



## Covid-19 Risk Assessment

North Shields FC return to Competitive Football Activities inside the Daren Persson Stadium after Lockdown

North Shields FC | 05/12/20



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## Event/Activity Details

<b>Event/Activity Title:</b>	Return to competitive football activities insider the DPS
<b>Venue:</b>	Daren Persson Stadium
<b>Date:</b>	05/12/20 onwards and ongoing from this date
<b>Date of Risk Assessment</b>	05/12/20
<b>Assessor(s)</b>	Marc Nash, Anthony Woodhouse, Steve Swinyard & Graeme Scott
<b>Appointed Covid-19 Officer(s)</b>	Sean Mulligan & Steve Arkle
<b>Estimated number of participants:</b>	Behind Closed Doors – Reviewed by Government on 12 <sup>th</sup> December

## Risk Description

Please give a brief description of the purpose for undertaking this Risk Assessment.

Following the Football Association announcement on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 that the government has given halted the return of spectators to National League System games up to step 6 this risk assessment intends to assess the risks associated with such a return of competitive training, The Daren Persson stadium and offer mitigating actions to help ensure any return remain safe for all in attendance. The Northern League Is suspended until further notice so no competitive football will take place.



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## Understanding Risk

### Analysis of Risk

The following definitions are applied when considering risks associated with this event/activity:

**Inherent Risk** – The risk of an incident happening if no control measures whatsoever are applied to the situation

**Residual Risk** – The risk of an incident happening after all specified control measures are applied to the situation

To understand the risks associated with this event/activity the following risk table and risk equation should be applied when considering risks associated with this event or activity:

#### Table and Equation for Analysis of Risk:

Risk Matrix		Consequences					Risk Score = Likelihood x Consequences
		Insignificant (1) No injuries / minimal financial loss	Minor (2) First aid treatment / medium financial loss	Moderate (3) Medical treatment / high financial loss	Major (4) Hospitalable / large financial loss	Catastrophic (5) Death / massive financial loss	
Likelihood	<b>Almost Certain (5)</b> Often occurs / once a week	Moderate (5)	High (10)	High (15)	Catastrophic (20)	Catastrophic (25)	<b>Risk Approval:</b> Approval of activities will be granted based on the risk scores given. The following indicators will be applied.  <b>1 - 3 (Green) Low = Acceptable</b>  <b>4 - 6 (Yellow) Moderate = Adequate</b>  <b>8 - 9 (Orange) High = Tolerable</b>  <b>12 - 16 (Red) Catastrophic = Unacceptable</b>
	<b>Likely (4)</b> Could easily happen / once a month	Moderate (4)	Moderate (8)	High (12)	Catastrophic (16)	Catastrophic (20)	
	<b>Possible (3)</b> Could happen or known it to happen / once a year	Low (3)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (9)	High (12)	High (15)	
	<b>Unlikely (2)</b> Hasn't happened yet but could / once every 10 years	Low (2)	Moderate (4)	Moderate (6)	Moderate (8)	High (10)	
	<b>Rare (1)</b> Conceivable but only on extreme circumstances / once in 100 years	Low (1)	Low (2)	Low (3)	Moderate (4)	Moderate (5)	

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## Event/Activity Specific Risk Assessment

Area of Operation	Risks Identified	Who may be at risk	Inherent Risk Score	Specific Control Measures	Risk Owner	Residual Risk Score
<p><b><u>Travel &amp; Transport</u></b></p> <p><i>Description</i></p> <p>Risk of Covid-19 infection risks associated with travel to and from football venues.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infection from others and infecting others as a result of players sharing cars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Players, officials</li> </ul>	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Shields FC players and officials are asked to complete online Pre-session Health Screening Questionnaire - <a href="https://forms.gle/aTowPpRjLspPPxr57">https://forms.gle/aTowPpRjLspPPxr57</a> prior to travel</li> <li>For both home and away games players and officials are instructed not to share transport</li> <li>Any player unable to travel in their personal vehicle, must contact the team manager, who will discuss alternatives including non-attendance</li> <li>Any official unable to travel in their personal vehicle, should contact the club Covid-19 officers, who will discuss alternatives including non-attendance</li> <li>Any player, official or household member exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms, must not travel to the activity venue and must self-isolate with their household in line with government guidance and inform the Club immediately</li> <li>Players and staff are advised to regularly clean the inside of their personal vehicles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual Players and Officials</li> </ul>	4

