**Context**

In the context of the current pandemic, this plan sets out the Club’s approach to recommencing the coaching of small groups of juniors, prior to all restrictions being removed. England Athletics (EA) has advised that athletes within England can meet outside with qualified coaches leading groups of up to 15 athletes if 2 coaches are present or 1 coach if up to 12 athletes are present, with the proviso that all adhere to social distancing i.e. **remain 2 metres apart**.

Alongside this plan, risk assessments will be undertaken for junior sessions (further details below) which will be submitted to Roger Laycock the Club’s Covid19 coordinator, at cleatopconsulting@gmail.com 24 hours prior to a session taking place.

These are extremely challenging times, so it is important that we support each other as a Club. Everyone’s mental and physical health is of our concern. Keep in touch and follow the government guidelines about safe distancing and safe exercise environments.

Further updates will be provided as EA guidance changes.

**Current parameters**

As a Club, our guidelines for athletes and coaches’ return to activity comply fully with EA guidance

<https://www.englandathletics.org/athletics-and-running/news/guidance-update-for-restricted-return-to-activity-for-coaches-leaders-athletes-runners-and-facilities-step-3/>

Below, are critical measures. It is important that we adhere to these to ensure we provide a safe environment for our athletes and coaches, and are covered by insurance provided through EA-

1. Under EA guidelines, exercise outdoors in groups of up to 12 junior athletes to one coach is allowed (15 if 2 coaches are present**). The club will however be restricting this further to groups of no more than 10 junior athletes with either 1 coach or 1 coach and 1 assistant present). Please note that this maximum limit is subject to change following discussions between our coaches & assistants.**
2. All group exercise must be done in adherence with the government’s guidelines- maintaining social distancing.
3. Group exercise must take place in outdoor spaces. From 8th September we will be using the playing fields at Settle College. We anticipate that there will be 4 groups of not more than 10 junior athletes in each group. No access to indoor areas (including toilets at the swimming pool) will be allowed.
4. Risk assessments must be in place before sessions take place.
5. Public health guidance should be adhered to e.g. hand cleansing. All sessions must take place within a Covid secure environment. In addition to adhering to public health guidance, this requires all coaches to log who is attending their sessions, and any athlete who subsequently tests positive for Covid should complete a UKA Covid-19 tracking form.
6. Coaches and athletes who are self-isolating should not take part in group sessions, whilst those shielding should adhere to PHE guidance i.e. only meeting one other person outside.
7. Coaches with minors in their group (under 18) should ensure they adhere to the normal EA guidance e.g. avoiding being alone with a single under 18 etc. Parents should give their consent that they are happy for their children to recommence training, and it is good practice for the club to share the risk assessments with parents.
8. Additionally, coaches and assistants must all have up to date valid coaching licences and should coach within the specific qualification boundaries, to ensure that all coached sessions are covered by insurance.
9. Coaches need to be aware of the need for social distancing. Warm-up activities and games should take this into account. When running repetitions or embarking on a distance run etc, there may be a need to adopt staggered starts to allow for social distancing.

**Risk Assessment**

A generic risk assessment will be produced for each coaching group. If an individual coach, identifies additional risks for their session, they should amend this template and bring to the attention of the Covid Coordinator. More information is available at

<https://www.uka.org.uk/governance/health-safety/risk-assessments/>

Risk assessments should be in place and submitted to Roger Laycock at least 24 hours in advance of each session.

Risk assessments should also be shared with parents via the club’s website.

**Timelines**

Covid Coordinator appointed on 18/08/20 (Roger Laycock)

Club Committee agreed in principle for resumption of junior training dd/mm/yy

Parents notified of planned resumption and expressions of interest requested dd/mm/yy

Club Committee approved the Covid plan on dd/mm/yy

Plan was distributed to coaches on dd/mm/yy and uploaded to club website

Message by email to all members and parents sent dd/mm/yy

Risk Assessments in place and agreed by dd/mm/yy

Health questionnaires issued to parents of participating juniors 1/9/20

Date of planned first session 8/9/20