

The government has agreed that non-contact training can take place outdoors in pods of 15.

This guidance document is based on the [Golf Ireland Return to Golf Protocols](#) outlined and guidance from the HSE and HPSC, it should be noted that this guidance is subject to change and updates.

<p><b>RISK ASSESSMENT</b></p>	<p>Clubs must undertake an up to date risk assessment should be conducted to determine the risk level for Covid-19 transmission related to the particular activity and what additional measures are needed to reduce this risk.</p>
<p><b>MEASURES TO REDUCE THE RISK OF COVID-19</b></p>	<p>Whether the supervised training is on or off course, clubs should ensure the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No person (PGA Professional, parent, leaders/supervisors or juniors) should attend activities if unwell or any members of their household are unwell with symptoms consistent with Covid-19.</li> <li>• Households should bring their own household members to the all activity and not share transport to and from the golf club.</li> <li>• One parent or guardian per child may attend where it is considered necessary for safeguarding or supervisory purposes.</li> <li>• Limit the risk of players congregating with one another prior to activities by having staggered arrival/drop off times.</li> <li>• All players should be encouraged to wash their hands before eating and should not share food or drinks.</li> <li>• Ensure all participants have enough equipment throughout the session such as golf balls and tees as these must not be shared.</li> <li>• Golf clubs must also not be shared during the training. If clubs have been provided by the club for the training, they must be sanitised before being re-used.</li> <li>• Social distancing and hand hygiene should be observed by all. Where social distancing cannot be maintained at all times, face masks should be worn. In addition, clubs may carry out a self-assessment of well-being of each player prior to the commencement of activity to ensure the well-being of players, PGA Professionals, leaders/supervisors and parents.</li> </ul>
<p><b>GOLFERS WITH DISABILITIES</b></p>	<p>Golfers with disabilities should also be able to continue to train once they are able to adhere to the risk minimisation measures. If there are any concerns regarding a player's susceptibility to COVID-19 due to an underlying illness, they or their parents/guardians should discuss this with their medical practitioner.</p>
<p><b>GROUP ACTIVITY</b></p>	<p>Training can take place in multiple pods of 15 once sufficient space is available and strict protocols are in place. Pods must remain together and work through stations, there should be no switching or mixing groups. That way individuals will only have contact with one portion of the players in attendance.</p>
<p><b>SUPERVISION RATIOS (for Junior Activity)</b></p>	<p>In line with golfs' safeguarding policy, clubs should ensure there is an adequate adult:child ratio for junior activity. As a guide a ratio of 1:8 for under 12 years of age and 1:10 for participants over 12 years of age. <b>There must always be at least two adults present for all activities.</b> This will change depending on the circumstances, e.g. players with special/additional needs etc. Where there are mixed groups there should be leaders of both genders.</p>

<b>CONTACT TRACING MEASURES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A log of all individuals, supervisors/leaders and PGA Professional attending every session, with contact information for contact tracing purposes must be recorded to enable contact tracing, should it be required.</li><li>• This log should be electronic and should be completed in advance where possible.</li><li>• Someone should be given the responsibility that ensures that the information recorded in advance on the log is accurate each day.</li><li>• There should be a system in place where this log is updated in real time for any necessary changes, for example if a child's parent/guardian is unable to accompany them at short notice and they are accompanied by a different person, this should be updated on the online log in real time.</li><li>• This log should be readily and quickly accessible for contact tracing purposes.</li></ul>
<b>COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS/ GUARDIANS AND CHILDREN (for Junior Activity)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communicate all new measures and rules which will need to be implemented related to COVID-19 with participants/parents in advance of resumption of any activities. Ensure that participants/parents and children understand what measures are obligatory.</li><li>• Ensure that participant/parents and children are fully aware of all symptoms of COVID-19. The most common signs and symptoms of COVID-19 are available on the HSE/HSC website.</li><li>• Ensure all participants/parents understand the need to immediately self-isolate for 14 days and to phone their doctor in the event of onset of any COVID-19 signs or symptoms or to restrict their movement if they have had recent close contact with a suspect or confirmed COVID-19 case. Further information on when and how to self-isolate and restrict movement are also available on the HSE/HSC website.</li></ul>
<b>HOW TO MANAGE A PARTICIPANT, SUPERVISOR/ LEADER OR PGA PROFESSIONAL WITH COVID-19 SYMPTOMS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immediately separate any participant or other person displaying or complaining of COVID-19 related symptoms from others</li><li>• Ask this person to wear a face covering if possible or if available provide them with a facemask.</li><li>• The designated person managing the situation should try to maintain at least 2 metres from the person with symptoms and should wear a face covering and wash their hands regularly.</li><li>• Provide the ill person with tissues and hand sanitizer and ensure that all tissues are disposed of in a waste bag that can be tied and marked as separate from other waste</li><li>• If they are well enough to go home, arrange for them to be transported home by a family member, as soon as possible and advise them to inform their general practitioner by phone of their symptoms.</li><li>• If they are too unwell to go home or advice is required, contact 999 or 112 and inform them that the sick person is a COVID-19 suspect.</li><li>• All persons who have been in close contact with the suspect case will need to be informed to restrict their movement for 14 days or until further information is available (i.e. a negative test result of the suspect case).</li></ul>