



Guidance for Grassroots Clubs

On the 21st October it was announced that South Yorkshire will enter the highest coronavirus alert level – Tier 3 from 00:01 Saturday 24th October. A significant number of Sheffield & Hallamshire County FA affiliated clubs are based in South Yorkshire. However, we are mindful that updated guidance will also need to inform clubs based outside of South Yorkshire in local authority areas currently not in Tier 3, but who may have fixtures schedules in Tier 3 local authority areas.

We know the additional restrictions listed below will cause further disruption to individuals in clubs and leagues. However, we are reliant upon all of our football community complying fully with these and all other current restrictions. We cannot stress enough the critical importance of all involved in the game doing their level best to ensure compliance and we thank you in advance for adhering to the guidance.

Sheffield & Hallamshire County FA affiliated clubs are located across the following local authority areas and coronavirus alert levels. (at 21st October 2020)

Tier 3	Tier 2	Tier 1
Barnsley	Bassetlaw	Bolsover
Doncaster	Kirklees	North Lincolnshire
Rotherham	North East Derbyshire	
Sheffield	Wakefield	

Adult Football - Travel & Spectators. (National League System - Step 7 or below)

From Saturday, based on the guidance currently provided, adult clubs and individual players cannot move in or out of a 'Very High' Tier 3 local authority area to participate in football activity. For absolute clarity the above means that travel is NOT permitted from a Tier 3 area to another Tier 3 area (For example Barnsley to Doncaster or vice versa), or from a Tier 3 area to a Tier 2 or 1 area (For example Sheffield to North East Derbyshire or vice versa).

Adult clubs must also minimise the number of people in attendance or travelling to matches or training sessions. Numbers must be restricted to players and essential coaching or support roles. Spectators should be discouraged from attending adult games.

Youth & Disability Football – Travel

With regards to youth football (Under 18's) and disability football the updated FA guidance of 23rd September with its strict conditions remains in place. At this present time there are no new restrictions on movement of youth teams and players irrespective of which Tier you are in. Youth and disability football can travel across tiers.



We cannot stress enough the critical importance of all involved in the game doing their level best to allow the grassroots game to continue. The key guidance remain as follows:

- Social distancing wherever possible for players, and always in the case of spectators
- Robust hygiene standards as per risk assessments but including the wearing of masks in toilet blocks etc.
- Effective registering of attendees primarily via the NHS Test and Trace QR code system
- Strongly recommend minimising spectators at youth games to one adult per child wherever possible
- Provide local adult fixtures within your catchment area, as detailed in the statement above.

National League System - Step 3-6

The FA gained clarity from the UK Government on travel into or out of areas with 'very high' Tier 3 local COVID alert levels by players in Steps 3-6 of the National League System and DCMS have confirmed, in collaboration with the FA, that player travel for these fixtures is within the guidelines. However, we ask that spectators follow the Government guidance and do not travel into or out of 'Very High' Tier 3 areas.

Additional information

Sheffield & Hallamshire County FA continues to work with local authorities, and we are not aware of any additional local measures at this time. We will however endeavour to relay any localised updates to this guidance at the earliest opportunity.

This guidance above is based on the current position and we will continue to review in line with any government reviews.

Please direct any questions to Support@SheffieldFA.com

