

Information from Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association

To all GPFA Members,

I have been asked by several members to provide information relating to the new Covid-19 restrictions. Further to the government's announcement of a second lockdown from 5 November until at least 3 December 2020, we are still awaiting full details in terms of outdoor sports and recreation, but as of today, 3 November, the headlines are:



The highlighted extracts below are from the current [www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november) guidance (as of 3 November) – full details can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

1. Stay at home

This means you must not leave or be outside of your home except for specific purposes. These include:

- for childcare or education, where this is not provided online
- for work purposes, where your place of work remains open and where you cannot work from home (including if your job involves working in other people's homes)
- to exercise outdoors or visit an outdoor public place - with the people you live with, with your support bubble or, when on your own, with 1 person from another household (children under school age, as well as those dependent on round-the-clock care, such as those with severe disabilities, who are with their parents will not count towards the limit on two people meeting outside).
- for any medical concerns, reasons, appointments and emergencies, or to avoid or escape risk of injury or harm - such as domestic abuse
- shopping for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which should be as infrequent as possible
- to visit members of your [support bubble](#) or provide care for vulnerable people, or as a volunteer

This list is not exhaustive and there are other limited circumstances where you may be permitted to leave or be outside of your home. These will be set out in law and further detailed guidance will be provided.

3. Meeting with family and friends

You must not meet socially indoors with family or friends unless they are part of your household - meaning the people you live with - or [support bubble](#).

A [support bubble](#) is where a household with one adult joins with another household. Households in that support bubble can still visit each other, stay overnight, and visit outdoor public places together.

You can exercise or visit outdoor public places with the people you live with, your support bubble, or 1 person from another household (children under school age, as well as those dependent on round-the-clock care, such as those with severe disabilities, who are with their parents will not count towards the limit on two people meeting outside).

Outdoor public places include:

- parks, beaches, countryside,
- public gardens (whether or not you pay to enter them), allotments
- playgrounds

You cannot meet in a private garden.

4. Businesses and venues

To reduce social contact, the Government has ordered certain businesses and venues [to close](#). These include:

- all non-essential retail, including, but not limited to clothing and electronics stores, vehicle showrooms, travel agents, betting shops, auction houses, tailors, car washes, tobacco and vape shops.
- indoor and outdoor leisure facilities such as bowling alleys, leisure centres and gyms, sports facilities including swimming pools, golf courses and driving ranges, dance studios, stables and riding centres, soft play facilities, climbing walls and climbing centres, archery and shooting ranges, water and theme parks,
- entertainment venues such as theatres, concert halls, cinemas, museums and galleries, casinos, adult gaming centres and arcades, bingo halls, bowling alleys, concert halls, zoos and other animal attractions, botanical gardens;
- personal care facilities such as hair, beauty and nail salons, tattoo parlours, spas, massage parlours, body and skin piercing services, non-medical acupuncture, and tanning salons.

Food shops, supermarkets, garden centres and certain other retailers providing essential goods and services can remain open. Essential retail should follow COVID-secure guidelines to protect customers, visitors and workers.

Non-essential retail can remain open for delivery to customers and click-and-collect.

[Playgrounds can remain open.](#)

Hospitality venues like restaurants, bars and pubs must close, but can still provide takeaway and delivery services. However, takeaway of alcohol will not be allowed. Hotels, hostels and other accommodation should only open for those who have to travel for work purposes and for a limited number of other exemptions which will be set out in law.

A full list of the business closures will be published and set out in law.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november>

BBC reported as follows (3 November 2020): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/54787598> Children's grassroots sport played outside of school will be suspended during England's four-week lockdown, says culture secretary Oliver Dowden.

There were calls for youth sport to be exempt when the new restrictions come into effect on Thursday.

But Dowden confirmed it would only be permitted in school.

"Unfortunately we need to pause grassroots sport outside school to reduce the transmission risk from households mixing," **he tweeted.**

"As soon as we can resume this, we will."

Elite sport can continue behind closed doors during the lockdown.

The BBC also reported that some of the rules are still being finalised (3 November 2020): <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/54781128>

Elite sports can continue behind closed doors during England's four-week lockdown from Thursday **but grassroots and amateur rules are being finalised.**

The government has confirmed that the 10 non-elite teams left in the FA Cup can play under elite protocols.

But golf courses, driving ranges and tennis courts in England have been told to close until at least 3 December.

On Saturday, the government confirmed leisure centres and gyms will close, as will other indoor and outdoor leisure facilities.

Speaking in the House of Commons on Monday, Prime Minister Boris Johnson ruled out any exemptions.

I will forward further information as and when it is released.

If you need any support or advice, please let us know.

Best regards,

Kay

Kay Lillington

Secretary/Advice Officer

Gloucestershire Playing Fields Association

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