ROYSTON TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

COVID-19 Risk Assessment
Re-starting outdoor competitive grassroots football

Premises Particulars

Premises Name: *Royston Town Football Club* Address: *Garden Walk, Royston, Hertfordshire, SG8 7HP*	Use of Premises: *Football Facility with Licensed Bar and Changing Rooms*
Tel No: *+ 44 (01763) 241204*	Responsible Person(s): *Lauren Chappell (07977519965)*
Date of Assessment: *29/03/21; Version 5*	Date of Review: *Next Review 01/05/21*
COVID-19 Risk Assessment Conducted By: *Lauren Chappell*	

Executive Report

EVERY PARTICIPANT MUST FOLLOW ALL FA AND GOVERNMENT ADVICE. THIS IS CRUCIAL TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF EVERYONE INVOLVED IN THE GAME, AND SO WE CAN CONTINUE TO PLAY. ANY INCIDENTS OF NON-COMPLIANCE WILL BE REPORTED TO THE RELEVANT COUNTY FA FOR ACTION

COVID-19 Symptoms The most common symptoms of corona virus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- High Temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 of more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- Has shortness of breath or a sore throat.
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Should anyone directly or indirectly involved in the football displays any or more than one of the above symptoms they should not attend football training, pre-season friendless or competitive matches and must self-isolate and follow the guidance as set out within GOV.UK / Public Health England. Should anyone such as manager, coach or player feel that have developed symptoms or feel unwell during any football session they should immediately inform the senior representative (i.e Manager / Coach), leave immediately and go home. Once home follow the guidance as set out within GOV.UK / Public Health England.

How is the Virus Spread

People can catch COVID-19 from others who have the virus. The disease spreads primarily from person to person through small droplets from the nose or

mouth, which are expelled when a person with COVID-19 coughs, sneezes, or speaks. These droplets are relatively heavy, do not travel far and quickly sink to the ground. People can catch COVID-19 if they breathe in these droplets from a person infected with the virus. This is why it is important to stay at least 2 metres away from others or 1 metre plus with mitigation. These droplets can land on objects and surfaces around the person such as footballs, training Bibs, cones, goal posts and poles. People can become infected by touching these objects or surfaces, then touching their eyes, nose or mouth.
This is why it is important to wash your hands regularly with soap and water or clean with alcohol-based hand rub.

How to avoid catching and spreading the virus whilst football training

- All competitive football sessions will be conducted in groups of no more than thirty (30) players and coaching staff.
- The use and sharing of equipment during competitive sessions should be kept to a minimum. All football equipment pre/post training or matches will be disinfected by the coaching team.
- The coaching team will ensure all players clean their hands regularly as good hygiene practice. This can be undertaken using anti-bacterial hand wipes and / or hand gel Social Distancing During Competitive Sessions (Training and / or Matches) In line with the latest FA and Government advice, full contact football can commence providing the following mitigations are adhered too;
- In all instances before and after any competitive session, whether that's training or matches and during any breaks the coaching staff must ensure social distancing is re-enforced to two metres or one metre plus. This can include; avoiding direct face to face contact, wearing a face mask or covering.
- Pre-match handshakes will be banned
- Team talk huddles (pre, post and during half time) will take place adhering to social distancing
- Warm-ups / cool down activity will take place adhering to social distancing
- The coaching team will brief and remind the players that during competitive sessions to avoid unnecessary close contact during set-plays (i.e free kicks, corners and penalties) as well as continuing to monitor and limit persistent close proximity of other players during the game.
- Unnecessary or persistent shouting will be discouraged in addition spitting will be strictly forbidden
- All Interactions with match officials shall adhere to social distancing

First Aid during competitive sessions

The health, safety & welfare of the football team are of absolute paramount. If a player is Injured during a session we will operate a three line of defence methodology;

- If a player is injured during a training session, the appointed first aider on site shall be equipped with appropriate PPE (face mask and gloves) should intervene and provide first aid. All other teammates and coaches shall maintain social distance.
- If a player is injured during a competitive match the first-aider onsite shall be equipped with appropriate PPE (face mask and gloves) to protect themselves and the injured player should they be required to compromise social distancing. Only one player in the treatment room at any one time
- In the extreme chance a player suffers a serious injury during competitive training or matches (life threatening treatment such as CPR or limb threatening) the manager, coach and / or first aider can compromise the guidelines to provide immediate first aid.

