

28 August 2020

## Club COVID-19 guidance FAQs



### Is the change allowing groups of up to 30 people in accordance with the Scottish Government guidelines?

Yes, this is for formal organised coached or led activities with a designated leader/COVID officer who implements the track and protect process, and includes club activities. In the Scottish Government and Sportscotland guidance this comes under 'coaching' but flexibility has been introduced to allow larger organised group outdoor activities to take place and is also in line with the guidance from Mountain Training Scotland for coaches, instructors and leaders.

- [Mountain training Scotland guidance](#)
- [Sportscotland: Update for coaches and leaders](#)

For informal groups meeting outdoors, the Scottish Government guidance is still to limit it to 5 households and group sizes of no more than 15. Some clubs may prefer to continue with smaller groups at this time.

### Who decides what changes are made to the guidance?

The Scottish Government formally reviews the easing of lockdown restrictions on a three weekly cycle however there have been additional changes announced at other times.

At each review point or in response to changes as they are made public, we assess what the relevant changes are and update our guidance for individuals and clubs. Sometimes clarification or more detail is required, and sportscotland have been very helpful in ensuring we get this from the Scottish Government and that the changes we wish to implement (for example, the current changes to group activities) are approved by the government. This is why it can take several days for updated guidance to become available, and ensures we provide the correct information for our members. At all stages, it is ultimately the government advised by Public Health Scotland that make the final decisions.

### What is the role of the organizer and COVID officer?

Each led activity must have an assigned organiser and someone who acts as the COVID officer. This can be the same person, or can be shared between members.

It is the responsibility of the COVID officer to:

- Ensure a risk assessment is in place ([see example here](#))
- Make sure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate risk to attendees
- That attendees are aware of and comfortable with the protocols in place and guidance for the activity
- To keep an accurate record of all attendees and their contact details for contact tracing purposes.

More information on the role is available [here](#).

### **Is car sharing allowed?**

You should only travel with members of your own, or extended, household, except in an emergency. We understand that this is not ideal for clubs especially where there are members without their own transport, and also where parking spaces may be restricted, however this is the current Scottish Government advice.

### **Can clubs organise transport by bus/coach?**

If clubs are booking commercial buses/coaches or use an adventure tourism company then this falls under the guidance from Transport Scotland and is allowed. Clubs should not hire their own mini bus and drive it themselves at this time.

### **What activities is it ok to do in larger groups?**

We would encourage clubs to consider the 30 person limit as a maximum and not a requirement, and given the current restrictions on shared travel we understand clubs may wish to continue to operate in smaller groups which are easier to manage and also have less of an impact on local parking.

We would suggest the increased limit offers more flexibility for hill walking groups, however for climbing activities we would encourage clubs to continue to operate in smaller groups and to follow our specific [guidance for climbers](#).