2021-22 Indoor Event Plan

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Introduction

This document sets out the requirements to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of UK Ultimate members and volunteers attending any Indoor Ultimate Event. It should be read in conjunction with any additional rules and requirements set out by the venue that should also be adhered to throughout the event.

Staff and volunteers running any indoor event on behalf of UK Ultimate will be briefed prior to the event date to ensure they understand their roles and responsibilities.

Individuals should seriously consider the risks involved in attending an Ultimate event, including travel to/from the competition, before arriving. Anyone playing Ultimate should understand and recognise that during play they will at times be in close proximity with teammates and opponents, particularly when attending a weekend event. In some cases, perhaps most notably the interaction between the thrower and their marker, the interaction could be face to face within 1m, and might last for more than a few seconds, **which is expected to increase the risk of transmission**.

Emergency Contacts

The Tournament Director (TD) of the event should always be the first point of contact regarding any issues at the venue over the duration of the event booking.

However, if required, the contact details of UKU staff are listed below:

UK Ultimate CEO - Simon Hill, 07802311298

Government & Return-to-Play Guidelines

We will adhere to all guidelines and restrictions set out by the UK Government in relation to COVID-19.

All activity taking place will be in line with the Return-to-Play Guidance published by UK Ultimate.

COVID-19 & PPE

Before attending the event, all participants, officials, volunteers and spectators should self-assess for symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). Officially symptoms are listed as:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

If anyone has one or more of these symptoms, they should not attend the event, and should follow NHS guidance on testing and self-isolation, even if the symptoms are mild.

Covid-19 is associated with other symptoms. **If you feel unwell at all you should not attend the event.**

We strongly recommend and ask that all players take a lateral flow test in the 48 hours prior to the event. In the instance that you test positive, you should not attend the event, and should follow NHS guidance on testing and self-isolation.

All attendees must follow the current regulations on face coverings indoors. Individuals involved in a current match (in-play or on the sideline) are not required to wear a face covering.

If the venue has any track-and-trace measures, all attendees will be required to adhere to these.

No paper copies of the schedule will be available to view. Links to the schedule, event website and spirit forms will be made available around the venue for people to view these online.

If an individual presents with symptoms at the event or tests positive after the event has begun, the details outlined below in the UKU Infection Control Policy should be followed.

Infection Control Policy

If an individual presents with symptoms at the event or tests positive after the event has begun, they must

- immediately inform their Captain and/or COVID Officer and the Event TD
- leave the event; or not attend if off-site at the time.
- follow NHS guidance on testing and self-isolation

It is up to the individual who is symptomatic/has tested positive to determine who they may have been in close contact with in the last 48 hours e.g. other participants that they have travelled to the event with. Note, the infected individual has a right to confidentiality; **UKU does not have the right to inform other attendees about who a symptomatic/positive individual is and whether or not they may have been in contact with them**. However, the Event TD will coordinate with the affected team's COVID Officer and/or Captain to determine whether other teams at the event should be informed.

'Close contacts' of the symptomatic/positive individual do not need to self-isolate unless they're contacted by the NHS Test & Trace service and it is at their discretion on whether they choose to stop playing or leave the event. **UKU does not have the authority to decide and dictate what constitutes close-contact, nor that an individual must self-isolate.** All participants are responsible for knowing, understanding and interpreting government regulations relating to testing positive. Other than the requirement for someone testing positive to leave the event, it is not the responsibility of the Event TD, nor UKU Staff, to tell you how to respond.

It is understandable that a team may decide that they do not want to compete against an opposing team that has fielded a symptomatic/positive individual and/or may be continuing to field individuals that may be close contacts of that individual. However, the team choosing not to compete will be agreeing to forfeit that game in the competition. We will not penalise a team for their player(s) taking the correct course of action and informing the TD of their situation.

First Aid

First aid provision and support is provided by the venue, unless otherwise agreed in advance of the event. When first aid is required, the Tournament Director will call the duty office for support or coordinate with the dedicated first aid personnel.

Event Day

Arriving/Leaving

Players should not arrive more than 30 minutes prior to the start of the first game, as shown on the tournament schedule. In addition, following the end of each team's final game of the day, players should leave no later than 30 minutes after, or by the end of the booking time, whichever is earlier.

Venue Rules

All event attendees must follow the venue protocols at all times. This may include, but is not limited to, one-way systems, maintaining social distancing, wearing face coverings and not congregating at Reception.

Off-Pitch

When not playing, teams should avoid congregating indoors in large groups. Efforts should be made by all attendees to ensure that main walkways and corridors are not blocked at any time, including by the positioning of bags and belongings.

Warming Up

Teams are reminded that warm up space at indoor events is extremely limited. Where teams wish to warm up, outdoor space should be used where possible, although players should ensure they wear different shoes for this than the ones they will compete in. This is to reduce the amount of dirt and debris brought in, which will make the sports hall floor slippy.

No running or throwing in the venue, other than in the sports hall, is permitted. Teams may be disqualified from the competition if they are found throwing in corridors/walkways.

Equipment & Belongings

All attendees are urged to bring only 1 small backpack to carry their belongings for each day. This should sufficiently carry at least 1 water bottle, a light/dark strip, and a change of shoes. Large backpacks or suitcases should not be brought into the venue, including any sleeping bags or pillows. Individuals are recommended to only bring exactly what they need for competing that day into the venue to reduce congestion.

If an individual has no place to put any large bags, the venue's lockers should be used to keep these belongings out of the way. Individuals should take a small padlock with them in case it is required to use a locker.

If players are found to have belongings that are blocking walkways/corridors or if any items are considered to be excessively large, the venue and/or TD may ask you to leave. Please consider this carefully when packing your belongings for the day.

Kit

Where possible, players should aim to arrive dressed and ready to play. This will limit the use of changing room facilities.

Players should ensure that they do not travel in or go outside in the playing shoes that they will compete in. A change of shoes for indoor use only is strongly recommended.

Equipment During Playing

When playing, players are urged to only have their named water bottle to the side of the pitch. Teams should confirm which colour strip (playing shirt) they are required to wear before entering the sports hall. If any players accidentally have any other belongings on them before their game starts, their team should group these belongings and make sure that they are placed far away from the sideline.

Food & Drink

No food or drink, other than water, should be consumed in the sports hall. Water should be contained in individual, named plastic bottles. Participants should not share water bottles.