

Covid Sport RTP Update from Sportscotland

Effective from 24 February 2021

For all Clubs, Teams, Players, and Supporters

The First Minister yesterday provided Scottish Parliament with an update on COVID-19 and related restrictions. Full details can be found here: [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): Strategic Framework update - February 2021](#). Page 14 summarises the key points.

In setting the context, the First Minister stated that we need to continue to be cautious and patient. She also said there are much firmer grounds for optimism now that we have vaccinations and the other tools at our disposal, offering us a route back to greater normality. It was also made clear there is quite limited scope for easing restrictions based on public health advice.

The statement set out indicative dates to return to a system of levels from the last week of April. The key points relevant to sport are:

- **15 March**
 - **Education:** Return of P4-7 pupils to schools full-time. More but not all secondary pupils returning to school at least part-time. (Full details to be confirmed next week)
 - **Sport:** Non-contact outdoor group sport permitted for 12 to 17-year-olds (this is already permitted for under 12s).
 - **Gatherings:** Outdoor meetings of 4 people from 2 households permitted.

- **5 April**
 - **Stay at home:** Stay at home requirement removed.
 - **Education:** Return to full-time in-person education for all remaining school pupils.
 - **Gatherings:** Outdoor meetings of 6 people from 2 households permitted.
 - **Economy:** More retail businesses being classified as essential. Click-and-collect permitted for non-essential retail.

- **26 April**
 - **Strategic (Levels) Framework:** Return to a levels system, including regional variation based on data. Further detail will be published in mid-March.
 - **Level 3:** Initially, the intention is that mainland Scotland will move to level 3. The islands currently at level 3 may drop to level 2, based on data.
 - **Sport:** The levels system will support the phased reopening of sport. The detail of what activity will be permitted in each level will be confirmed in mid-March.

It is important to note that the timings are indicative, and the data will drive any changes. It should also be noted that the dates set out by the UK Government on 22 February do not apply to Scotland.

The First Minister also provided an update on support for businesses. The key details are:

- The Scottish Government will support the strategic framework business fund until at least the end of June.
 - When local authority areas move out of level 4, businesses allowed to reopen will continue to receive payments from the fund for at least the subsequent four weeks.
- The Scottish Government is considering tapered support for businesses that may still face trading restrictions and reduced demand as they reopen.

With this being announced, **sportscotland is not expecting a roadmap or dates for resuming sport for adults (18+) until mid-march at the earliest.** Please do not plan on retaking the field as a team until early May at the earliest (after the April 26th government updates). This includes any informal lacrosse based activities (i.e. passing in the park, wall ball, PT) as a group that exceeds the maximum allowed number of people under current Scottish Government Guidelines. SPORT IS CURRENTLY NOT EXEMPT TO THE RULES!

Under 18s can tentatively begin to plan to resume non-contact sport beginning 15 Marc^h.

Lacrosse Scotland will continue to work with colleagues in Sportscotland and the Scottish Government on the specific details directly related to Lacrosse sport and physical activity and will communicate this to you in due course. If you have any questions, then please get in touch.

DISCLAIMER

Be aware guidance can change, and restrictions may be reintroduced - ensure you have checked the latest version of your governing body Covid-19 guidance.

The above guidance has been produced to allow a phased return to Lacrosse in Scotland, where practice individually or games with members of your household or between members of designated households can take place. All players and clubs have a responsibility to take care of themselves and their members. We are working hard with **Sportscotland** and the Scottish Government to move to the next phases and keep members up to date as soon as we know the next policies.

Please refer to the LS website and social media for further updates and enjoy getting back on the field or in the box safely and with consideration to others around you¹.

*Neither **sportscotland** nor any contributor to this guidance's content shall be responsible for any loss or damage of any kind, which may arise from your use of or reliance on this guidance note. Care has been taken over the accuracy of the content of this note, but **sportscotland** cannot guarantee that the information is up to date or reflects all relevant legal requirements. We recommend that you obtain*

¹ For any comments, questions, or concerns, please contact *Dr Robbins* at vice.chair@lacrossescotland.com

professional specialist technical and legal advice before taking, or refraining from, any action based on information contained in this note.