

Return to Cricket at Bowdon Vale – ECB Step 4

Following the announcement by the ECB on 8th July regarding the return to recreational cricket, Bowdon Vale will return to cricket under the following operational procedures which were approved by the Committee on 15th July 2020.

ROADMAP FOR THE RETURN OF RECREATIONAL CRICKET

ECB STATEMENT

England is currently in Step 4 of the Roadmap for the Return of Recreational Cricket. For recreational cricket in Wales, we will provide further guidance on what a return to cricket activity for clubs in Wales looks like as soon as we are able.

We will continue to be led by UK Government's advice and will update the guidance depending on when the national COVID-19 situation develops.

We will also work with players, volunteers, officials, community cricket stakeholders to ensure future guidance is both safe and implemented at the appropriate time.

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5
<p>Lockdown 23 March - 13 May</p> <p>At-home training and basic use of cricket grounds but not facilities e.g. nets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential ground maintenance 	<p>Household activity 13 May - 1 June Guidance released 15 May</p> <p>Use of outdoor facilities (e.g. nets, outfield, wicket)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For individuals, individual households, or pairs of adults – all socially distanced 1-1 coaching permitted Essential ground maintenance Use of outdoor facilities All indoor facilities remain closed 	<p>Small group training 1 June - 10 July Guidance released 5 June</p> <p>Use of outdoor facilities (e.g. nets, outfield, wicket)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For individuals, individual households, or groups of up to 6 individuals regardless of household – all socially distanced 1:5 coaching permitted More than one group of 6 can train at the same time provided they are kept separate, and social distancing plus strict hygiene measures are observed 	<p>Adapted gameplay 11 July - TBC Guidance released 8 July</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matches can be 11-a-side but total group size including all coaches and officials must not exceed 30 Cricket matches adjusted to remain socially distanced Use own equipment throughout where possible and clean bat when leaving field of play No sweat or saliva is to be applied to the ball at any time. Hands and the ball should be cleaned at all breaks Players to remain socially distanced at all times (Wicket keepers & Slip fielders at 1m+) Use of the clubhouse, changing rooms and toilets should adhere to the latest UK Government advice Keep a record of all those in attendance at each session, including contact details Batters are to run in distinct running lines to ensure they are not within 2m of others 	<p>Unrestricted Date TBC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All formats, leagues and competitions available Full facility usage <p>Moving to stage five would involve the removal of social distancing measures.</p>

Given the continuation of the pandemic, this approval is conditional on all our members observing the specific controls and measures that we have put in place to keep everyone safe. Whether you are a captain, coach, parent or player, please ensure you familiarise yourself with the requirements and observe them fully when attending activities at the club.

Whilst we understand that individuals maybe suffering information overload and some attitudes may have relaxed, it is very important that we remain compliant with the law and the guidance provided by the ECB.

This document contains the operating procedures for:

- Return to Playing
- Return to Training

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RETURN TO PLAYING

Below is a summary of ECB's published Step 4 (Adapted Gameplay) guidance for clubs and leagues. Please make sure that you read and understand the guidance.

It is the captain's responsibility to ask the players about COVID-19 symptoms and equally it is the players' responsibility to declare if they have them. Prior to the match starting, the captain should draw the players' attention to the playing plan summary so that all are aware. The captain should create a written attendance register with contact details & send it to the Secretary for traceability purposes. The captain is responsible for overseeing observance of the playing plan.

Every player must read, understand, and comply with the guidelines around hygiene and minimizing transmission.

COVID-19 PLAN FOR JUNIOR & OPEN-AGE CRICKET

APPLICABLE TO PLAYERS, VOLUNTEERS, SPECTATORS, PARENTS, CLUBS, COACHES & OFFICIALS IN ENGLAND

This document provides measures that should be taken by players, clubs, and officials before, during and after all cricket activity. The document should be read in conjunction with latest UK Government guidance and if required, the full ECB Return to Cricket Plan for Step 4.

For all activity, UK Government social distancing guidance should be adhered to at all times. This document refers to current **plan for England** and could change in response to the current COVID-19 Alert Level or other UK Government advice.

