FC Comets Hitchin – COVID 19 RISK ASSESSMENT

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| **Assessment Details** | | | | | | | |
| **Assessor:** |  | **Notes** | **THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS TO BE USD IN ADDITION TO THE CLUB SAFEGUARDING POLICY.**  Where there is any contradiction between the COVID 19 Risk Assessment (this document) and the Club Safeguarding Policy, the COVID 19 Risk Assessment measures and actions shall take precedence. | **Date of Assessment / Review** | **1st Aug 2020** | **Review Period** | **Monthly** |
| **Checked By** |  | **Signed** |  | **Role** |  | | |

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| **Scope of Assessment** |

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| **Activities covered under the scope of this Risk Assessment** | This Risk Assessment covers all football activities under the jurisdiction FC Comets as follows:   * Training sessions carried out under the current COVID 19 restrictions in accordance with FA guidance. * Matches carried out under the current COVID 19 restrictions in accordance with FA guidance. |
| **People who might be harmed under the activities covered under the scope of this risk assessment:** | Players, coaches, match officials, helpers, parents / guardians, and spectators. |
| **Frequency of the activities undertaken that are covered by this Risk Assessment** | Minimum of once a week |
| **Exclusions:** | The following activities are not covered by this risk assessment and shall be covered by separate Risk Assessments where required:   * Activities, including football, that are not authorised, arranged nor fall under the jurisdiction of FC Comets. * Social events, even if exclusive to members of FC Comets. |

