



Please also note the points here as it is applicable to all participants and attendees currently.

Please note:

If a person has not yet or does not want to disclose their vaccination status then they have this right but are considered by the HSE a higher risk of getting the infection and should be vigilant for symptoms and, like **all** others, use the COVID checks and/ or the app before entering the training or game. Games can take place but with the checks done for **all** participating vaccinated, recovered or other.

Please be advised that underage (through their guardians) or adults, not wanting to get vaccinated or wanting to disclose their vaccination status, and their identity, are to be treated with the utmost respect and in line with all the regulations that are in place for child safety and GDPR. These persons can take part in training and/or games once the COVID questionnaire is completed by **all** participating.

Under 12's down are to be considered in pods of 6 only until October 22nd. Competitive games are allowed i.e. friendlies for these age groups from September 20th. League and cup matches are **not** permitted until October 22nd.

National League and Super Leagues Competitions start on October 9th, but the spectator regulations still apply to these leagues, i.e. from September 20th 100 persons (including all participants and those required to facilitate the game) indoors until the 22nd of October.

Competitive Training and Games

Competitive training and games are allowed, for all levels and age groups, to take place from **September 20th** i.e. friendlies and invitationals. League and cup matches are **not** permitted until October 22nd. Games can take place but with the COVID checks done.

Competition Games

Competitions can only take place from **22nd of October**, i.e. League and cup matches for all levels and age groups. Games can take place but with the COVID checks done.

Transport To and From Activities & Events

Public transport is operating at full capacity. Protective measures such as physical distancing, mask wearing etc. should be used in line with guidance for travel on public transport.

Carpooling is allowed but all persons should be aware of the higher risks to unvaccinated individuals and the use of appropriate sanitiser and face coverings is recommended

Guidance for Venue Entry

All participants are to complete the COVID questionnaire before entry, regardless of vaccination, recovery or other.

If participating in the game, complete COVID questionnaire on the Basketball Ireland app (information on the app [here](#)) before you leave your house. Don't travel if feeling in any way unwell.

1. All participants should have used the app before going to the venue, filled out the questionnaire on the app, however there should be a questionnaire at the door so they can fill it out there if needed.
2. All persons should be aware of the symptoms of COVID.
3. No person should go to the venue if they suspect they may have or have symptoms of COVID.
4. No person should travel in an enclosed area with another person if they feel unwell, or suspect they are unwell.
5. If a person presents with a high temperature only, (which must be less than 37.5°C as recommended by the HSE), then the questions related to COVID symptoms should be asked. (see point 7 below)
6. Retake temperature as it may have come down. (Recommend take the temperature 3 times and take the average of the 3, as some devices have a tolerance range that may be low.) The person may have been running to the venue.

The following questions should be asked:

7. Do you have?
 - a) Fever or Chills
 - b) Cough
 - c) Shortness of Breath
 - d) Loss of smell or taste
 - e) Fatigue
 - f) Aches and pains
 - g) Sore throat
 - h) Headache
 - i) Runny or stuffy Nose
 - j) Feeling sick or Vomiting
 - k) Diarrhoea
 - i) Have you been around anyone that has tested positive for COVID in the last 48hrs?
 - ii) Have you been a close contact with any person who has had a test and has not received result, or is waiting for a test?
8. If **No** to the questions in point 7, then retake temperature as it may have come down. (Recommend take the temperature 3 times and take the average of the 3 as some devices have a tolerance range that may be low.)
9. If **yes** to more than one item in point 7 then entry is not recommended.
10. If **yes** to points k) i, ii, then no entry is allowed.
11. If a person is unwell and has travelled on a bus/coach or in a group/ team then it is recommended all be tested and follow rules relating to waiting for the results.
12. If a person has travelled in a car as a group and they are unwell or present with symptoms then entry is not recommended to that group of people even if they are players.
13. Any person or group that has presented with symptoms should be advised to contact their health advisor and follow the instructions given by them.

No entry to anyone undergoing a test or advised to quarantine (due to close contact).