BEFORE ACTIVITY	DURING ACTIVITY	AFTER ACTIVITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check for symptoms of COVID-19. If you are symptomatic and/or living in a household with a possible COVID-19 infection you should remain at home and follow UK Government guidance. • Follow UK Government guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19 if it applies to you. • Personal hygiene measures should be carried out at home before and after cricket activity. • Bring your own hand sanitiser where possible and practice strong hand hygiene at all times. • Follow UK Government guidance on public transport or car sharing. • Use of the clubhouse, changing rooms and toilets should adhere to the latest UK Government advice. • For advice on reducing the risk of infection when outside your home please visit the 'Staying Safe Outside Your Home' pages on gov.uk. • Club representatives should ensure that the facility is compliant with current UK Government legislation including legislation and guidance related to COVID-19. A risk assessment should have been completed and risk mitigation measures put in place and monitored. • During all cricket, an attendance register is required with which includes contact details for contact tracing if required. • Any participants who have been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace must not exercise outside of their own home or garden and must not exercise with others. • Clubs should strictly limit the time spent congregating at a venue before activity begins. Meet-up times should reflect this. Participants should arrive changed and ready to begin if possible. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groups limited to a maximum of 30 participants, including coaches and/or officials. • Participants enter the site and prepare whilst maintaining social distancing. • Limit the sharing of equipment, but if you do share, practise strict hand hygiene. • No sweat or saliva is to be applied to the ball at any time. • Hand sanitiser to be used at all breaks in activity and prior to any food or drinks. • Cricket activity must take place outdoors only. <p style="color: #e91e63; margin-top: 5px;">Additional advice for match-play:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players to remain socially distanced at all times (wicket keepers & slip fielders at 1m+). • Umpires are not to handle the ball at any point of the game, leaving it at the stumps during breaks. • Batters to clean their bat when leaving the field of play. • A 'hygiene break' should take place every six overs or every 20 minutes and should include hand sanitisation and the cleaning of the ball. • Bowlers should not hand anything to the umpire. • Only one official allowed inside the scorers' box. • Social distancing must always be maintained including during celebrations and breaks. • The ball must be immediately returned to the bowler, not passed between players. • Batters are to run in distinct running lines to ensure they are not within 2m of the bowler or other batter. Lines to be marked on the square. • In line with current UK Government guidance, clubs should not prepare food for participants. Individuals should bring their own food and drink for 'tees' or practice. Water bottles or other refreshment containers should not be shared. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants should exit whilst maintaining social distancing. • Social gathering after the activity is allowed in line with current UK Government guidelines on hospitality. • One club representative/volunteer should be responsible for collecting and disinfecting shared equipment. • Regular cleaning of equipment and the facility should take place, particularly between one group finishing, and the next group starting. • Clubs should encourage all participants to report any infection of their household to the NHS Test and Trace system following use of the facility to limit the spread of the virus.

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RETURN TO PLAYING: GUIDANCE FROM CHESHIRE CRICKET LEAGUE

- There will be NO changing facilities available to the opposition or umpires
- Opposition Players will arrive at the ground changed and ready to play and their kit will be kept outside maintaining 2m social distancing or in their cars.
- Participants should follow UK Government guidance on best practice for travel, including minimising the use of public transport and limiting car sharing.
- Umpires will arrive changed and keep their kit outside maintaining 2m social distancing or in their cars
- There will be NO showers at the end of the game.
- There will be NO teas provided. All players both home and away will bring their own food for consumption during the tea break. Umpires will bring their own food for consumption during the tea break.
- The tea break will be reduced from 30 minutes to 20 minutes to shorten match finish time and allow for hygiene breaks.
- There will be NO drinks provided. All players both home and away will bring their own drinks for consumption at drinks breaks and teas but NOT during each hygiene break.
- There needs to be additional marking on the pitch so that the non-striking batsmen can 2m distance from the striking batsmen whilst running.
- A maximum of 30 people can be at the ground. This means 30 participants who may on occasion need to be less than 2m from each other and includes players, coaches, umpires, and scorers it does not include spectators. It is the Club's responsibility to determine how many spectators can be accommodated on top of the 30 so that social distancing and group gathering guidelines can be followed.
- Spectators should remain socially distanced at all times and refrain from all contact with the ball e.g. returning it to the field of play. Spectator groups must be restricted to discrete six person gathering limits and spread out, in line with wider UK Government guidance.
- In the case of inclement weather players and umpires should shelter in their cars or alternatively shelter under an umbrella whilst maintaining social distancing rules.
- Umpires and batsmen must NOT touch the ball.
- The fielders' hands and ball to be sanitised after 6 overs or 20 mins.
- If there is a fall of wicket on or around the hygiene break, then take this opportunity to sanitise to improve the flow of the game.
- Each member of the fielding team to carry a small bottle of hand sanitiser in their pocket. In this case sanitising can take place during the change of ends at the end of an over.
- Either the fielding captain or a single person he nominates should sanitise the ball to ensure it is done properly.
- At the fall of a wicket the ball should be placed at the base of the stumps.
- Only Umpires can touch the bails.
- In the case where umpires are supplied in 1st XI cricket umpires will bring their own bails and will be responsible entirely for replacing the bails.
- In 2nd XI cricket or where there is no one performing only the umpire's role, or in cases where there is only 1 umpire, the captain should nominate one person to replace the bails and the bails must also be sanitised with the ball during a hygiene break.
- Bowlers' and fielders' caps & jumpers CANNOT be given to the umpire. They must be taken off the field if a COVID safe alternative cannot be found.
- Communal scorebooks passed from one player to another should be avoided. Scorers will not hold any item of players clothing or any valuables.

