

**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR:**  
Grassroots Football Activities during COVID 19 outbreak. During this evolving situation please monitor and follow government guidance given in the web links provided

**Madeley White Star FC Limited** are a Community Amateur Sports Club registered in England  
Company Number 12225963, limited by guarantee without share capital

Registered Office 36 Cloverdale Road, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 9LE



Location:		Manor Road, Madeley, CW3 9PS			Author:		Charlotte Bailey		Position:		Secretary / Covid-19 Officer		
Activity:		Competitive Training sessions and Match Play at Manor Road, Madeley. Season 2020-21.			Review Date:		2 <sup>nd</sup> December 2020		Next Review Date:		2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2021		
Hazard	Consequences	Activity affected	Initial Risk (Pre-Measures)			Control Measures	Further Action Required	Residual Risk (Post Measures)					
			Severity	Likelihood	Risk			Severity	Likelihood	Risk			
Infectious diseases – COVID 19	Death or serious illness	Before and during training sessions and match play	5	4	20	<p><b>Self-Assessment prior to attending training sessions or a match</b> - All players, officials, volunteers and spectators must undergo a self-assessment for any Covid-19- symptoms. No-one should leave home to participate in football if they, or someone they live with, has any of the following: • A high temperature (above 37.5°C); • A new, continuous cough; • A loss of, or change to, their sense of smell or taste. This check should be done before each training session and match. Temperature checks will also be mandatory on arrival at Manor Road and will be performed by the Covid-19 Marshall for each team (including away team), any person who has a temperature above 37.5°C will be required to leave, as will any person who refuses to have their temperature scanned.</p> <p><b>It is important to note that no training session or match play should take place without this having been done.</b> You may wish to have this completed in the form of an online or paper questionnaire at the start of your sessions. If symptoms are checked at the start of a session rather than in advance, <b>this should be completed on arrival before the player mixes with others</b>, so that if they have symptoms there is no chance of others being affected.</p> <p>Should an individual have demonstrated any such symptoms, they must not participate. Instead they should follow NHS and PHE guidance on self-isolation available here. Anyone who has already been instructed to self-isolate by a health care practitioner or PHE should continue to follow this advice and may not participate. Each Manager will make all participants aware of any increased risk associated with taking part in activity, based on the risk assessment undertaken by the club and the Government Tier System. Everyone should comply with public health restrictions and avoid high-risk behaviour outside the football setting to reduce the risk to fellow participants and other attendees.</p> <p><b>Consent for U18s</b> – parents will need to give their written consent to the club and or coach, and ensure that they are comfortable with the club's Covid-19 planning arrangements before doing so. • be aware that children may be anxious or unsure whether to resume previous activities, such as football. Please only support their return to football activity when they feel confident to do so and you feel the activity is safe and right for them. Parents to ensure their child should arrive changed and ready to exercise. • Ensure their child takes their own water bottle and their own hand sanitiser, both clearly marked with their name. They must not share these with anyone else. • Parents to please ensure your child/children know how to maintain good hygiene and hand washing. Young children may struggle to maintain social distancing. Please continue to do your best to help your child recognise what two metres or 'one-metre plus' look and feel like – for example, related them to arm spans or standing jumps for example;</p> <p><b>Covid-19 updates</b> – Manager to convey any updates/changes to guidance as necessary before each training session or match</p> <p><b>Travel to training and matches</b> - You should always follow best practice for travel and aim to walk or cycle if possible. Where that is not possible, you can use public transport or drive, but should avoid travelling with someone from outside your household or support bubble unless you can practise social distancing. See the government's guidance on safer travel for passengers, and car sharing, for further information. There is additional guidance for Tier 2 and Tier 3 areas, which affects those living in the areas as well as those who wish to travel into the areas to take part in sporting activities. • In Tier 2 areas: you should aim to reduce the number of journeys you make, where possible. • In Tier 3 areas: you are advised not to travel into or out of Tier 3 areas, including for sport, unless this is necessary to enable individual exercise (or exercise for people from the same household or support bubble). Where this is necessary (for example to access a green space for a run or cycle), you should only travel a short distance and stay as local as possible. Travel is also permitted where it is necessary to enable sport for disabled people, sport for educational purposes, or supervised sport and physical activity for under-18s, to take place, but should still be minimised and kept to short distances only.