

RETURN TO TOURNAMENTS AND FESTIVALS

FAW GUIDANCE

Introduction

This guidance only relates to the provision of outdoor football tournaments and festivals held in Wales, organised by FAW or Area Association member organisations or for the purposes of FAW or Area Association member organisations, and should be always adhered to.

Following the Welsh Government announcement on 4th June 2021, “regulated gatherings” of up to 4,000 people of any age (standing) and 10,000 people of any age seated could now take place outdoors. The relevant Welsh Government Regulations and guidance are expected to be reviewed again on 25 June 2021, and so this FAW guidance may be updated again in due course.

Regulated gatherings

[Regulated gatherings](#) involve a group of more than 30 people (excluding carers or children under 11 from any of the households which are present) and encompass a broad range of activities that can be attended by people of any age. These activities include activities that were previously referred to as organised activities and allow for larger scale events, which includes but is not limited to:

- Team sports
- Exercise classes
- Meetings of religious groups and support groups
- Guided tours
- Parkrun
- Car boot sales
- Fetes
- Live music concerts
- Food Festivals

The Welsh Government guidance makes clear that regulated gatherings will vary in size and the capacity for different regulated gatherings will be determined by a risk assessment which includes taking all [reasonable measures](#) to minimise the risk of exposure to and spread of coronavirus. Reasonable measures include ensuring social distancing can be maintained.

Organising an outdoor event

Preparation

Whilst we recognise that most organisers use previous outdoor events as a reference point to how they have delivered a successful event; if planning to deliver an outdoor tournament or festival this year.....please note that the size, look and feel of the event will probably be completely different from previous years. Organisers will need to consider the following:

- Age categories of players (this will determine match formats)
- Capacity of the venue
- Number of pitches available

- Access to the venue including entry and exit points
- Spectator areas ensuring social distancing of 2m
- Walkways ensuring social distancing of 2m in and around the venue
- Designated outdoor areas for players, coaches and officials
- Access to toilets
- Catering and hospitality
- Capturing track and trace information
- Appropriate first aid/emergency medical support (not specific to coronavirus)

This information will help to determine what an event could look like and will help to enable organisers to complete a risk assessment and understand what control measures will need to be put in place to ensure a safe environment for all players, coaches, officials and spectators.

If using private facilities, organisers must consult with their facility provider to discuss their event and share their risk assessment which will be considered alongside providers own risk assessment.

Organisers must also inform their local authority that the event is taking place.

Risk Assessment

- The FAW has developed a risk assessment guide and template for clubs and it is available [here](#).
- A risk assessment must be completed by the organiser for each venue to be used before and during the event.
- The risk assessment must be reviewed regularly and always kept up to date with the latest COVID-19 guidance.

Track and Trace

Organisers must ensure procedures are put in place to capture contact details from all players, coaches, officials and spectators for track and trace purposes.

First Aid

Organisers must ensure they have considered the provision of appropriate first aid and emergency medical support to meet the potential needs of players, coaches, officials and spectators.

Sanctioning

Organisers must apply to their Area Association or FAW for approval to run an outdoor tournament or festival in Wales. This application form is available via your Area Association, FAW and [COVID-19 hub](#).

The form will ask for confirmation that organisers have

- read and understood the relevant Welsh Government and FAW COVID-19 guidance

- consulted with their local authority (and facility provider, if applicable) regarding their event
- completed a formal risk assessment and have enclosed a copy for information
- implemented control measures to protect all attendees
- put track and trace procedures in place to capture all attendee contact details
- reviewed their insurance arrangements

Communication

Organisers must ensure that any person(s) attending the event has received information in advance on the protocols and control measures in place at the event. This guidance should also be presented to attendees on arrival and be available throughout the venue via appropriate signage.

Junior tournaments and festivals

Despite fewer COVID-19 restrictions being in place for children (U18), Welsh Government guidance makes clear that organisers have a duty to take all **reasonable measures** to ensure that these activities take place in a way that minimises the risk of exposure to or spread of coronavirus. Therefore, risk assessments should consider the space available to allow **social distancing** as far as is possible with children and limit the number of children that can attend. Welsh Government have also stated that they are asking people to consider not just what they can do, what the law allows them to do, but what they should do, what is the right thing to do to minimise the spread of coronavirus.

Further information

Organisers should take time to read the latest Welsh Government guidance which is available on the link below.

[Gathering with other people: restrictions from 7 June 2021 | GOV.WALES](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) social distancing guidance for everyone in Wales | GOV.WALES](#)

[Taking all reasonable measures to minimise the risk of exposure to coronavirus in workplaces and premises open to the public | GOV.WALES](#)