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players and staff are advised to regularly clean the inside of their personal vehicles</li> <li>• For away games players and officials are encouraged make arrangements to travel independently. However, where absolutely necessary, players may, with permission of the first team manager, share transport with other players providing they share with the same people each time. Where officials are required to share transport, they must inform the Club’s Covid-19 officers.</li> <li>• Where transport is shared, players must             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep to small groups of people at any one time;</li> <li>• Open windows for ventilation;</li> <li>• Face away from each other;</li> <li>• Clean the car between journeys using standard cleaning products - including door handles and other areas that people may touch;</li> <li>• Wear a face covering</li> <li>• Consider seating arrangements to maximise distance between people in the vehicle</li> <li>• Regularly sanitise their hands, especially after entering or exiting the vehicle</li> <li>• Wash their hands for at least 20 seconds or sanitise their hands as soon as the journey is complete</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection from others and infecting others as a result of players using public transport</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players, officials</li> </ul>	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any player unable to travel in their personal vehicle, must contact the team manager, who will discuss alternatives including non-attendance</li> <li>• Any official unable to travel in their personal vehicle, should contact the club Covid-19 officers, who will discuss alternatives including non-attendance</li> <li>• Any player, official or household member exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms, must not travel to the activity venue and must self-isolate with their household in line with government guidance and inform the Club immediately</li> <li>• Players and Officials advised to follow published guidance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual Players and Officials</li> </ul>	8
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection from others and infecting others as a result of travelling via organised coach travel (away games)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players and officials</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The club will only hire coaches from reputable travel operators</li> <li>• The Club will work closely with travel operators to ensure travel arrangements have been risk assessed and measures implemented</li> <li>• All persons travelling via organised travel will be asked to wear face masks and maintain social distancing</li> <li>• North Shields FC players and officials are asked to complete online Pre-session Health Screening Questionnaire - <a href="https://forms.gle/aTowPpRjLspPPxr57">https://forms.gle/aTowPpRjLspPPxr57</a> prior to travel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	



Area of Operation	Risks Identified	Who may be at risk	Inherent Risk Score	Specific Control Measures	Risk Owner	Residual Risk Score
<p><b><u>Entrance to the facilities &amp; parking vehicles</u></b></p> <p><i>Description</i></p> <p>Risk of Covid-19 infection associated with arrival at and entrance to facility being used for football activity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infection from others and infecting others as a result of sharing cars</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Players, officials</li> </ul>	<p>16</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All spectators will be asked to complete a self-assessment before entering the ground.</li> <li>All passengers are to have temperature checked prior to departure</li> </ul> <p><u>General</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The club have appointed 2 x Covid-19 Officers to oversee all Covid-19 risk assessing and operations.</li> </ul> <p><u>Darren Persson stadium</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On entering the Darren Persson Stadium car park, car windows must be firmly secured</li> <li>Players and officials from each team must park in allocated spaces as show below</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed Club Covid-19 Officers</li> <li>Players</li> <li>Officials</li> <li>Club Physio</li> </ul>	<p>8</p>

				 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Once parked, players and team officials will be instructed to make their way directly to the changing room/pitch via the marked one way system. This will be shown as being around the side of the changing facilities</li> </ul>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All players and officials will have their temperatures taken on entering the</li> </ul>	
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				<p>ground, will be asked to sanitise their hands and declare they are symptom free.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If any person’s temperature registers above 37.8° then that person will not be allowed into the ground and will be asked to leave the facility</li> <li>• Contact details will be kept for the purpose of NHS test and trace</li> <li>• Away teams will be asked to submit details of how many parking spaces they will require in advance of the fixture.</li> <li>• Parking in the grounds car park will only be made available for spectators if suitable space is still available following the arrival of all players and officials from both teams.                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No spectators to be permitted access to ground, changing facilities or clubhouse whilst training is taking place.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
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Area of Operation	Risks Identified	Who may be at risk	Inherent Risk Score	Specific Control Measures	Risk Owner	Residual Risk Score
<p><b>Facilities</b></p> <p><i>Description</i></p> <p>Risk of Covid-19 infection associated with use of the facilities at stadiums training venue.</p> <p>Includes risks associated with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changing</li> <li>• Showering</li> <li>• Sharing playing kit</li> <li>• Toilets and Handwashing</li> <li>• Access to pitches</li> </ul>	<p><u>Changing Rooms:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection from others in close contact, within the changing rooms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players and Officials</li> </ul>	16	<p><u>Darren Persson stadium</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changing facilities will not available for either team.</li> <li>• Only 3 people allowed in each changing room at any one time.</li> <li>• Both teams will be encouraged to undertake team talks outside.</li> <li>• Hand sanitiser will be made available to players and officials as they enter the ground</li> <li>• Toilets within the facilities will be cleaned after each use – specifically before teams arrive, during the first half when unoccupied and again during the second half when unoccupied.</li> <li>• <b>Showers will not be available. Players advised to shower at home following the game.</b></li> <li>• Once players are changed out of their playing kit they must leave the facilities immediately. No food or alcohol will be served.</li> <li>• Additional signage will be placed around the ground displaying key Covid-19 messages</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointed Club Covid-19 Officers</li> <li>• Individual Players</li> <li>• Team Management</li> </ul>	4
	<p><u>Club House:</u></p> <p>Infection from others in close contact within the Club House</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players, Officials</li> </ul>	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to the clubhouse building will granted on the basis that government guidance for licenced premises is followed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	4