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RETURN TO TRAINING

Taking part in Bowdon Vale Cricket Club's return to training is conditional on all players and parents observing the above controls and the following additional terms of use.

Attendance of junior members at our organised training sessions will be deemed to constitute parental consent for participation in accordance with the latest arrangements.

You must not come to training or the club grounds if:



- 1. Anyone in your household has displayed symptoms of COVID-19 (temperature above 37.8 °C, a persistent cough, or any of the other symptoms identified in the latest Government guidance) within the last 14 days.**
- 2. You are or anyone within your household is required to self-isolate under current government guidance or the NHS track and trace programme.**
- 3. You are within the 'clinically extremely vulnerable' group in the latest government guidance or if anyone in your household is in this group.**

TRAINING

It is permissible for two or more groups of six (6) to train at the same time provided they are kept separate, and social distancing and strict hygiene measures are observed.

Accordingly, use of the club nets and designated areas of the ground/outfield will be made available to members on the strict understanding that the following guidelines are adhered to.

The following guidelines are for both players and coaches to be followed when training:

Training Operating Procedures for Coaches

1. Familiarise themselves with the latest guidance in the "BVCC Return to Cricket Operating Rules"
2. Plan their sessions observing current coach to player ratios, maximum group sizes and how you will manage equipment + distancing + hygiene throughout the duration of the session. Use icoachcricket@ecb.co.uk
3. Confirm attendees and ensure numbers comply with permitted group sizes and coaching ratios. To support social distancing children's training should be split into groups of up to 15 children. Each group must have sufficient adults to meet cricket safeguarding ratios (1:8 aged 8 and under, 1:10 aged 9 and over).
4. Share session plans with players/parents for awareness of expectations, hygiene, set up etc.
5. Ensure they have an up to date register containing medical details and emergency contact numbers for all attendees (Mandatory for any U18s attending the session).
6. Check and clean down equipment with appropriate sanitiser and ensure they have what they need. E.g. gloves, stumps. If using balls, clean and number them (1-6) clearly with suitable marker pen. Check first aid kit and ensure it includes gloves and wipes.
7. Cone out a station for each attendee to store their bag, water bottle & sanitiser etc.

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8. Mark out the perimeter of the training area using cones/rope/markers. May require several markings where multiple groups are in play.
9. Consider if and where spectators will congregate and plan/set up accordingly. This may be managed by means of a simple briefing.
10. Set up clean coaching equipment ready for session so that coach/club rep remains free to monitor controls once players arrive.
11. Allocate players to a bag drop station on arrival in line with planned groups.
12. Brief any non-participants. Gentle reminder on the need to observe distancing from the session and those from different households.
13. Parents of juniors should remain in attendance as on-site toilets remain closed. A safe area should be established for parents.
14. Update session register to record actual attendees.
15. Brief players on the need to maintain distancing from each other and coaches, keep their equipment within their station except during drills and to avoid touching other player's equipment.
16. For younger age groups, plastic equipment should be used and should be disinfected at the end of each session.
17. Where participants cannot provide their own individual equipment, number cricket equipment such as balls, so that each participant has a specific numbered ball and/or cone and uses that for the entirety of the session to minimise sharing of equipment where possible.
18. Coach and players to apply hand sanitiser as each group is ready to start.
19. Participants should take part in solo activity, before moving to pairs activity that maintains social distancing and allows participants to operate in the same pair for the length of the session.
20. If players ignore distancing, pause session and repeat briefing.
21. If a player touches the wrong ball/equipment, return player to station to apply sanitiser. Coach to clean down equipment.
22. At the end of the session, the players should return to bag station, pack away kit, & have a drink.
23. Coach and players to apply hand sanitiser as a group at end of session.
24. Handover to parents. Release multiple groups 5 minutes apart to reduce grouping.
25. File updated session register safely as record of attendance.

