



COVID-19 What it means to Groups in Wales

The guidance from different governments is getting increasingly complex with local lockdowns and restrictions coming into force as well as changes to the numbers of people who can gather. It is every group's responsibility to keep up with changes to any restrictions that affect their group and ensure they are adhering to them. This may mean a change to your protocols and risk assessment at short notice. Please consider this when developing your plans and inviting participants and volunteers to sessions.

Social distancing (2M/6FT) remains a key message for everyone not from the same household and is the most effective way to protect everyone. Hand hygiene also remains a critical defence from contamination.

Trustee checklists should be completed and emailed to RDA National Office Groupsupport@rda.org.uk before the group can be signed off as ready and any RDA activity can begin.

Wales – Keep Wales Safe

Further relaxation of rules

From Saturday 17 July Wales moved to alert level 1, which removes the legal restriction on number of people who can gather outdoors, up to 30 children from organisation such as the Brownies and Scouts can attend residential centres over the summer holidays.

In addition up to 6 people can meet socially indoors in private homes and holiday accommodation.

It is expected that alert level 0 will be moved to on 7 August which will remove the legal restriction on numbers of people meeting socially indoors. Face coverings are still likely to be a legal requirement in indoor spaces.

RDA Sessions

Outdoor sports courts, including golf courses can open. This means equestrian centres can open for participants and RDA sessions can commence.

From 17 July, there are no upper limits on outdoor gatherings. We continue to recommend an upper limit of 30 as we do not consider that normal RDA sessions would benefit from this as it is unlikely we would ever breach 30.

Indoor facilities have been permitted to open from 3rd May and this includes covered (indoor) arenas. **From 17 July the limit on gathering limits for indoor organised activities has been increased to 200 standing and 1000 seated. Again we would recommend a limit of 30 for the reasons outlined above.**

From 17 July, up to 30 children from organisation such as the Brownies and Scouts can attend residential centres over the summer holidays. This means that groups of up to 30 children can go on residential holidays in Wales.

Individuals are permitted to come into closer proximity than social distancing would normally allow (2m) with a disabled person from outside their household to support them to access sport and physical activity in Wales. This is detailed in the Welsh Government guidance: [Sport, recreation and leisure: guidance for a safe return](#) and [Taking all reasonable measures to minimise the risk of exposure to coronavirus in workplaces and premises open to the public.](#) This can be used for example to support individuals to mount/ dismount, assess new riders, hat fitting etc.

In doing so you must undertake a risk assessment and note the mitigation measures put in place which includes:

- Opt-in/out for the athlete/participant
- Opt-in/out for the coach/instructors/support provider in the sport context
- Individual risk assessment (which includes functional ability consideration and mitigation) for the athlete/participant
- Individual risk assessment (which includes functional ability consideration and mitigation) for the coach/instructors/support provider in the sport context

Closer proximity (e.g. to help a rider mount) should take place for the minimum duration to support the participant must be undertaken with additional mitigation in place. This must be at least the individual coming into closer contact must wear a face covering. Guidance on face coverings is [here](#). Further guidance is available [here](#) and must be adhered to.

You are also permitted to have 1 side walker from outside the household/ bubble of the rider from 17 May. This side walker should be on the opposite side of the equine to the leader. From 21 June you are also permitted to have 2 side walkers from outside the household/ bubble where this is necessary. More information on side walkers can be found [here](#).

For groups that hire their facilities for organised activities (to Pony Club, Riding Club or to a coach), outdoor venue hire is permitted within gathering limit of 50 and indoors up to 30. For informal activity (hiring to a group of friends) the limit is 6 people from 6 households outdoors and only members of a single household indoors.

Carriage Driving

We have shared the [RDA Carriage Driving Protocols](#) with the Welsh Government and Sport Wales [and so carriage driving can take place following these protocols.](#)

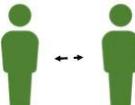
Vaulting

[Vaulting as individual may take place and pairs and teams is permitted as detailed in the RDA Vaulting Protocols.](#)

Travel

Travel is now permitted throughout the country and you may cross the border into England.

What can we do in Wales? (17 July 2021 onwards)

Category	Regulations and guidance
 <p>National guidance— SOCIAL</p>	<p>There is no limit on the number of people who can gather outdoors. In addition up to 6 people can meet socially indoors in private homes and holiday accommodation.</p>
 <p>RDA meetings</p>	<p>Can travel around Wales and into England</p> <p>RDA recommendation: Face to face meetings can take place but the default should be Zoom if possible. Face to face meetings must be risk assessed and mitigation put in place</p>
 <p>RDA sessions</p>	<p>From 17 July, there are no upper limits on outdoor gatherings and for indoor gathering is 200 standing or 1000 seated. We are still recommending a maximum of 30 for RDA both indoors and out as it is unlikely that sessions will breach this limit. You are also permitted to have 1 side walker from outside the household/ bubble of the rider. This side walker should be on the opposite side of the equine to the leader and mitigation must be in place. From 21 June 2 side walkers are permitted from outside the rider's household/bubble. All side walkers must wear face coverings.</p>
 <p>Social Distance (SD)</p>	<p>2m unless in extended household</p> <p>A dispensation for disability allows a short term breach of social distancing to allow disabled participants to access sport. This includes supporting a rider to mount or dismount. A very specific risk assessment must be undertaken for this. Individuals would be classed as 'close contact' for Test Trace Protect and would need to self isolate if they had come into contact with a positive case</p>
 <p>Data Collection</p>	<p>Legal requirement to collect and keep details of attendees for 21 days (not required for outdoor leisure)</p>
 <p>Face coverings Outdoors</p>	<p>Face coverings must be worn if breaching social distancing for a specific purpose (see social distancing)</p> <p>RDA rule: Face coverings can be worn—not a substitute for social distancing</p>
	<p>Travel is permitted throughout the country and, you may cross the border into England.</p>