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Test and trace information will be kept on record for all persons entering the club-house.</li> <li>• All persons entering the club-house will be expected to self-assess and declare they are symptom free before entering.</li> <li>• Whilst inside the club-house, social distancing measure will be expected to be adhered to.</li> <li>• A number of tables and chairs will be suitably removed from the club house to ensure social distancing is not breached.</li> <li>• Increased levels of signage will be displayed in the club house to ensure good hygiene practices are observed.</li> <li>• Club-house toilets will be cleaned and soap dispenser replenished more regularly.</li> <li>• Beer mats will be removed from club house tables.</li> <li>• An additional outside seating area will be created to support with the management of numbers in and out for the club house.</li> <li>• Post-match food will not be served to players and officials in the club house. Instead, players and officials will be asked to collect their food from the outside canteen and asked to eat it in the designated area outside the club house</li> </ul>		
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	<p><u>Seated spectators viewing area</u> (North Shields Butchers Stand)</p> <p>Infection from others in close contact within seated spectator viewing areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officials</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity of this stand will be set at 50</li> <li>• Access to this stand will be monitored by club officials.</li> <li>• Seating arrangements will be made accordingly to ensure social distancing is maintained.</li> <li>• In the event of inclement weather, consultation with the match official will take place in order to assess the ongoing safety of arrangements made in the event spectators migrate to covered hard standing areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
	<p><u>Hard standing spectator viewing areas</u> (all hard standing around 4 sides of ground)</p> <p>Infection from others in close contact within hard-standing spectator viewing areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Officials</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spectators will be asked to maintain social distancing around all hard standing viewing areas.</li> <li>• Additional signage will be displayed around the ground to remind spectators of this.</li> <li>• In the event of inclement weather, consultation with the match official will take place in order to assess the ongoing safety of arrangements made in the event spectators migrate to covered hard standing areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
	<p><u>Toilet block</u></p> <p>Infection from others in close contact within the toilet block.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spectators and Officials</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to toilet facilities at the ground will be monitored to ensure no over-crowding.</li> <li>• Toilets will be cleaned more frequently than usual to ensure hygiene measures are maintained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
	<p><u>Canteen</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spectators and Officials</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spectators wishing to be served at the canteen must observe social distancing when queueing.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	

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	Infection from others in close contact whilst purchasing refreshments from the canteen.					
<p><b>Activity Delivery</b></p> <p><u>Description</u></p> <p>Risk of Covid-19 infection associated with playing of football at the Daren Persson stadium.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infection from others due close contact, including transfer of bodily fluid during matches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Players and Officials</li> </ul>	16	<p><u>Darren Persson stadium</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>North Shields FC players and officials are asked to complete online Pre-session Health Screening Questionnaire - <a href="https://forms.gle/aTowPpRjLspPPxr57">https://forms.gle/aTowPpRjLspPPxr57</a></li> <li>Details of all attendees are held in order to support NHS Test and Trace scheme.</li> <li>North Shields FC players have been given a clear, Covid-19 specific code of conduct to follow. A copy of this will be displayed at the entrance to the ground and given to opposition players on arrival.</li> <li>Chewing gum is prohibited at matches.</li> <li>Players should bring their own drinks</li> <li>Hand sanitisers will be made available at matches.</li> <li>Pre-match handshakes should not happen. Instead players will be asked to hand-sanitise before kick-off.</li> <li>Team talk huddles should not take place. Team talks can take place, as long as social distancing is observed and held outdoors where possible.</li> <li>Warm-ups/cool-downs should always observe social distancing.</li> <li>Coaches, other team staff and substitutes are allowed to attend</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed Club Covid-19 Officers</li> <li>Team Management</li> <li>Individual players</li> </ul>	12

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				<p>matches but must always observe social distancing on touchlines/dug-outs. Social-distancing must also be observed during interactions when a substitution is being made. Additional seating will be provided for team officials and substitutes to ensure this is maintained.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical areas will be enlarged for management staff.</li> <li>• Players are asked to avoid goal celebrations.</li> <li>• Interactions with referees and match assistants should only happen with players observing social distancing.</li> <li>• Pre match, a safety briefing will be held between the referee and the Club's Covid-19 officers. This will be for the purpose of discussing how the game will be managed in the event either party consider the arrangements to have become 'unsafe'</li> <li>• All surfaces and door handles will be cleaned regularly</li> </ul>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection from handling equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players and Officials</li> </ul>	16	<p><u>All venues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All match equipment to be disinfected before and after use and used in isolation by individuals as much as possible</li> <li>• Any personal equipment required for use (e.g. bibs), once issued, must only be handled by players and placed in a seal bag ready for washing. All kit of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appointed Club Covid-19 Officers</li> <li>• Team Management</li> <li>• Individual players</li> </ul>	4



