

Risk Mitigation Considerations

Licensed events are the responsibility of the host club or organiser. This includes creating a safe and manageable competition environment for all attendees. The following is a list of risk mitigation considerations for event organisers to ensure events are delivered safely. Clubs are encouraged to use the below however the following are recommendations and not prescriptive conditions of licensing.

Further guidance and support can be found here: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus>

1. **Lateral Flow Testing (LFT) Protocols**

LFTs can be used to limit the potential of infectious transmission onsite during your events. This ensure those onsite have shown a negative test for COVID-19 in the previous 24 hours.

- Attendees are required to self-administer a lateral flow test within 24 hours before arrival - these can be ordered from the NHS on the link below: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>
- Complete the lateral flow test as per instructions, taking specific notice of the length of time required to leave the test before reading the results
- The result of the LFT should be reported to the NHS COVID reporting system <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>
 - This produces a text notifying of your negative result, this must be shown on the door at arrival
 - This process must be completed by everyone in attendance, for each day of attendance, lack of evidence of a negative test will result in no entry the venue
- If your result is positive, you should not leave home and should arrange an NHS PCR test as per Government guidance
- The use of the NHS COVID reporting system is advised, though you may wish to advise attendees to bring a negative test with them instead – the important point is that a negative test is verified
- If you have any illness symptoms, do not enter the environment without discussion with your point of contact
- If you have come into contact with anyone with known Coronavirus, do not enter the environment
- Although we are aware the Welsh Government and Public Health Wales do not advise repeat testing for 90 days after a previously positive result (unless new COVID-19 symptoms develop), LFT tests can still be used as part of risk mitigation and included within a risk assessment.

2. **Track and Trace (T&T) Protocol**

Track and Trace can be used to limit the spread of COVID-19 and trace those who may have come into contact with the virus.

- All attendees should be encouraged to 'check in' to the event using the NHS COVID-19 app, a QR code should be made available on site
- A QR code can be created here:
<https://www.gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster>

3. **Social Distancing Protocol**

Social distancing can be used during your events to encourage safe use of the facility and protect those in attendance. Whilst social distancing restrictions are now longer enforced, users are encouraged to respect other users and their space.

4. **Masks/PPE**

Masks/PPE can be used at your events to limit the spread of COVID-19 and protect those attending.

- Masks or appropriate PPE must be worn whilst inside the premises at all times
- Masks may be removed by participants for the purposes for racing/entering the water only

5. **Risk Assessment**

A fully comprehensive Risk Assessment must be completed prior to commencement of the competition/event. The Risk Assessment must be agreed and signed off by the facility and the event organiser/host prior to commencement of the competition/event. The Risk Assessment should include (but not be limited to):

- Managing the risk of transmission of COVID-19
- Intended delivery of COVID protocols
- Mitigating factors (such as LFT Protocols)
- Management of personal on site
- Ventilation
- Operational considerations
- Equipment
- Set-up
- Illness of key staff and Loss of volunteers
- Waste disposal
- Terrorism/Security/Health & Safety
- Financial Risks

A template risk assessment is available online.

6. **Event and Building Capacity**

Event organisers should consider the number of attendee's onsite during their competition. Building capacity and event capacity may vary (building capacity may include all onsite e.g. facility staff and lifeguards, event capacity may include anyone involved in the execution of the event itself (below). This may be impacted by the facilities operational procedures, your risk assessment and/or local authority recommendations (e.g. safety advisory groups).

Attendees may include:

- Swimmers
- Coaches
- Volunteers
- Officials
- Spectators
- Site staff (check if these are included in the building capacity or separate to the event capacity)

Organisers should give due consideration to the following:

- Number of officials on the deck
 - What does a minimum/maximum deck look like for your event?
- Number of volunteers on the deck
 - Who needs to be present to run the event smoothly?
- How many swimmers can you safely accommodate on your deck?
 - Think about warm up and marshalling (pinch points)
 - Do you need to run additional shorter sessions with less swimmers in attendance to accommodate numbers?
- Do you have capacity for spectators?
 - Can you offer an alternative viewing option e.g. live streaming?