

Bedford and County Athletic Club

Risk Assessment: COVID-19 - Training in Public Spaces

Date:	Assessed by:	Location:	Review:
6 / 03 / 2021	Peter Webster	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hillgrounds playing fields, adjacent to Hillgrounds Road, Kempston.• Rowney Warren, A.K.A. Chicksands.• Biddenham Cricket Club.• Russell Park, Bedford• Bedford Park, Park Ave, Bedford• Cemetery Hill (next to Bedford Park)• Flyover Out and Back Route, Bedford Embankment• White Bridge Loop, Bedford Embankment.• Go Outdoors Route.• Willington Loop.• Bedford River Valley Park Area 1.• Bedford River Valley Park Area 2.• Fenlake Meadows Out and Back Route.• Former Great Denham Golf Club• BEDFORD Athletic Rugby Club, Wentworth Dr, Bedford MK41 8QA	

For the avoidance of doubt, this risk assessment covers:

- COVID-19 related risks. It does not cover other general risks associated with training in a public space.
- Running activities only. It does not cover field events.
- Training only. It does not cover competition.

This risk assessment complements the club's existing risk assessments. It does not replace them.

What are the Hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What are you already doing?	What else can you do to control this risk?	Risk Rating	Action by whom	Target date	Complete
<p>COVID-19 Related Athletes not social distancing from members of the public</p>	<p>Athletes and members of the public may catch the virus</p>	<p>Training should only be conducted in locations that are not crowded.</p> <p>The group leader and athletes should strive to maintain at least 2m distance from members of the public at all times – for example by conducting session briefings in places with plenty of room.</p> <p>If an athlete meets a member of the public whilst running, they should pass them as quickly as possible while maintaining as much social distance as possible – this should ensure that any contact is only fleeting.</p> <p>Group leader must adhere to any restrictions imposed on the public space by the owner.</p> <p>Not to proceed if the area is too busy with members of the public or from other groups or organisations that prevent the operation of a covid secure environment with social distancing.</p>	<p>Only the following public spaces should be used for covid secure training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hillgrounds playing fields, adjacent to Hillgrounds Road, Kempston. • Rowney Warren, A.K.A. Chicksands. • Biddenham Cricket Club. • Russell Park, Bedford • Bedford Park, Park Ave, Bedford • Cemetery Hill (next to Bedford Park) • Flyover Out and Back Route, Bedford Embankment • White Bridge Loop, Bedford Embankment. • Go Outdoors Route. • Willington Loop. • Bedford River Valley Park Area 1 • Bedford River Valley Park Area 2 • Fenlake Meadows Out and Back Route. • Former Great Denham Golf Club • BEDFORD Athletic Rugby Club, Wentworth Dr, Bedford MK41 8QA 	L			

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COVID-19 Related The location is busy with members of the public and / or people from other organisations to the extent that social distancing is not possible.	Athletes, group leaders, and members of the public may catch the virus as unable to socially distance	If the location is too busy, the group leader should either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to an alternative part of the COVID Secure environment that is not busy, and is not being used. • Abandon the session. 	Club to assess whether other sports clubs are likely to use its COVID secure environments at the same time, and, if this is the case, liaise to avoid clashes.	L			
COVID-19 Related Athletes and / or group leaders carrying the virus attend training	The virus is spread to group leader and athletes	Athletes and group leaders must not attend training if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They are isolating following a positive test result, or because they are a contact of somebody who has a confirmed case of Coronavirus / COVID 19. • They have symptoms of COVID 19, however mild, such as a cough, fever or loss of taste or smell, or believe for any other reason that they may have contracted the virus. • They are awaiting a COVID 19 test result. • They are currently quarantined after travel abroad. 	The club should remind athletes that they must not attend training under any of the circumstances listed to the left – for example, by email.	L			

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<p>COVID-19 Related Athletes not social distancing from each other or the group leader</p>	<p>Athletes, group leaders, and their relatives may catch the virus</p>	<p>Athletes should maintain 2m social distancing, as set out in England Athletics guidelines.</p>	<p>Club ensures athletes are aware of England Athletics guidelines for social distanced training during the pandemic.</p>	L			
<p>COVID-19 Related Inability to identify who was at a session, in the event that a participant becomes ill</p>	<p>Athletes, group leaders and their contacts may unwittingly spread the virus</p>	<p>To facilitate contact tracing, a central register of participants should be kept, recording who participated in each group for every session.</p> <p>It is the group leaders' responsibility to enter their participants names and contact details into the online form when they book a session. Beyond this, group leaders must know who is at their sessions, and inform the COVID Coordinator of any changes as soon as possible.</p> <p>The club stores a central register of members' contact details.</p>	<p>The club's COVID 19 Coordinator should regularly review the register to ensure that it is being kept up to date.</p> <p>Any participant who has attended a session and subsequently tested positive for COVID should inform their group leader, who should in turn inform the club's COVID-19 coordinator.</p> <p>In line with England Athletics requirements, any participant who has attended a session and subsequently tested positive for COVID should complete the UKA COVID-19 tracking form.</p>	L			

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<p>COVID-19 Related Other groups are training at the planned location</p>	<p>Athletes may catch the virus as unable to socially distance</p>	<p>If other groups are at the same public place / starting point, the group leader should either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move to an alternative part of the COVID Secure environment that is not being used. • Or not use the covid secure environment for training. 	<p>Group leaders should work with one another to amicably resolve any issues.</p>	L			
<p>COVID-19 Related Public concerns over large groups, including lack of awareness of what a COVID Secure Environment is, and potentially, angry members of the public.</p>	<p>Group leader / Athletes / The club's reputation</p>	<p>Ensure that this public space risk assessment, and COVID 19 policy are prominently displayed on the club website.</p> <p>Ensure that the group leaders read the action plan, which contains information about what a COVID secure environment is, how it ensures safety, and how it provides a legal framework for organized sport to take place in larger groups, including in public spaces, so that they are well-placed to politely explain this to a member of the public if necessary.</p> <p>If group leaders feel that they or their athletes are in any danger, or are being unpleasantly abused, they should halt the session and return to the stadium car park (if with juniors) or otherwise disperse.</p>	<p>Group leaders should consider wearing Bedford and County insignia if possible, and should consider encouraging their athletes to wear club-branded clothing. This may help to make it clear that they are taking part in an organized sport as part of a recognized club.</p> <p>Athletes should politely refer members of the public to their group leader if concerns are raised.</p> <p>Group leaders are advised to carry a copy of the action plan with them, so that, if a member of the public should question our right to train in a public space, the group leader can politely show them this document.</p>	L			

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<p>Injuries</p>	<p>Athletes may be injured whilst running in a public space</p>	<p>Group leader to carry out standard risk assessment.</p> <p>Group leader should adjust or abandon the session if weather conditions are hazardous (e.g. slippery ground due to ice).</p> <p>Athletes should be encouraged to wear appropriate clothing (e.g. reduce risk of injury in cold weather by warming up in a track suit).</p> <p>Avoid coming within 2 metres of injured person save where absolutely necessary.</p> <p>The club maintains a register of athletes' personal information, including emergency contacts, and medical information.</p>	<p>Group leaders should consider carrying a first aid pack (e.g. in their car), especially in more remote locations.</p> <p>Identify athletes and group leaders with First Aid qualification, and let all group leaders know who they are.</p> <p>Ensure group leaders know how to access the club's register of athletes' personal information / emergency contacts / medical information.</p> <p>Group leader should have emergency contact numbers for each athlete.</p> <p>A group leader should carry a mobile phone.</p> <p>In extremis, group leaders should call emergency services.</p>	<p>L</p>			