</p> <p><b>Training</b> - competitive training can take place for all participants, in an outdoor setting, in all tiers. For Tier 3, contact in training must be kept to a minimum. Care should be taken on busy sites with limited access points to ensure safe play. Facilities should consider staggering start times and allowing cleaning time between change-overs. Clubs should determine the appropriate ratio of coaches to participants, following the relevant FA safeguarding policy outlined in safeguarding Guidance Notes 5.5. In all settings before and after the session, and in any breaks, all participants should practise social distancing, in line with Government guidelines. Any spectators at training sessions (including parents and carers – restricted to one spectator per U18s) must be restricted to discrete six-person gathering limits and spread out, in line with wider government guidance, ensuring space for officials, coaches and substitutes. Separate guidance must be followed when training at venues other than Madeley White Star FC. Your facility provider should issue you with their revised risk assessments.</p> <p><b>Matches</b> - Outdoor competitive match play is now permitted in all tiers. However, in all settings before and after matches all participants should practise social distancing and the guidance for travel to matches. For our Adults - only players and team officials allowed to attend training, friendlies or league fixtures, up to a maximum of 30 people per team bubble. For our Juniors - 1 parent/carer per player at matches/training - these are not classed as spectators but are in attendance to supervise their child from a safeguarding/welfare perspective. <b>No other spectators permitted unless otherwise agreed in advance with our Executive Committee.</b></p> <p><b>Face coverings</b> - should be worn at all times by those in attendance unless a playing participant.</p> <p><b>Mandatory NHS Test and Trace / monitoring numbers on site</b> - Clubs and facility providers must adhere to the NHS Test and Trace system. This means ensuring information for all training sessions and matches is collected by the methods as set out below. We have an official NHS QR code and display the official NHS QR poster to help NHS Test and Trace to identify and notify people who may have been exposed to the virus. In addition, there is an NHS Covid-19 app, which has a feature that allows users to quickly and easily 'check in' to our venue by scanning the code. The information stays on the user's phone. In addition to this, although in England, you do not have to ask people who choose to 'check in' using the official NHS QR code to provide their contact details. For those who do not have a smart phone, a manual process will be used via a 'signing in book' to collect information. This will not only enable us to monitor the numbers on site, but will also act as a back-up should we be contacted by NHS Test and Trace. This information will be collected, processed and stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR principles for 21 days in line with the Government Recreational Team Sport Framework then deleted. It should be used only for the purpose of NHS Test and Trace and, where requested to share with the NHS for Test and Trace purposes, the shared information should relate only to the match or training in which the player or supporter tested positive.</p> <p><b>Changing rooms will remain closed</b> - although changing rooms and shower facilities can be used, participants must adhere to gathering limits while indoors, therefore due to lack of space within our facility our changing rooms will remain closed, unless they are required for safeguarding, welfare issues or first aid. Until further notice all participants, including match officials to arrive in kit.</p> <p><b>Toilet facilities</b> - open with social distancing enhanced cleaning measures and additional antibacterial soap dispensers and hand sanitiser is available in each toilet.</p> <p><b>Training sessions and friendlies/matches</b> – to be pre-booked with Rob Woodward so that we can control of the numbers on site at any one time, and stagger training session and kick off times accordingly. Maximum pitches to be used concurrently is 3. It will be the responsibility of the Manager or Covid-19 Marshall to provide a safety briefing before the commencement of any friendlies or fixtures.</p> <p><b>One-way system</b> - a semi-permanent one-way system has been installed, and a hand sanitising station must be set up by the first Manager on site at the entrance to this. The entrance to the pitches is the usual entrance, with the exception for Senior Pitch 2 where entrance should be accessed via the left-hand side of the carpark, alongside the hedge behind the goals and <b>not across Senior Pitch 1</b>. Exit routes are marked for all users.</p> <p><b>Covid-19 Stations</b> – must be set up by the relevant manager for each pitch when in use. Each station will have a Covid-19 Marshall who will be issued with a digital temperature scanner, hand sanitiser, NHS QR Code and a signing in book to collect track and trace details for those without a smart phone</p> <p><b>Risk Assessment</b> – to be issued to all away teams prior to attendance</p>	5	2	10				

