



## COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR MATCH OFFICIALS

This document has been prepared to provide Match Officials, who will be officiating fixtures against Warsash Wasps SFC teams at either of their dedicated facilities, guidance as to the key COVID-19 measures in effect. Match Officials are not expected to enforce any of these measures, but are required to adhere to them.

This guidance has been reviewed and updated following the revised guidance from The FA on 24-03-2021.

It is a sub-set of all of the measures within the WWSFC COVID-19 Risk Assessment, which can be found and read in full on the WWSFC website (<https://www.warsashwasps.co.uk/covid-19/>).

Warsash Wasps SFC operates two dedicated facilities: 1) WWSFC New Road Site (covering the 3G pitch, and the main grass pitch), 2) Osborne Road Recreational Pitch. This guidance is assumed to cover both facilities in equal manner unless there are any site-specific measures (which will be identified separately).

#	Topic	COVID-19 Measures
1	Match Confirmation	When the match is confirmed by the WWSFC manager/representative all details, including access to the WWSFC COVID guidance should be provided to match officials.
2	Pre-Arrival Health Checks	All match officials involved WWSFC fixtures are requested to undertake a Self-declaration pre-arrival health check. Anyone exhibiting COVID symptoms, or having recently been in contact with a diagnosed case of COVID, is politely expected to stay away from the fixture and the WWSFC facilities. If a Match Official cannot take part in a WWSFC fixture due to COVID then please advise the home manager as soon as possible.
3	COVID Briefing	The FA guidance suggests that a briefing should be provided to all players, coaches and officials before the start of the game by the club COVID Officer. Practically, with over 20 squads at WWSFC, this is impossible and so this document and the measures advised here are to be taken as the COVID briefing.
4	Site Arrival	WWSFC measures come into effect from the moment visitors arrive on site and must be adhered to at all times until leaving the site.
5	Social Distancing	Like most grassroots football clubs, WWSFC facilities are outside and therefore benefit from plenty of open space and fresh air. As an added precaution all visitors are requested to observe social distancing at all times on WWSFC sites.
6	Hand Sanitisation	Hand sanitiser will be provided at WWSFC sites, to assist good hygiene all visitors are asked to also bring their own hand sanitisers and use them at regular intervals throughout their visit, especially when they make contact with any surfaces.

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7	Changing Rooms & Buildings	In accordance with FA guidance, all changing rooms will be locked and unavailable to teams on match day. With the exception of toilet access, all other buildings and rooms are to remain locked at all times during WWSFC fixtures.
8	Toilets	To minimise contact points and transmission risks a single toilet may be made available for use at WWSFC fixtures, this is at the discretion of the home manager and will be based on the ability to arrange cleaning and checking. The WWSFC Toilets are deep cleaned regularly to minimise COVID transmission and are to be dis-infected (using the provided sprays and cleaners) when opened and closed by the home team, and then again after each use by any users.
9	Track and Trace	Track and Trace is a very important feature of the WWSFC COVID measures. Each home team manager is required to capture the details of each person visiting this site for football purposes on the WWSFC Match Day Checklist Form. (Osborne Road is a public recreation space which will likely have members of the public present for non-football reasons, T&T for these individuals is not expected). The home team manager may arrange for a COVID Helper to take care of these records.
10	Equipment Cleaning	All match day equipment provided by WWSFC will be sanitised and cleaned prior to use, this includes match balls, goal posts, dug out seating, corner flags, etc. Match Officials are requested not to handle the match balls.
11	Match Official Equipment	Match Officials should ensure that any flags and/or other equipment they provide to officiate the fixture have been cleaned and sanitised prior to use and immediately afterwards.
12	Player Checks	Player checks (jewellery, shin guards, boots, etc) are still necessary prior to kick-off and should be completed in a socially distant manner.
13	Pre-Match Handshakes	In accordance with FA guidance, no pre-match handshakes are allowed
14	Coin Toss	The coin toss is still a necessary feature of the pre-match routine, the Referee must ensure that only he/she handles the coin and that social distancing maintained.
15	Match Official Payment	The mechanism for payment of the match officials should be agreed when the match confirmation details are provided. Wherever possible this should be cashless.
16	Site Exit and Departure	All visitors are requested to depart the site as soon as possible after the fixture has completed. It is important to ensure that all waste/litter is disposed of or taken home, that all property is taken with visitors and that exit is in an orderly and socially distant manner.

**Thank you in advance for helping to keep our facilities COVID secure, and for enabling grassroots football to take place.**

*Warsash Wasps Committee*