will be allowed.
- However, for U18's **one spectator per household/child is permitted**, following social distancing guidelines, although Cheadle Hulme School are asking parents to remain in their cars.

Specific travel exemptions for Tier 3 Areas:

- **Under 18's can travel outside or into Tier 3 areas to access their hockey activity. This is for U18 activity only and does not cover under 18s playing in adult activity.**
- Parents obviously are likely to be required to provide transport for this and it is recommended that people only travel in household groups or bubbles when they are coming from Tier 3 Areas.
- Volunteers and officials must follow participant guidance for the relevant Tiers. They are only exempt from travel restrictions if they are required to facilitate exempt activity (under 18s activity and disability sport). Therefore, **volunteer umpires cannot travel out of Tier 3 or Tier 2 areas to umpire adult matches.**
- **Paid individuals with contracts in place for delivering hockey can travel to access hockey activity.** This is true for roles that are classified as paid work

such as coaches or associated roles, so paid coaches can continue with current commitments for the club.

- Matches between U18 players can also take place with clubs in all areas but we recommend both teams are comfortable playing.
- **The guidance recommends no travel between Tier 3 areas. The Covid Tier 3 Areas are seen as separate areas, not one continuous area.** So, for example, Liverpool teams cannot play Lancashire teams even though both areas are at Tier 3. This applies even when Tier 3 area borders meet.
- As always if you have any questions or concerns then feel free to contact me directly,

Sharon Holford, COVID Officer