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| **Identification of Risks** | | | | | | |
| **Risk Identification** | **Affected Persons** | **Risk Rating before mitigations** | **Measures and actions put in place to mitigate risk** | **Risk Rating post mitigations** | **Actions required in the event of occurrence or to stop immediate risk** |  |
| **Spread of COVID 19 infection during activity** | Players, Coaches, Helpers, Parents / Guardians, Match Officials, Club Officials | High | **Communication of Activities and Safety Measures.**  All coaches to read and familiarise themselves with:   * FA Guidance and rules on re-starting outdoor competitive grassroots football * FA Clubs and coaches COVID 19 First Aid Guidance   Latest documents can be accessed at the following link  <http://www.thefa.com/news/2020/jul/17/grassroots-guidance-for-competitive-football-restart-in-england-170720>   * Club COVID 19 Risk Assessment.   Club to communicate the FA Guidance and club Risk Assessment via the web page ([www.fccomets.org.uk](http://www.fccomets.org.uk)). In the event of safety measures changing or being updated, the club will adopt the latest UK Government guidance.  For youth teams, coaches to brief parents/guardians on the requirements, guidelines, and rules.  For adult teams where players are U18, coaches to brief parents/guardians and players on the requirements, guidelines, and rules.  All participants must be correctly registered with the club and have signed the 2020 – 2021 club registration form and consent.  All players under the age of 18 will require a completed COVID 19 consent form, to be completed by the parent/guardian acknowledging the risk of COVID 19 and agreeing to the measures to mitigate its spread.  All participants shall be aware of the COVID 19 Self-Assessment check in order to carry out a self-assessment prior to every training session and / or match.  All coaches, spectators and participants over 16 are encouraged to check into each venue using the QR Code poster via the NHS Test & Trace app.  Coaches must maintain a register of ALL participants for each session and / or match to aid NHS Test and Trace.  For matches, the COVID 19 Risk Assessment shall be shared with the opposition teams and the referee as part of the match day confirmation process.  Coaches, participants and spectators shall adhere to specific COVID 19 measures set and advised by the Facility provider (**John O’Connor**, **Ickleford Sports & Recreation Ground**, **Wymondley Parish Council** and the **Recreation Grounds Committee)** **relating to use of facilities**. These will be communicated separately to players, parents, referee’s and opposition teams. | Low | All participants (parents / guardians for all U18s) to complete the consent form.  Participants or parents / guardians for U18s, agree to adhere to the FA and Government rules and guidelines at all times as well as this risk assessment.  In the event that a coach / session organiser does not feel that a session can be carried out in compliance with FA and Government rules and guidelines or the risk assessment, then they should stop the session or match.  Coaches / session organisers shall remove any participant who does not adhere to the FA and Government rules and guidelines of the risk assessment.  The club reserves the right to suspend training for the entire club or specific teams without notice on the grounds of health and safety. |  |
|  |  |  | **Participant Safety Risk Awareness and Consent**  All participants must complete and provide the following consent in order to be participate in training and match days:   1. Club registration form 2. COVID 19 Football activity consent form / email.   Failure to complete the above will mean the participant will be unable to take part in the football activity (training / matches).  Participants and parents/guardians should familiarise themselves with the FA and Government Guidelines.  FA Guidelines  <http://www.thefa.com/news/2020/jul/17/grassroots-guidance-for-competitive-football-restart-in-england-170720>  Government Guidelines  <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus> | Low |  |  |
|  |  |  | **All football activity (Training & Match days)**   * All participants must complete the Self Health check prior to joining training or match days. If a participant has any of the following symptoms or fail any of the checks below (confirmed by a parent/guardian for U18s), then they **MUST NOT** attend:   - A high temperature (above 37.8C).  - A new continuous cough.  - Shortness of breath  - A sore throat.   - Loss of or a change of normal sense of taste and smell.  - Feeling generally unwell.  - Persistent tiredness.  - Been in close contact / living with somebody who is suspected or has tested positive for COVID 19.  Coaches to check that this has been completed by all on arrival, where it hasn’t, they should conduct the check themselves away from the rest of the group. * If a participant displays / develops symptoms consistent with COVID 19 during a training session or match they should be separated from the wider group immediately by the coach and a determination of the players medical needs made and a call for help made, usually to the parent or guardian, but may include a call to the ambulance service. * All participants should arrive in full kit / training wear ready for activity. * All participants to bring; Water Bottle, Hand Sanitiser and their own Medication if required – **all to be clearly labelled with their own name.** * **No gum** is allowed at training or match days. * **No spitting will be permitted** | Medium |  |  |
|  |  |  | **Training Sessions**   * Car sharing to and from training should be avoided. Players are encouraged to walk, cycle or run to training where possible. * Football participants should be dropped off and collected at the gate / entrance to the training pitch and parents should avoid congregating in groups when doing so, leaving promptly. * Parents are encouraged not to wait and watch whilst training is in progress and **MUST NOT** enter the training arena at any time unless asked by the coaches to attend to an injury. * A group should not consist of more than 30 participants inclusive of coaches. * There should be sufficient space between groups / teams and crowding should be avoided. * Sessions should start and finish promptly and all participants should leave the venue quickly and avoid hanging around so that they do not encroach on the next team’s session. * Coaches should ensure that there is minimal sharing and touching of equipment. Where they will be frequent touching of equipment (e.g. goalkeeper focused session) then gloves should be worn by all and equipment regularly cleaned/sanitised. **Goalkeeper gloves** should be washed between sessions. * Bibs should only be used where they can be washed between sessions. * Social distancing should always be observed and followed where possible. * Warm-ups / warm-downs should always observe social distancing. * Team talks should also adhere to social distancing measures (2 metres). * For competitive training sessions, coaches should minimise the amount of time that players are in close proximity by encouraging players to get on with the game and not unnecessarily prolong set plays, such as defensive walls and to avoid prolonged close marking. | Medium |  |  |
|  |  |  | **Match Days**   * Car sharing to and from matches should be avoided. Players are encouraged to walk, cycle, or run (to home matches) where possible.   If participants do have to travel with people outside their household or support bubble they should:  - Share the transport with the same people each time. - Keep to small groups at any one time. - Open windows for ventilation. - Face away from each other. - Clean the car between journeys, focusing on frequent touch points. - All passengers advised to wear face coverings. - Maximise distance between people in the vehicle. - Regular hand sanitisation during journey and always when finishing the journey. - Wash hands often, always when finishing the journey.  - Limit time spent at garages / service stations. * Players should arrive for matches already in their kit. * Team talks should also adhere to social distancing measures (2 metres). * Coaches should remind players to minimise the amount of time that they are in close proximity by encouraging players to get on with the game and not unnecessarily prolong set plays, such as defensive walls and to avoid prolonged close marking. * Warm-ups / warm-downs should always observe social distancing. * Substitutes, coaches and assistants shall ensure they adhere to social distancing on the side-line and use of cones to mark out areas is encouraged to enforce this. * No handshakes pre or post-match. * Players should sanitise hands immediately **before** and **after** the match. * Coaches should ensure that there is minimal sharing and touching of equipment. **Goalkeeper gloves** should be washed between sessions. * Where the ball goes out of play it should **NOT** be retrieved by non-participants and should be retrieved using the feet rather than hands where possible. * During breaks in the game (i.e. drinks break / half time) the ball should be disinfected. * Changing rooms should not be used. * Where clubs / teams are providing assistant referees to run the line, they should also provide their own flags. These must be cleaned before and after use.   **Injuries**   * If a player gets injured, where possible and safe to do so, a participant under the age of 18 should withdraw or be asked to withdraw themselves from the session / match to their parent / guardian if they are present for treatment to be administered. Others will still need to socially distance unless a life or limb threatening injury necessitates compromising guidelines to provide emergency care. * In the event that the coach / first aid responder administers the necessary first aid, they should do so whilst taking precautions and be equipped with the appropriate PPE (Mask, cloves & apron). * The safety of the responder is paramount and no-one is expected to provide care which jeopardises their own personal health or safety. Where suitable PPE is not available, the responder must consider the potential risks to both themselves and the player and decide what level of care they feel is reasonable or are able to apply in the absence of PPE. This may include providing no assistance until the ambulance arrives or appropriate PPE is made available. * Coaches must ensure that First aid kits include the following PPE  - Disposable gloves (single use)  - Disposable plastic apron (single use)  - Face covering (single use) * Hands must be sanitised before and after administering treatment / after removal of PPE.   **Spectators**   * Spectators shall always adhere to social distancing measures (2 metres) outside their family bubble. * Spectators shall not congregate in groups of more than 6 people. * Spectators should stand on the opposite side of the pitch to the coaches. | Medium |  |  |