Area of Operation	Risks Identified	Who may be at risk	Inherent Risk Score	Specific Control Measures	Risk Owner	Residual Risk Score
<p><b>Medical Provision/Needs</b></p> <p><i>Description</i></p> <p>Risk of Covid-19 infection associated with provision of medical treatments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infection from others due close contact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Players and Officials</li> </ul>	16	<p>this nature must be washed immediately after every session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal posts will be disinfected pre games, at half time and at full time.</li> <li>Footballs that go out of play will be disinfected by committee members before being returned.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed Club Covid-19 Officers</li> <li>Team Management</li> </ul>	8
<p><b>Safeguarding</b></p> <p><i>Description</i></p> <p>Consideration of wider safeguarding risks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infection of young player aged under 18</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Player and player’s family</li> </ul>	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate parental consent gathered before the player is able to play. For away players, it is expected the away club organise this.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed Club Covid-19 Officers</li> <li>Team Management</li> </ul>	8



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<p><i>associated with U'18's participating in sessions</i></p>			16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players and officials given the opportunity to 'opt out' of the arrangements made.</li> <li>• Information given to the player before the match starts as to how to report a concern, if they have one</li> <li>• Suitably qualified coaches and staff employed in role</li> </ul>		
<p><b><u>Player and Officials Awareness</u></b></p> <p><i>Description</i></p> <p><i>Consideration of risks associated with a lack of awareness of required protocols.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infection from others and infecting others as a result not following strict protocol</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players and Officials</li> </ul>	16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Players informed of information before session via team's 'WhatsApp' group</li> <li>• Away team Risk Assessment and information shared with the players via team's 'WhatsApp' group</li> <li>• Team Management on site before North Shields FC players arrive to ensure protocols set up and enforced</li> <li>• Players reminded in person of protocols when on site</li> <li>• Copy of Risk Assessments circulated to Club Secretary with request for him to circulate to away team secretaries and other committee members, for their awareness, in the event there are other individuals required to be at the venue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individual players and Team Management</li> </ul>	8

**Additional Notes**

This risk assessment is written in co-ordination with Government guidelines on Covid-19 found here:

- <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

It has also been written with in co-ordination with Government framework for a return of recreational team sport, found here:





- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation/return-to-recreational-team-sport-framework>

It has also been written with consideration of FA guidance on how to safely return to footballing activities, found here:

- <https://www.thefa.com/news/2020/aug/19/updated-guidelines-for-return-of-spectators-190820>
- <http://www.thefa.com/-/media/thefacom-new/files/get-involved/2020/detailed-covid-19-guidance-on-re-starting-competitive-grassroots-football.ashx>
- <http://www.thefa.com/-/media/thefacom-new/files/get-involved/2020/return-of-outdoor-competitive-grassroots-football-faqs.ashx>
- <http://www.thefa.com/-/media/thefacom-new/files/get-involved/2020/outdoor-football-facilities---covid-19-guidance-on-re-starting-competitive-grassroots-football.ashx>
- <http://www.thefa.com/-/media/thefacom-new/files/get-involved/2020/clubs-and-coaches---covid-19-first-aid-guidance-for-returning-to-competitive-grassroots-football.ashx>
- <http://www.thefa.com/-/media/thefacom-new/files/get-involved/2020/covid-19-risk-assessment-guidance-and-template.ashx>

In addition to all of the above control measure the Club will ensure players are reminded of the importance of having good hand and respiratory hygiene practices and are clear on how the importance of taking these matters seriously. Team management will carry alcohol hand gel with them to support this.

*This document is consider a 'working document' and may be reviewed periodically as guidance or circumstances change*

## Overall Activity Risk Score

Overall Risk Score = Average impact of identified risks x Average likelihood of identified risks occurring

Overall Risk Assessment Scores	
Average overall inherent risk score :	15
Average overall residual risk score:	7



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## Agreement

### Proposal(s)

Risk Assessment completed by: *Marc Nash*  
*Anthony Woodhouse*  
*Steve Swinyard*  
*Graeme Scott*

Position: *North Shields FC Management Team*

Date:

Signed: *Marc Nash* -  
*Anthony Woodhouse* -  
*Steve Swinyard* -  
*Graeme Scott* -

### Agreement:

Risk Assessment Agreed by: *Steve Arkle*  
*Sean Mulligan*

Position: *Club Covid-19 Officer*

Date: *06/12/2020*

Signed: *Steve Arkle* – *SARKLE*  
*Sean Mulligan* - *SMulligan*