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Infectious diseases COVID-19	Death or serious illness	Before and during Training Sessions and Match Play	5	4	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Pre-match handshake</b> should not happen. Instead players will be asked to hand sanitise before kick-off;</li> <li><b>Team talk huddles</b> should not take place. Team talks can take place, as long as social distancing is observed and held outdoors where possible;</li> <li><b>Warm-ups/cool-downs</b> should always observe social distancing;</li> <li><b>Coaches, other team staff and substitutes</b> are allowed, but must also always observe social distancing on touchlines/dug-outs. Social-distancing must also be observed during interactions when a substitution is being made;</li> <li><b>Match preparation meetings</b> by officials should be held by video call; -</li> <li><b>Covid-19 Code of Behaviour</b> - The FA has produced to ensure a commitment for all involved to adhere to Covid-19 adaptations. The Covid-19 officer for each club will be responsible for communicating the code of behaviour to all players (parents responsible for U18s), coaches and volunteers within the club. Participants must be clear that they are opting-in to participating as defined in The FA's guidance about risk and risk mitigation, the Manager of the Covid-19 Marshall will be responsible for communicating this to their players and the opposition on a match day.</li> <li><b>If participants become symptomatic during the session</b>, they should immediately remove themselves from the session and return home as soon as possible. NHS guidance on further management of symptoms should be followed</li> <li><b>Dug outs</b> – must not be used</li> <li><b>Set plays – free kicks:</b> referees and coaches should encourage players to get on with the game and not unnecessarily prolong set play set-up, such as defensive walls;</li> <li><b>Set plays – corners</b> should also be taken promptly to limit prolonged close marking</li> <li><b>Ball transfer</b> - the nature of football means that the ball is not frequently handled. When the ball goes out of play it should not be retrieved by non-participants and should be retrieved using the feet rather than the hands where possible.</li> <li><b>Where there are breaks in the game, or training</b>, if throw-ins or handling has occurred the ball should be disinfected it should not be retrieved by non-participants and should be retrieved using the feet rather than the hands where possible.</li> <li><b>Goal posts</b> should be wiped down before matches, at half time and after matches.</li> <li><b>Goal celebrations</b> should be avoided;</li> <li><b>Sin-bin</b> - players and officials should observe social distancing during sin-bin instances.</li> <li><b>Interactions with referees and match assistants</b> should only happen with players observing social distancing;</li> <li><b>Shouting</b> – avoid shouting when in close proximity to anyone, there is an additional risk of infection in close proximity situations where people are shouting or conversing loudly, and when face to face. If possible, everyone should therefore avoid shouting or raising their voices when facing each other during, before and after games.</li> <li><b>Spitting</b> - everyone should refrain from spitting. If you need to sneeze or cough, you are encouraged to do so into a tissue or upper sleeve and advised to avoid touching your face. Ensure any tissues are disposed of in a sealed bin as soon as possible.</li> <li><b>Small-sided football</b> should be modified to provide more regular hygiene breaks in activity.</li> <li><b>Youth football coaches</b> are encouraged to limit persistent close proximity of participants during match play (where young participants may be more likely to cluster around the ball) and provide regular hygiene breaks in activity.</li> <li><b>Other formats</b> of the game may require specific adaptations, and participants should work with their club or facility provider to ensure these can be put in place.</li> <li><b>Sharing of equipment/kit must be avoided where possible.</b> Where possible coaches only should handle equipment in training. Where equipment is shared, equipment must be cleaned before use by another person. Goalkeepers should ensure they disinfect their gloves regularly in breaks in training or matches and thoroughly afterwards. Participants should take their kit home to wash it themselves, rather than have one person handling a large quantity of soiled materials. Where kit absolutely has to be shared or kept together (e.g. last-minute stand-in players, shortage of kit, or an essential club function), each person handling it must wash or sanitise their hands immediately after and appropriate cleaning arrangements for the kit must be made. Water bottles or other refreshment containers should in no circumstances be shared. Participants are advised to bring their own drinks or refreshments, in a named container.</li> <li><b>Face coverings</b> – to be worn by spectators and substitutes unless they are exempt</li> <li><b>Spectators</b> – In Tier 1 areas: people can gather in groups of up to 6 (or larger groups if they are from the same household or support bubble) outdoors and indoors. In Tier 2 areas: people can gather in groups of up to 6 (or larger groups if they are from the same household or support bubble) outdoors. Indoors, people cannot mix with others from outside their household or support bubble. In Tier 3 areas: people cannot mix with others from outside their household or support bubble in a private garden or most public outdoor venues. However, people can meet in groups of up to 6 in public outdoor spaces, including outdoor sport grounds and facilities. <b>Where spectators are allowed in U18s, must adhere to 1 spectator per child</b> in discrete six-person gathering limits and spread out.</li> <li><b>All touch points</b> such as door handles, container handles, hand rails to be periodically disinfected.</li> </ul>	COVID Officer appointed to ensure Control Measures are implemented	5	2	10
Infectious diseases – COVID 19	Death or serious illness	Administering First Aid	5	4	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First-aiders to be equipped with the appropriate PPE (including face coverings) to protect themselves and others if they need to compromise social-distancing guidelines to provide medical assistance.</li> <li>After contact with an injured participant, the person who has administered first aid should clean their hands thoroughly with soap and water or alcohol hand sanitiser at the earliest opportunity. This advice is applicable to all situations, regardless of whether there was close contact or the minimum 2 metre social distancing was maintained.</li> <li>The first aider should also avoid touching their mouth, eyes and nose.</li> <li>First-aiders or their equivalent, should keep a record of each participant they have come into contact with for NHS test and trace purposes.</li> </ul>	COVID Officer appointed to ensure Control Measures are implemented	5	2	10
Infectious diseases – COVID 19	Death or serious illness	Beverage Service	5	4	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Provision of hot/cold drinks</b> – will not be available</li> </ul>	COVID Officer appointed to ensure Control Measures are implemented	5	2	10