All points here are guidance and are in line with the National health guidelines and the Basketball Ireland RTP guidelines.

All participants should be made aware of, understand and agree the requirements so as to avoid any issue at the entry of the venue.

Venue Training

The venue for training.

All persons entering the facility have to fill out or be asked the COVID questionnaire.

All sanitisation and cleaning protocols to be followed. The flow of people entering and exiting will be through more than one entry/exit point and the allowable number can enter through one door and exit from another (e.g. Fire Exit). Recommended use of face masks when not in an active game

- Normal Operating Procedures to be visible.
- Emergency Operating Procedures to be visible.
- Robust cleaning procedures in place and available on request.
- Only the team/age group training allowed on the court.
- Plan for changeover of teams/age groups after sessions so there is time to clean all areas and surfaces – COVID compliance/venue officer is responsible for the management of changeovers.
- Venue has to maximise ventilation opportunity – open doors, windows etc. – in order to reduce aerosol spread.
- Recommended that toilets follow the guidance outlined below. The venue has appropriate toilet facilities and can maintaining social distance rules. Suitable hand washing facilities must be available.
- Water fountains cordoned off.
- Hand sanitiser available at entrance to the building.
- Recommended:
 - Hand sanitiser on court
 - Regular disinfection of heavily used areas and surfaces
 - Increased waste disposal bins and dedicated COVID-19 disposal signage
 - Separate entrance and exits to the court and main building clearly signed
 - COVID-19 symptom checker/poster at the entrance
 - Available PPE for medical emergency and staff with knowledge on how to apply first aid within COVID-19 restrictions.

Venue Games

All persons entering the facility have to fill out or be asked the COVID questionnaire.

The venue for Games.

All sanitisation and cleaning protocols to be followed. The flow of people entering and exiting will be through more than one entry/exit point and the allowable number can enter through one door and exit from another (e.g. Fire Exit).

The COVID questionnaire or the app should be used before travel, but if not done then it can be done at the door.

It is advised that at least 12hrs before the game the host is contacted and advised that all participants have answered the COVID questionnaire, used the app, or some may have to be processed at the door.

1. **Contract Tracing:**

The home team is responsible for contract tracing. The away team must inform the host team in writing at least 12 hours before the game of who will be attending the game from their club.

2. **Parents Of Under-18 Players:**

One parent per child is allowed attend. If the attendance of parents would put the total number of attendees above the prescribed limit the game cannot go ahead unless the parents agree not to attend and allow supervision as per child safety guidance, or the player is withdrawn from the game. The limit cannot be exceeded.

3. **Access To Court:**

At a minimum, teams must have access 30 minutes before tip-off. However, if another game has preceded the fixture time must be allowed for cleansing etc. as per guidelines. Ideally, there should be access between 30 minutes and 60 minutes before tip-off.

4. **Dressing Rooms & Toilets:**

Where venues permit it, dressing rooms may be used providing the guidance below is followed and sanitisation is enforced. Toilets can be used under the same conditions.

5. **Benches:**

Benches can be used; players and coaches do not need to wear masks during the games.

6. **Maximum number of people**

Allowed at a game from the 20th of September until the 22nd of October is 100 people. This includes all required to run the facility, the game and participate in it. As example: this means that if 50 people are required to facilitate the game, then the remaining 50 are spectators, totalling **100** indoors.

7. **Equipment:**

The equipment (ball) should be sanitised every 30 minutes or at half time. It is recommended that more than one (1) ball be present so it can be sanitised and/ or replaced by the other at half time, to avoid damp or stickiness after sanitisation.

8. **Masks:**

Recommended use of face masks when not participating in an active game. Spectators should wear masks.

Showers / Changing Rooms / Sports Clubhouse Gyms

From September 20th showers and changing rooms can begin to reopen with protective measures in place. Recommended measures include:

- Ensure only necessary participants/sports teams/officials/support staff have access to changing rooms.
- Limit overall number and duration of individuals in a changing room for example implement a 15-minute window/5-minute shower rule etc.

