

# COACHING & INSTRUCTING IN ANGLING

## Best practice for the safe conduct of Coaching and Instructing in angling in Scotland under COVID-19 restrictions - Phase 3

**Approved by  
Scottish Government:  
With effect  
24 August 2020**

Updated as at 24 August 2020

### IMPORTANT:

This guidance has been updated to comply with Phase 3 of the Scottish Government's RouteMap and further relaxation on travel restrictions. It is to be read in conjunction with the Angling Scotland COVID-19 Guidelines which can be found at: <http://www.anglingscotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/ASL-Covid-Guidelines-for-Anglers-Clubs-Fisheries-Phase-3-v2-24-Aug-20.pdf>

People who are shielding are now permitted to undertake activities providing strict physical distancing is adhered to. Further information is available at [Scottish Government: Staying safe outdoors](#)

People who are symptomatic should self-isolate for 10 days; household members for 14 days as per info on NHS guidance. No one who is self-isolating should attend an outdoor sports facility/activity. Coaches and participants should cancel attendance, even if at very short notice, if symptomatic

### Introduction

This is a guidance document developed to support coaches and Instructors during Phase 3 and should be considered in conjunction with current Scottish Government guidance. This is specifically to support coaches and instructors on the phased return of sport in Scotland.

In Phase 3 Coaches can work outdoors, providing all activity is consistent with current Scottish Government guidance on health, physical distancing and hygiene – they will also need to make sure that they can adapt to changes in guidance at very short notice.

In addition, please see sportscotland guidance '[Getting coaches ready for sport](#)' which can be used to help you get ready for delivering sport. It can be used as it is or amended to reflect the specific delivery activity.



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## 1

### Guidance for Coaches

- **Risk Assessments.** It is the responsibility of the coach to ensure documented risk assessments, based on local circumstances, are completed prior to any activity taking place. Consider safety first, particularly focusing on minimising the risk of infection/transmission. This may significantly reduce the range of coaching activity that can be offered/delivered to certain groups as the likelihood of the requirement for direct intervention for safety needs to be a major consideration to avoid the need to break the 2mt social distancing guidance. Consideration should therefore be given as to whether the coached activity can be conducted effectively away from the water to mitigate this risk. Appropriate measures must be put in place to ensure participants, staff and volunteers are protected at all times and that dynamic risk assessments are conducted throughout delivery of activity.
- **Safety Briefings.** It is the responsibility of the coach to carry out a verbal Safety Briefing, based on the documented Risk Assessment, to all participants prior to the start of any coaching activity.
- **Test and Protect.** Test & Protect is Scotland's way of putting into practice NHS Scotland's test, trace, isolate and support strategy. The gathering of contact information from anyone attending sport/leisure activities or facilities in a secure and safe manner, will assist NHS Scotland's Test and Protect service to identify any clusters of cases, contact those who may have been exposed to the virus, and request them to take appropriate steps to prevent potential onward spread.
  - **Maintaining Customer records.** In order to support Test and Protect coaches are required to collect the name, contact number, date, time of arrival, and where possible the departure time of all those attending coaching activities. Where attending as a small household group, the contact details for one member – a 'lead member' – will be sufficient. It is important that coaches and customers cooperate, as it will be crucial to national efforts to suppress the virus. Coaches will store information for 21 days and share it with public health officers when requested.
- **Coaching numbers.** From the 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020 coaches can take organised outdoor group training sessions with a maximum of 30 people involved at any one time.
- Up to date guidance on physical distancing is available at [Scottish Government Guidance: Staying safe and protecting others](#).
- Physical distancing and hygiene measures must be fully implemented and maintained. When coaching children the following should be considered:
  - Children aged 11 years and younger are not required to physically distance at any time, as set out in Scottish Government guidance.
  - For those 12 years of age and over taking part in sport or leisure activity, normal Scottish Government physical distancing and household number guidelines should be followed unless otherwise advised by your relevant Sports Governing Body, Club or facility operator, as certain activities have exemptions.
  - Normal physical distancing and household number guidelines will however be applicable before and after the sporting activity or when taking breaks.