NHS Test and Trace

From the 24th September we will be using the NHS track and trace system using the QR code with the NHS Covid App. We will continue to use the manual forms where needed. The QR code will be at the entrance of the ground for all staff/players and spectators to use. We will be encouraging everyone to be downloading the app to ensure the process is quicker for entrance.

Will be required under the FA Guidance to follow and operate to the NHS Test and Trace protocols. GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) allows RTFC to request contact information from players, coaching staff or visitors and share it with NHS Test and Trace to help minimise the transmission of Covid-19 and support public health and safety. All managers / coaches will maintain a paper-based register of the players who have attended each competitive session (training and / or matches). Should there be a requirement to provide contact information to NHS Test and Trace, such information will be taken from the players registration form, visitors will be required to provide and name and contact number and will be held for 21 days as per guidelines

Supporters:

No spectators are allowed at grassroots sport as part of step one of the Government's roadmap. This means that at this stage, no spectators are allowed at grassroots football.

This risk assessment will remain a live document during the COVID-19 pandemic and will be continually monitored and reviewed in line with Government advice.

This document shall be shared with the players and staff members. If anyone is concerned or unsure they should not feel pressured to attend any training session or matches.

In accordance with the FA Guidelines, Lauren Chappell has volunteered to take on the position of Covid-19 officer for ROYSTON TOWN FC

This position will require the ongoing support and assistance of all RTFC Committee Members, Football Team Managers & Coaches to comply

WHAT ARE THE HAZARDS?	WHO MIGHT BE HARMED	CONTROLS REQUIRED	ADDITIONAL CONTROLS	ACTION BY WHOM?	ACTION BY WHEN	DATE COMPLETE
Spread of Covid-19	Staff, public, volunteers Anybody entering the premises	**Clubhouse :** **THE CLUBHOUSE WILL REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER GOVERMENT GUIDENCE IS GIVEN**	**From 24/09/20 we will be using the NHS covid track and trace QR system** **This will be used by all**		On-going	Open

			members of staff/ players and supports where possible. A manual option will still be used if needed			
		Supporters attendance In line with the latest government updates with return to grassroots football NO SPECTATORS will be allowed to watch any forth coming games All games will be played behind closed doors	The main gates to our ground will remain closed once all players and staff have arrived			
Spread of covid 19	Players Management Staff Visitors	**Ground/on pitch** to allow spectators the following will be in place: • We will not be taking temperature checks for supporters it will be their responsibility to not attend if	Test and trace forms are available on our website for those walk in spectators , forms will be available at the gate entrance also **From 24/09/20 we will be using the NHS covid track and**	Covid officer to ensure a designated volunteer is appointed this job on	On going	Open

		they have any symptoms- signage will be present upon entry • Social distance 2m markings will be marked in yellow lines/boxes around the pitch area • Seated areas will be sealed off on alternate rows • Standing stands will be marked at 2M • Shouting, singing and chanting is not allowed and we will encourage to wear face coverings to reduce the risk of spreading the virus by droplets **<u>Parking:</u>** Parking will be allocated on arrival and priority will be given to the away team for parking on the ground Staggered arrival times to be arranged for home team and management to avoid congestion in the ground Match officials will have parking available within the ground	**trace app** Advice will be given to away teams prior to any matches Players to consider how they travel avoiding car share if possible	each match day		

Spread of covid 19	Players and management supporters **Home games**	• AS OF 29/03/21 • **The Government's position is that changing rooms cannot be used as part of step one in the roadmap out of lockdown. Changing facilities can only be used in emergency situations, or by disabled people who are taking part in organised sport and physical activity. We are working with the Government on this and will update our guidance as soon as we have any further information.** • Manager / Coach will arrive to the match minus 90 minutes before kick-off, check and confirm suitable and sufficient PPE available • Home team Players temperatures will be checked upon their arrival • AWAY team players will be responsible for their own temperature checks • Warm ups, team / half time talks and post team talks will be	To support NHS Test and Trace All players and staff will be scanning the qr code team talks required from management to include reminders of hygiene and social distancing and to be taken outside Temperature checks will be taken place by their own management upon arrival Players will be responsible for their own water bottles Where players are substitutes or been substituted during a	Mgr/coach physio	To be monitored	Open

		undertaken adhering to social distancing guidelines • All football equipment, including footballs shall be cleaned by means of anti-bacterial wipes or disinfectant sprays immediately before and after training has been completed. The same shall apply *during half time.* • All facilities are required to demonstrate they are COVID-19 secure & compliant. • Each player to be provided with their own equipment • Substitution/technical areas will be provided and extra provisions will be allocated around the pitch • Tunnel management : teams to enter the ground at different times and ensure social distance is adhered too - no handshake to happen between any players/officials or management • Media Tower- only 1 person to be on the media tower which will be a home representative only	game social distancing will be enforced. If chairs are provided to the players *a minimum of 1* metre shall be provided *(*mitigation would be no direct face to face contact Changing rooms will remain closed until further notice Toilets however will be open in the changing room areas for players only			