USE OF NETS

We have a booking system for members to register and book time slots outside the designated training evening (Thursday). Anyone booking the facility in their name is responsible for their group in ensuring everything is left as it was when arrived. Bookings will be for slots of 1 hour, of which 15 minutes must be for changeover.

Use of the cricket nets are subject to strict adherence to the following Operating Rules:

Cricket Nets Operating Procedures

1. Members can use the nets with up to 5 other members while keeping two metres apart at all times, except for members of the same household. It is permitted to open up adjacent nets for training provided all current social distancing guidance is maintained e.g. using individual balls, socially distancing whilst waiting to bowl.
2. The Clubhouse will remain closed; this includes toilets. No changing facilities are available.

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3. Booking is required for members to use the facilities. **No booking no play.** Contact Peter Williamson at peter.m.williamson@hotmail.co.uk for access to the booking system where you should complete a booking.
4. Bookings will be for slots of 1 hour, of which 15 minutes must be for changeover. Availability is Monday to Wednesday and Friday 14.00 to 19.00. Thursday is senior training evening, so bookings are only available 14.00 to 17.00.
5. Bookings should be made no later than 12.00 on the previous day.
6. In the event of inclement weather, sessions may have to be cancelled at short notice due to safety concerns. Please use your common sense and do not use if in doubt.
7. To aid social distancing, on arriving at the Club please park away from any other parked vehicles. Stay in your car or at distance until your session starts to avoid cross over in the car park.
8. Personal hygiene measures should be carried out at home before and after use of the facility. You should bring your own hand sanitiser where possible. If this isn't possible wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after visiting the Club.
9. Where possible, hand sanitiser will be made available at entrance/exit points and the net area. Try not to arrive too early, aim to arrive at the start of your slot to help with social distancing.
10. Bring your own playing/training equipment including a supply of balls. Ask a Club Representative for a ball that you can keep.
11. Bring your own filled drinking bottles. Do not share.
12. Avoid touching as much as possible whilst on Club premises.
13. Do not overstay your allocated time slot, there is a deliberate 15-minute gap between sessions, you should be clear of the area by the time the next users arrive. Do not stay to socialise.
14. The bowling machine is not to be used.
15. Do not leave private property behind.
16. No saliva or sweat should come into contact with the ball at any time.
17. Follow the usual rules for safety in nets including the wearing of all necessary protective equipment. As well as response times being delayed this is vital to avoid any additional stress on the NHS. During the Current COVID-19 restrictions the Club cannot guarantee that a First Aider will be present on the site at all times when the cricket net is booked for members to use. Members are advised to contact local A&E units if necessary. Details are posted in the nets.
18. All users **MUST** report to **the Club Secretary (Rachel Langley rachel2510@hotmail.co.uk)** any infection of their household following use of the facility to allow effective contact tracing and to limit the spread of the virus.

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PLAYERS CHECKLIST

BEFORE

- 
Hand sanitiser
You must have your own bottle of sanitiser with your name marked on it.
- 
Bring your own drink.
You must bring your own cricket ball with your initials marked clearly on it.
- 
Wash your hands
Wash your hands with soap and warm water before you leave home.
- 
There are no toilets open on site. Go just before you leave home.

ARRIVING

- 
Arrive in your playing kit
- 
Wait for instructions from the coach before entering the playing area
- 
Place your bag in your allocated safe area²

DURING TRAINING

- 
Follow the coach's instructions
- 
Always remain two metres apart⁴
- 
Think of new ways to celebrate without making physical contact.
- 
Do not share equipment⁴
- 
Saliva and sweat should not be applied to the ball at any time