

Dear Skittles Member

I have had a few further queries regarding the season, most of which were covered at the meeting, but there was a lot discussed, so I just want to clear up any confusion.

As a members club, we are not open to the general public so we do not run the same risk as a pub or restaurant with unknown folks coming onto the site.

Wearing of masks is not mandatory in pubs as per government guidelines and therefore will not be required to be worn, however if any individual wishes to wear a mask they are more than welcome to wear their own.

Track and trace will be taken and recorded through your score cards. Anyone not playing will be required to swipe their membership card at the bar to register their attendance. These records will be kept for 21 days as required by government guidance.

A one way system is in operation through the clubhouse, so there will be no crossing on the stairs as you will enter through the main entrance of the clubhouse and exit via the rear fire exit. Only those requiring the lift will be allowed to exit through the main entrance and only one person allowed in the lift at any one time.

Being in the hospitality sector we are not classed as keyworkers so this doesn't entitle us to be tested without symptoms, therefore unless staff or sticker ups have symptoms we will not be tested. With staff and sticker ups being young doesn't automatically mean they are carriers or are even infected with COVID 19, but all employees are operating a more frequent hygiene regime.

We are asking teams to limit their group size to 6 players per game, but if they do have a substitute, these players will not be able to sit at the same table as the rest of their team, they will have to sit at an additional table down the centre of the room, however if there are no seats available they will have to sit in the lounge bar.

Only 6 players to be seated around each large table and each team will be allocated a table. We operate a 1m+ social distancing rule where possible.

Tables will be cleaned after each game once the table has been vacated, as we are only having 1 game per alley per night there is no crossover of new teams sitting at dirty tables. Staff cannot clean tables during the game as they cannot social distance from the members whilst doing so, but this is the same policy that is operated in restaurants and pubs.

The high tables will not be in use and there are no bar stools available. ALL players are required to be seated at their designated team table unless its their turn to bowl or they are the designated scorer.

Sticker ups are receiving additional training and will be sanitising their hand regularly and cleaning balls between use. They will not be allowed to use mobile phones during the game.

Each alley will operate with 6 balls, 3 being used by one player and the other 3 being sanitised.

Members will be expected to apply a degree of common sense when managing their actions when visiting the club. This will be in all areas including toilets and trying to maintain social distancing where possible. Staff will remind members if they forget!

If a member who has visited the club within 48 hours develops symptoms and tests positive they are required to notify their captain who will then notify the club. The Sports club will then speak to contact tracing to request the next steps to be taken.

We are following government guidance regarding social clubs for drinking / eating purposes, but as we are also playing a sports involving balls we are following the guidance of indoor ball sports where more sports have moved to Stage 4 which allows indoor training of groups of up to 30 people dependent on the sport and observing their guidance on sanitising equipment etc which is why we believe we are taking all precautions to facilitate skittles as a social sport and ensuring we are following regular cleaning guidance to help mitigate the risk.

All our sporting sections are abiding by their respective governing bodies regulations and guidance - for example cricket have been playing matches and training since late July, Hockey have moved to Stage 4 which means they have a max of 30 people participating, albeit outside, Netball, which is indoors, has now moved to Stage 4 which allows them to train in group sizes of up to 30 and they are handling the same balls during training, but stopping for sanitising regularly. All these governing bodies require full track and trace, as well as the steps the Sports Club has put in place. So our skittles league numbers being kept to 6 is a careful approach to returning to play.

As a general point, we can't make this completely risk free. We take the best and most comprehensive steps we can, educate our teams and ask our members to exercise some thought and discretion if they have concerns. As I have said it's not compulsory so anyone who is vulnerable or worried should stay away.

We all, employees and members included, have a responsibility to stay safe.

If you still have concerns as a team there is no judgment passed if you choose not to participate this season. Another option is that if you don't have enough players in your team to enter this season, but still have players wanting to play, we do have teams looking for players for the same reason, so they could possibly join another team for this season.

Kind Regards,

Fiona Wheadon

Chippenham Sports Club Manager