Exposure to covid 19 disease	Players/management Supporters **Away matches**	Management/ club secretary will request a copy of the clubs RA 24 hours prior to the match	This will be communicated to the team as soon as received	Manager /club fixture secretary	Each away game	Will be monitored
Exposure to Corona virus disease	Travel arrangements	• Football Manager, Coach, Players, will be reminded through policy, that they should only travel matches with members of their own household or support bubbles in accordance with government advice. • Football Manager, Coach, Players, will undertake an at home self-check to confirm they have no COVID-19 symptoms prior to arrival to any match • Football Manager, Coach, Players, will be reminded to adhere to social distancing guidelines when arriving and leaving the facilities and accessing the football grounds and car parks • Coach travel is permitted following the coach company guidelines; ensuring team players follow their rules. Limit to who travels and ensure same players travel each time	Manage to continue reminding players of guidelines	Mgr/coach	On going	
	Safeguarding :		Royston Town FC has a	Welfare	On going	

		• If you choose for your child to take part, you will need to give your written consent to the club and or coach. Ensure you are comfortable with the club's Covid-19 planning arrangements before doing so. • Ensure your child takes their own water bottle and their own hand sanitiser, both clearly marked with their name. They must not share these with anyone else. • **Where clubs and facilities can accommodate this safely, one parent/carer per youth player is permitted to be present at football activities although they must observe the relevant Government Covid-19 guidance**.	dedicated Club Welfare Officer In the event the manager/coach believes the facility is unsafe and could pose a risk to health & safety they are authorised to postpone the training session or match. If, during an away match the manager/coach believes there is an emerging risk to players, staff or spectators he/she may without any hesitation stop the match, complete an assessment of the situation and take any necessary action. • Information Includes; Player information including; medical information. If applicable, Consent for any Pictures or images being used and shared online (detail included on FA code of conducts.	officer /coach/mgr		
		• COVID-19 Written Consent Form	Royston Town FC will produce and submit a COVID-			

		All managers / coaches are required to undertake the FA-DBS check.	19 consent form for all players to complete. This will be completed and returned as soon as possible. The Information will be stored by the club until further notice. All training sessions and/or matches will have FA DBS checked coaches present. These coaches may oversee non-FA DBS checked volunteers during the COVID-19 crisis.			
Exposure of covid-19	Manager/coach Players **Training – competitive**	• Manager / Coach will arrive 15 minutes early to training before the start time to set-up the training pitch, check and confirm suitable and sufficient PPE available and training routines designed to maintain social distancing • Manager / Coach will regularly communicate the required COVID-19 measures verbally before the start of each training session to the players. • Prior to commencing training, the football manager / coach will ask all players whether they	All controls listed will be continually reviewed during training session. Should non-compliance occur on any of the controls listed below or new risks identified, the risk assessment shall be updated and amended with additional mitigation requirement To support NHS Test and Trace a paper-based register will be taken which will Include names of players who have attended the session.	Manager Coach	At all Training sessions	Open

		currently display any of the COVID-19 symptoms. • Players reporting potential symptoms will not commence training and be requested to go home and seek advice • Manager / Coach will have sufficient PPE (face masks) in the event of a player Injury • Manager / Coach will have Hand gel and bacterial wipes to ensure all players can clean their hands regularly during training and equipment • Players will be advised not to touch training equipment aids, Including footballs, bibs, cones etc. (exception of goal keeper, who must wear appropriate gloves) • Manager / coach is responsible for maintaining 2 metres (and / or 1 metre plus with mitigation) social distancing • Where players unintentionally break the social distancing guidelines,			

		they will be informed of the violation. Should the violation be deliberate / Intentional the player will be sent away and will not be able to continue train • All training equipment, including footballs shall be cleaned by means of anti-bacterial wipes or disinfectant spray immediately before and after training has been completed.				
	Referees	• Referees to follow the FA guidelines • Social distancing will need to be followed as per the referee guidelines • Referees will have allocated parking at the ground for their arrival • Referees attending will need to supply the ground with information for the test and trace system	Referees to make themselves known to staff upon arrival No changing rooms will be available Half time refreshments will be provided if required			