



COVID-19 Guidance for Cricket Indoors in Wales – January 2022

This advice is updated for January 2022 and replaces previous Guidance for Cricket Indoors in Wales. It provides guidance you should consider in order to play, or practise, cricket indoors safely this winter.

You should also consult [Alert level 2: guidance for employers, businesses and organisations](#)

This document is subject to change. For the latest advice on COVID safety when participating in cricket in England and Wales see www.ecb.co.uk/covid-19

As of 7th January, at Alert Level 2 in Wales:

- **Indoor Activity:** Organised indoor activities for adults can take place in groups of up to 30. (This number is in addition to coaches and officials who are actively participating in the activity and those working or providing a voluntary service at the activity).
- **Outdoor Activity:** Organised outdoor activities can now take place in groups of up to 50. (This number is in addition to coaches and officials who are actively participating in the activity, and those working or providing a voluntary service at the activity).

Anyone organising or providing a venue for such gatherings for organised activity are required in law to take all reasonable measures to reduce the risk of spreading the virus and undertake a Coronavirus risk assessment of their venue/activity.

Clubs must set-up and operate their facility safely – this may include using a booking system to ensure capacity of group sizes is not exceeded, and maintaining safe access and movement around the site.

Other Key Points

- Group size limits do not apply to activities which are specifically (and solely) organised for the development or well-being of children (meaning anyone under 18 on the date of the activity). Group sizes for such activities **are** however subject to coaching ratios for safeguarding purposes and venue capacity, which should be included in a risk assessment.

Simultaneous Groups

- Simultaneous organised activity of groups and individuals are allowed (both indoors and outdoors), where there is sufficient space to do so safely and independently.

- This means that if the venue is large enough, more than one group of up to 30 people per group can occupy the same venue, as long as those groups do not interact and they work independently – so no mixing of participants (including coaches) among groups. The groups will need to be separated by social distancing and ideally by some form of delineation (e.g. nets, cones etc) to mark the boundary between groups.
- Activities involving waves or staggered starts, including multi-team tournaments, should not be allowed if there is any risk of breaching the requirement not to have more than 50 people outdoors or 30 people indoors at the same time.

General Advice

- Participants should be aware of and check for symptoms of COVID-19. In line with current Welsh Government guidance, if you are symptomatic, have tested positive, or are otherwise required to self-isolate, you should not attend the cricket facility and must follow NHS Wales and Public Health Wales guidance.
- Maintain high standards of hygiene and cleaning – individuals should use hand sanitiser frequently and wash their hands at home before and after using the outdoor facilities.
- Participants should maintain 2m social distancing in the venue and wherever possible while undertaking the activity (although fleeting conditional breaches while participating are permitted under Welsh Government guidance).
- Players should minimise handling of the ball in all activity, by limiting contact as it makes its way back to the bowler and using small groups in training.

Spectators

- While discouraged in order to limit the risk of possible transmission of the virus – especially indoors - up to 30 spectators are legally permitted indoors (and 50 outdoors) at events, subject to venue capacity and social distancing indoors. This number is in addition to carers for people with disabilities, adults needed to supervise under-18s in a safeguarding role.

Guidance for delivering and playing cricket indoors safely

1. **Carry out a risk assessment.** At Alert Level 2, venues and providers are legally obliged to carry out a risk assessment of COVID risk appropriate to their responsibilities and take all reasonable measures to limit the spread of the virus in their facility.
2. **Collaborate and communicate.**
 - a. **Cricket Providers and Venues:** Work with each other to deliver cricket safely through your risk assessment and then communicate the safety measures to your participants well ahead of any session or match.
 - b. **Participants:** Follow your cricket provider's safety measures – these may vary from provider to provider and from venue to venue, so check information you were sent when booking or joining a course, net session, match or other event. Please be aware that you have a responsibility to yourself and others to participate safely – if you are unsure of any requirements consult with your cricket provider or venue as appropriate.
3. **Do not attend any session with COVID.** Before attending any sporting activities, all participants, officials, staff, volunteers and spectators should self-assess for symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These are:
 - a. a high temperature
 - b. a new, continuous cough
 - c. a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

If you have one or more of these symptoms you should not attend any sporting activity, even if your symptoms are mild. You should follow [Welsh Government advice](#) regarding checking your symptoms and seeking help.

Welsh Government advice on self-isolation can be found [here](#).

4. **Minimise the sharing of equipment** where it is possible and practical, particularly that used around the head and face. Where equipment needs to be shared, it should be cleaned between users and between sessions.
5. **Use hygiene breaks where balls are shared**, for example in matches or in net sessions where balls are made available to participants, minimise the number of people handling the ball and include hygiene breaks in which hands and the ball are sanitised.
6. **Maintain good hygiene:**
 - a. Participants and providers should continue to sanitise their hands frequently, including within and between sessions.
 - b. Common touch points such as playing and training equipment should be sanitised between sessions.
 - c. No sweat or saliva should be added to the ball at any time.
 - d. Avoid sharing water bottles or other refreshment containers. Where possible, you should take your own drink, in a labelled or highly distinguishable container.
 - e. Clean more often.
7. **Provide adequate ventilation:**
 - a. Venues and cricket providers should make sure there is a supply of fresh air to enclosed spaces where there are people present. This can be natural ventilation through windows, doors and vents, mechanical ventilation using fans and ducts, or a combination of both. You should identify any poorly ventilated spaces and consider steps you can take to improve fresh air flow in these areas.
 - b. Cricket providers and participants must be aware of what natural ventilation is included in the venue ventilation strategy and not close doors and windows unless this is in consultation with the venue.
 - c. Participants and cricket providers should be advised to dress in suitable warm clothing, ideally in layers so that they can manage their temperature through the session – especially coaching staff because they will be less active than participants.
 - d. In some places, a CO₂ monitor can help identify if the space is poorly ventilated. You can find more information in the [HSE guidance on ventilation and air conditioning during the COVID-19 pandemic](#). As a cricket provider, check with your venue to see whether a CO₂ monitor is in use and what you need to do in response to any alarms or indications from the monitor.
8. **Face coverings** - People should **NOT** generally wear a face covering **while taking part in any strenuous activity or sport**, unless advised to do so by a doctor.
However, face coverings **are still required by law in Wales in all other indoor public spaces**, including changing rooms, communal areas, and on public transport*.
This applies to all those aged 11 and over.

*The only exceptions to this are specific medical exemptions, or when seated in pubs, cafés and restaurants.

Welsh Government have also issued this [Action Card](#) for Indoor sports facilities, which venues are also encouraged to note and take actions, as required, for your activity, business and venue.