



Return to Play Guidance Document

The following document has been produced to assist club members, officers, mentors, coaches, players and parents to better understand the requirements around returning to play our games and the steps we will need to take to ensure everyone's safety.

Whilst we are all keen to get playing as soon as possible it is essential all the necessary steps are taken to ensure everyone feels safe when returning to club activities.

The priority at all times must be to protect the health and welfare of those involved in Gaelic Games and to minimise the risk of transmission within the wider community.

The GAA, Ladies Gaelic Football and Camogie Associations are community based, and volunteer led organisations for the promotion of Gaelic Sports and culture. Participation is voluntary; players, mentors, referees and club officers may choose to opt-in or opt-out from activity at any level at their discretion.

This framework document for our club is based on the GAA's 'Safe Return for Gaelic Games' Document, issued 5th June and subsequent update issued 12th June, a copy of which will be appended. Any changes to the GAAs protocols will be automatically adopted by the Club and issued as an amendment to this guidance.

Any questions on this document, or any COVID-19 queries should be directed to the relevant section head as outlined in the communications section enclosed.

We look forward to welcoming you back,

Denise McDermott
Chairperson
For and on Behalf of St. Finians GAA Club.

The initial section of the document – *Return to Play Protocols* outlines the steps the club will be taking as a whole to protect all those who avail of our facilities.

The second part identifies requirements by reference to specific areas in the club and relevant phase, which will allow you assess what you need to do prior to returning to training.

Return to Play Protocols – Summary

Item	Recommendation	Resulting Actions	Next Steps	Date Required	Action By
1	Preparation of Facilities				
1.1	Signage	Appropriate signage should be placed at entrance to club facilities, car parks, entrance to toilets, and pitch side (NOTE pitch side signs required 29th June for return to play)	Agree content, location and quantity of signage and implement prior to re-opening of facilities.	29 th Jun /20 th July	Facilities
1.2	Hand Sanitization Points	Should be provided in car park, toilets, entrance to pitches and pitch side. Appropriate disposal bins for hazardous waste to be available and clearly marked	Procure dispensers and gels, agree locations and mounting method to be agreed	29th June	Facilities
1.3	Toilets	Will remain closed until 20 th July	Consider additional cleaning requirements etc. as part of facilities reopening	20 th July	Facilities
1.4	Pitch Side	Signage regarding social distancing, personal contact, sneezing, spitting, hand sanitization to be clearly visible. Medical personnel should wear masks. Facilities for disinfecting balls, sliotars, hurleys, helmets, gloves etc. to be available and used regularly	Agree signage content and requirements, agree sanitisation requirements for each team; notify them of same and ensure practises are implemented and maintained	29th June	Facilities/ Mentors
1.5	Medical Isolation Area	Facilities will be in place for immediate isolation in a designated room containing the appropriate ppe. There will be clearly defined protocol for linking up with the appropriate medical services.	Agree isolation point at each club location i.e. Rivervalley; Ridgewood and Nevinstown and protocols to isolate any individual displaying symptoms	29th June	Covid Committee

2	Covid Officers				
2.1	Covid Officers	Every club will be required to have a number of Covid Supervisors who will familiarize themselves with the Gaelic Games education module that will be provided.	Committee to appoint Covid Supervisors and facilitate education and assistance as required	29th June	Covid Committee
2.2	Online Education Module	As agreed previously, all persons involved in the management coaching or administrative, players (and parents/guardians of juveniles) element of a team MUST complete the Covid Education Module	Link to be made available to all – to be issued via social media channels	22nd June	Covid Committee
2.3	Team Supervisors	Every team in the club should have someone nominated with responsibility for Covid Supervision present at each training session. These nominees will be provided with training and information on their exact role via the Gaelic Games education module	Individual teams to identify and appoint covid supervisor(s) and make sure they have had relevant training in the use of the online health questionnaire system.	29th June	Lead Mentors
	Duties will include;	Distributing and collating player and backroom Health Questionnaires before first session using the GAA online forum	Health form to be made available to all teams and issued to players (or parents) and confirmation of no change in status submitted before each session on online form	29th June	Team Supervisor
		Ensuring sanitisation of facilities is completed before and after each training session or game	Balls, sliotars, hurls etc. to be sanitised after each session using equipment provided by the club (note cost for sanitisation kits will be taken from individual teams subs)	29th June	Team Supervisor
		Maintaining records of attendees	Records to be kept by each team and sent to relevant club officer	29th June	Team Supervisor

3	Scheduling of facilities				
3.1	<p>Timesheets should be used to clearly show what teams are using club facilities at what time. The principle of 'get in, train and get out' will apply. There should be a time interval between teams departing having completed training and the next team arriving. Attendance will be limited to essential personnel.</p>	<p>Available resources to be collated and distributed to teams as required. Adult teams and those who have competitive games will get preference</p>	<p>To be managed via current pitches booking system, all teams to be made aware of requirements. Note no slot to be made available until all COVID – 19 requirements above have been fulfilled</p>	Ongoing	Paul Dever/ Lead Mentors
4	Education of club members				
4.1	<p>This is a rapidly evolving situation and as such Covid Supervisors will have a role in conveying and explaining policy decisions and guidelines from Croke Park.</p>	<p>Committee to keep up to date with all GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association guidelines as issued, ensure they are distributed as required and changes to procedures captured and implemented as required</p>	<p>Committee to monitor all communication and hold meetings as required to ensure any changes are implemented</p>	Ongoing	Covid Committee