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## 1 Cont

### Guidance for Coaches continued...

- Coaches, officials, parents and guardians should continue to observe physical distancing when involved in children's activity as a coach, official or spectator. Please refer to specific club or facility guidelines.
- Coaching of people who are shielding is now permitted, provided it takes place outdoors and physical distancing and hygiene guidelines are strictly observed.
- Coaches who are shielding are not permitted to deliver any activity at the moment.
- Where a participant with a disability requires functional support to enable their participation in physical activity and sport this can be provided without maintain physical distancing. This support can be provided by a coach or other individual. In such circumstance the responsible 'Covid Officer' should consider appropriate mitigating actions as part of the risk assessment. For instance, providing appropriate PPE, limiting the number of participants an individual provides functional support to, limiting the duration spent in close proximity, or a combination of actions.
- At all times coaches should:
  - Adhere to the Scottish Government's physical distancing guidelines of staying at least 2m away from others and ensure participants they are coaching do so too. No contact training should be undertaken unless in organised children's activity as stipulated in the [Return to Sport & Physical Activity Guidance](#).
  - Plan appropriately for the session in advance, be aware of responsibilities, be clear on expectations with participants and build in a review period to reflect on effectiveness and safety of the session. A detailed document including checklists is available to support coaches at [Getting coaches ready for sport](#).
  - Ensure signage on guidelines for participating safely and promoting hygiene measures are clearly displayed and up to date.
  - Ensure appropriate policies are in place in line with respective Scottish Governing Body and local authority or leisure trust regarding safeguarding best practice.
  - Consult [Angling Scotland Guidance for Anglers, Club and Fisheries](#) Where relevant, also check with your venue provider, such as a local authority/school/club or fishery to ensure you follow their specific guidance and processes.
  - Be aware of their responsibilities and that of their participants before, during and after each session.
  - Check, in advance of delivery, that appropriate insurance policies are in place for all coached activities and that their insurance is valid for the activities they plan to deliver. All ADBoS Licensed Coaches and SANA Licensed Instructors are covered under the Insurance Policy provided through Angling Scotland, subject to licensing requirements.
  - Find out about their direct and surrounding delivery environment in advance of the session and contact the facility operator, where relevant, to confirm any changes in processes and procedure.
  - Ensure appropriate policies are in place in line with respective Scottish Governing Body and local authority or leisure trust regarding safeguarding best practice.

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- Ensure they have an approach to activity that is feasible and safe to deliver.
- Coaches working with children should familiarise themselves with the additional considerations developed by **Children 1st**: [Child Wellbeing and Protection Considerations](#)

## 2

### Communication with Customers

- Coaches should communicate clearly and regularly with participants setting out what they are doing to manage risk, and what advice they are giving to individuals before, during and after visits to the venue/activity.
- Communicate clearly opening times and how people can safely access a facility, if relevant, for example through a booking or queuing system.
- Ensure there is a process for cancellation should it be necessary.

## 3

### Health, Safety & Hygiene

- Coaches should ensure they have access to first aid and emergency equipment. Where equipment is stored indoors coaches should ensure public access to indoor areas is restricted as much as possible with hygiene and safety protocols reviewed as part of the risk assessment. Coaches should ensure that first aid equipment has been updated appropriately for the COVID pandemic and first aiders have appropriate training.
- When undertaking coaching the coach should ensure, where possible, that everyone involved avoids touching surfaces, sharing equipment and touching their mouth and face.
- Cleaning, hand, and respiratory hygiene are core measures and provision should be made for these. Clear guidance and plans are needed for cleaning of equipment and waste disposal. Toilets may be available if operators follow the guidelines outlined on the Scottish Government website [Opening Public Toilets Guidelines](#). Please check with your venue operator in advance of your session.
- Coaches should ensure hand sanitizers or wipes are available for use at entrance/exit to activity where possible and ask participants to bring their own hand sanitiser (Hand sanitiser should be at least 60% alcohol based and detergent wipes appropriate for the surface they are being used on).
- All appropriate cleaning procedures and equipment/disinfectant should be provided as per Health Protection Scotland guidance. Cleaning products should conform to EN14476 standards. - A checklist for health, hygiene and cleaning considerations and actions is available here: [Getting your Facilities Fit for Sport](#)

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- Further Health, Safety & Hygiene guidance is available at;
  - [Health Protection Scotland: General guidance for non-healthcare settings](#)
  - [Health Protection Scotland: Cleaning in a non-healthcare setting](#)
  - [Health Protection Scotland: Hand hygiene techniques](#)
  - [Health and Safety Executive: First aid during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#)
  - [St. John's Ambulance: Covid-19 advice for first aiders](#)
  - [HSE: First Aid during the coronavirus](#)

## 4

### Equipment Provision and Use

- Participants should bring their own equipment where possible, including water bottles and sport specific items. They should arrive in the appropriate clothing for the session as no changing will be available.
- Where shared equipment is necessary for an activity appropriate hygiene measures must be put in place to ensure the equipment is thoroughly cleaned before, during and after use.
- No personal equipment should be left at a facility by a coach or participant once the activity has ended.

## 5

### Bookings and Payment

- Online bookings should be taken if possible. If not, alternative measures should be put in place including phone bookings.
- Where possible and in line with Data Protection regulations, a register of users should be kept in case there is a need to track and trace.
- Consider introducing buffer periods between sessions to stagger start times so that participants do not all arrive/leave at the same time.
- Where possible use online or contactless payment options and avoid handling cash.