RISK	
1 – 5	Low (acceptable)
6 – 10	Medium (adequate)
11 – 17	High (tolerable)
18 – 25	Very High (unacceptable)
Low	No further action required
Medium	If risk cannot be lowered any further, consider risk against benefit. Monitor and look to improve at next review
High	Identify further control measures to reduce risk rating. Seek further advice e.g. line manager, H&S team, etc.
Very High	Do not undertake the activity. Implement immediate improvements

SEVERITY	
1	Insignificant (no injury)
2	Minor (minor injury needing first aid)
3	Moderate (up to 3 days absence)
4	Major (more than 3 days absence)
5	Catastrophic (death)

LIKELIHOOD	
1	Very unlikely
2	Unlikely
3	Fairly likely
4	Likely
5	Very likely

The aim is to reduce the risk by prevention or control measures so far as is reasonably practicable

**DISCLAIMER**  
This guidance is for general information only and does not constitute legal advice, nor it is a replacement for such, nor does it replace any Government or PHE advice; nor does it provide any specific commentary or advice on health-related issues. Affected organisations should therefore ensure that they seek independent advice from medical practitioners, or healthcare providers, prior to implementing any re-opening plan, as required. Independent legal advice should be sought, as required and depending on your, or relevant circumstances. While efforts have been taken to ensure the accuracy of this information at the time of publication, the reader is reminded to check the Government website to obtain the most up-to-date information regarding social distancing and any other Government measures.