- Continue to implement adequate social distancing measures in changing areas for example the use of every second changing space/lockers/shower head etc.
- Recommend the wearing of masks in shared areas (showers are the exception).
- Provide clear signage highlighting any relevant space capacities and time durations.
- Close off any unnecessary spaces or those not in use/not permitted.
- Monitor toilets with agreed capacity numbers and limit to participants/patrons only.
- Implement flow management systems where necessary. One entry, different exit.
- To improve ventilation consider an open window / open door policy (subject to privacy).
- Provide sanitisation stations as appropriate on entrances and in shared areas.
- Continue to promote hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette through signage, posters etc.
- Ensure deep cleaning of shared areas on a regular basis.

If COVID-19 Symptoms Reported After the Session

- All participants (players, coaches and support staff) in the training session have a responsibility to notify the COVID-19 Compliance Officer should they get symptoms of COVID-19 within 48 hours of the training session.
- Anyone with symptoms should call their doctor or health care doctor.
- COVID-19 Compliance Officer to direct the infected individual to the National Government's Contact-tracing procedures. In addition to the above advice, the COVID Compliance Officer must contact all individuals that attended the training session in question to advise that an individual within that group has reported symptoms. If the individual is a coach, then all participants of all sessions will need to be contacted.
- If a member of a team presents with symptoms within 48 hours of a training session/game and has been in contact with other players, coaches and officials, then training/practice/matches played by that team must be suspended and a period of isolation as set out by the government,
 1. The player will have to stop activities and get tested.
 2. The team will have to suspend activities and monitor for symptoms. (team here means any person involved in the activity that may have been in close contact)
 3. If the test is **negative** then the player must not return to activities until the player is symptom free for at least 48hrs, only then return to activities.
 4. The team may return to activities if the test is negative without the tested player, but must watch for any symptoms that may be related to the COVID virus. Report any symptoms to the COVID Compliance Officer.
 5. If the test is **positive** then the player will be given advice from the doctor or health care professional and should follow this advice. The HSE or the public health medical advice team will give advice to the other people that were in close contact with the person.
 6. Our protocols remain, but the HSE and medical advice team has to be followed above these protocols in a confirmed case situation.
- The name of the infected individual is not to be disclosed to protect anonymity.
- COVID-19 Compliance Officer should complete the COVID-19 incident reporting form, Basketball Ireland COVID-19 Screening Document.

Hygiene Considerations

This is the guidance on maintaining good hygiene for players within basketball.

Preparation

- After using the toilet facility, thoroughly wash hands for a minimum of 20 seconds with soap or alcohol gel (minimum 60% ethanol or 70% isopropanol)
- Use of changing rooms as above
- No handshakes, high fives or other bodily contact. Social distancing rules apply
- When having touched high-contact surfaces such as door handles, benches, chairs, public computer keyboards etc. sanitise hands thereafter.

During Training/Playing

- Ensure all HSE, Sport Ireland, Basketball Ireland, Government and other guidelines are adhered to,
- Ball washing or wiping down with sanitiser prior to starting,
- No sharing of bibs.
- No shared towels.
- No shared water bottles.
- 'Crates' of water may be provided, but each bottle is for individual use not to be shared.
- No handshakes, high fives, or other bodily contact except that of on court play,
- Have plenty of hand sanitiser available courtside with regular stoppages (the recommendation is every 30 minutes, or at half time.) for application.
- Social distancing rules apply when not on court,
- All balls cleaned before, during and after training.
- Once team practices commence, we recommend wiping balls every 30 minutes.
- Ball washing/wiping at the end of the session.
- Immediate hand washing/sanitising once the session is complete.
- Recommended use of face masks for coaches, support staff and officials, when not in an active game.

After Training/Games

It is recommended that:

- Immediate hand washing or hand sanitising for a minimum of 20 seconds.
- Showering or changing at the venue (where applicable and policies in place).
- No congregating at the venue after your game.
- No handshakes, high fives or other bodily contact.