5	Protocol for Participation				
5.1	<p>Players and team managers should be provided with this document and have completed the Gaelic Games online education module prior to participation. Participants are also required to shower at home, where possible use toilet facilities at home. All players should use their own clearly labelled water bottles.</p>	<p>Document to be distributed as required; all officers, managers, mentors and parents to complete the online education module. Team to ensure players comply with requirements.</p>	<p>To be included in the document issued to all mentors. Players will also need to complete the return to play health questionnaire before their first training session and reconfirm their health status for future training sessions.</p>	<p>29th June</p>	

Actions by Area

	Area	Points to Note	Action	Date
1	Clubhouse			
1.1		Clubhouse and facilities to remain closed until 20 th July	Note	20 th July
1.2		Following opening on the 20 th July the following needs to be in place;		
1.3		Hand sanitization points	Facilities	20 th July
1.4		Social Distancing Signage	Facilities	20 th July
1.5		One way system?	Facilities	20 th July
1.6		Restricted access to toilets and changing rooms	Facilities	20 th July
1.7		Isolation area to be identified	Facilities	20 th July
1.8		Increased cleaning regime	Facilities	20 th July
2	Rivervalley Pitches	Pitch side signage when teams return to training	Facilities	29th June
3	Ridgewood Pitches	Pitch side signage when teams return to training	Facilities	29th June
4	Ridgewood Changing Rooms	Facilities (toilets and changing rooms) remain closed until the 20 th July	Note	20 th July
4.1		On opening facilities control measures responsibility falls to FCC. However should these be insufficient club may need to supplement	FCC	20 th July
4.2		Isolation area to be identified	Covid Committee	
5	Nevinstown	Pitch side signage when teams return to training	Facilities	29th June
5.1		Isolation area to be identified	Covid Committee	29th June
6	Storage areas	Access to equipment for Nursery and Academy when they return	Facilities	1st Sept
6.1		Max occupancy to be noted on individual rooms (tbc)	Facilities	20 th July

Key Stages for Teams

Key Stage Requirements

Before Returning to Training the following **MUST** be in place

- All relevant members to undertake online education module - (players and coaches on adult teams, players, coaches and parents on juvenile teams)
- Each team to appoint a Covid supervisor
- Each team to set up protocols to manage return to training and issue for review to COVID - 19 committee
- Each team to collect sanitisation kit from the club

Return to Training

- **All above steps must be in place prior to training slot being issued**
- All players (or parents of juveniles) must complete Health Questionnaire online confirm with Covid supervisor on arrival
- Covid Supervisor to confirm questionnaire completed and check players off for each session
- Groups of no more than 15 players with max 2 coaches (8 players per group for U12)
- Adult teams and teams who will have competitive games to be given priority

If health questionnaire and proof of completing online module are not presented - individual DOES NOT TRAIN

Collation and Storage of Information

- Club to agree methods for collation of attendance and ensure records are kept up to date
- Club covid officer to ensure this is maintained

Education Module

- All relevant members (executive, relevant committee members, coaches, FLO's, and parents to complete education module and submit to team manager/covid officer

Reporting and Communication

- All communication with regard to COVID-19 measures, training and playing protocols and all other relevant comms to only be issued through agreed channels;
- Adult GAA games - Section Chair Mark Murray, to act as 1st point of contact, communications to be issued via club secretary Barry Shelly.
- Juvenile Boys Under 7 to under 16 - Section chair, Mark Boyd, to issue communications and act as a 1st point of contact
- Camogie and LGFA - Section Sec, Claudine Rooney to issue communications and section chair to act as 1st point of contact
- Nursery and Academy - Section chair, Anne O'Connor to issue communications and act as the 1st point of contact
- Club facilities - Section chair, Mark Degnan, to issue communications and act as 1st point of contact
- Pitches allocation - Paul Dever to co-ordinate

Communication to be consistent across all sections of the club

COVID-19 committee to agree means for reporting

Updated Health Questionnaire

APPENDIX 1 – SAMPLE HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE FORM FOR GAELIC GAMES

NAME: _____

CLUB: _____

TEAM: _____

1. Do you believe that you may currently have COVID-19?

Yes _____

No _____

2. Have you had any of the following symptoms of COVID-19 in the past 14 days?

High temperature (i.e. over 37.5°C) Yes _____ No _____	A new continuous cough Yes _____ No _____
New unexplained shortness of breath Yes _____ No _____	Loss of sense of smell, of taste or distortion of taste Yes _____ No _____

If you have answered **YES** to any of these questions you should stay at home and contact your GP by phone for further advice.

If you have answered **NO** to all of the above questions you may train or play with your team.

Please sign this form to confirm that the details above are true to the best of your knowledge, that you or your guardian have completed the Gaelic Games online Covid-19 Education Module and to confirm that you understand the risks involved in participation, are participating on a voluntary basis and that you may opt-out at any time.

The Questionnaire will need to be completed once before the initial Return to Training. It will be the responsibility of the individual to inform the team's Covid Supervisor of any change in circumstance before subsequent sessions.

SIGNED: * _____

**(For underage players, this document should be signed by a Parent or Guardian)*

DATE: _____

**Your information will be stored securely on the GAA's Games Management System*