



Merisham Sports Club

Flood Street, Merisham, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6NX
www.mershamsportsclub.com



MSC Return to Cricket- ECB Step 4 July 2020

We are delighted that the ECB has announced a move to Step 4 of their Return to Cricket plan and that this enables us to start cricket matches from 11th July 2020.

Whilst this is great news and we are sure that members are keen to get on to the pitch as soon as possible, it does come with restrictions and guidance to keep all players safe at this time.

You can find the ECB's guidance documents by clicking the links below;

[ECB Return to Cricket Plan Step 4- July 2020](#)

[Socially Distanced Cricket Matches](#)

[COVID-19 Plan For Junior and Open Age Cricket](#)

[ECB's roadmap to return for the recreational game](#)

**ALL PLAYERS MUST READ AND BE AWARE OF THE GUIDANCE AND RESTRICTIONS BELOW,
BEFORE THEY RETURN TO PLAY.**

The Guidance applies to ALL cricket activity including matches, training, for all Players, Coaches, Officials, Volunteers and Spectators.

General:

For all activity, the relevant UK Government social distancing guidance should be adhered to at all times, which can be found [here](#).

Any one that;

- Has been ill,
- Has any symptoms of COVID-19 (no matter how mild),
- suspects they have been in contact with someone with COVID-19,
- is living in a household with possible COVID-19 infection,
- Has been told to isolate by Track and Trace.

MUST NOT ATTEND THE CLUB UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES

Members **MUST** report any infection of their household following attendance to both the [Club](#) and to the [NHS Test and Trace system](#).

Members should follow UK Government guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19 ([found here](#)) if it applies to them.

Members should bring their own hand sanitiser where possible and maintain strict and frequent hand hygiene measures at all times.

All members MUST be aware of expected social distancing and hygiene measures during activities and whilst on site- see below.



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Travel:

Members should follow UK Government guidance on best practice for travel, including minimising the use of public transport and limiting car sharing ([found here](#)).

Arrival at the ground

Members should limit the time spent congregating at a venue before activity begins. To ensure this **please DO NOT arrive;**

- More than 10 minutes before the start of training.
- More than 30 minutes before the start of matches.

Parking:

We are unable to operate a one way system in our carpark.

- If dropping off please do so promptly whilst social distancing from others.
- If parking on site, please allow enough space between vehicles for you and adjacent users to get in and out of cars safely.

Clubhouse/Changing rooms:

- Toilets and Hand washing facilities will be available for all site users.
- **Players should arrive ready for activity or change in their cars.** The Clubhouse and changing room will not be open to members.
- We hope to be able to sell drinks from the Patio doors; this will be card only service and not our full usual range of items.
- Social gathering after the activity will be allowed in line with current UK Government guidelines.

Cricket Activities-

General:

- Maximum of 30 participants for all activities, including coaches and officials. This includes 11 a-side matches.
- Participants should enter the site and prepare their personal equipment whilst maintaining social distancing.
- Where possible players should limit the sharing of equipment. If they do, they must practise strict hand hygiene before and after use and the equipment must be cleaned before use by another person.
- No sweat or saliva is to be applied to the ball at any time.
- All participants should sanitise their hands **prior to the start** of the activity, **during breaks** in activity or play and **on completion** of activity.
- Players should refrain from spitting or rinsing out their mouths.
- Members should bring their own food and drink for 'teas' or practice including plenty of water.
- Water bottles or other refreshment containers should not be shared.

Parents/Spectators:

- Spectators should remain socially distanced at all times and refrain from all contact with the ball e.g. returning it to the field of play.
- Spectator groups must be restricted to discrete six person gathering limits and spread out, in line with wider UK Government guidance.





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Training:

- Members should bring and use their own equipment, including balls, where possible.
- If bowling machines are used, they should be cleaned thoroughly between uses with dry cleaning products and all balls should be cleaned with disinfectant. This is the responsibility of the bowling machine operator.

Matches:

Players:

- Players should adhere to UK Government social distancing guidance at all times (including throughout warm-ups) **EXCEPT** in the following limited circumstances **during competitive play** in England only, where 1m+ is permitted:
 1. Wicket keepers standing up to the stumps
 2. Distance between slip fielders.
- A 'hygiene break' should take place every **six overs or every 20 minutes**, whichever is sooner, in which the ball is cleaned with an anti-bacterial wipe and all participants' hands are cleaned using a suitable sanitiser. This routine should also be followed at the start of any drinks break or the close of an innings. The responsibility for sanitising the ball during the match will lie with the fielding captain, not the umpire.
- Batters to sanitise their bat when leaving the field of play.
- Wicket Keepers should sanitise their gloves.
- Bowlers should not hand any personal items to the umpire. Bowlers should place these items at the boundary themselves.
- Batters are to run in distinct running lines to ensure they are not within 2m of the bowler or other batter. Lines to be marked on the square on either side of the wicket.
- Social distancing must always be maintained including during post-wicket celebrations, drinks breaks and tactical discussions.
- Minimise sharing of the ball in a match by limiting contact as the ball makes its way back to the bowler e.g. ball goes straight from wicketkeeper to bowler instead of around surrounding fielders

Officials:

- If two scorers are required, social distancing must be maintained.
- Umpires should refrain from any contact with the ball, it can be returned to the base of the stumps at breaks and wickets.
- Umpires should be responsible for the stumps closest to them and should be the only person replacing the bails if dislodged.

Rain Breaks:

- In the event of rain, participants should return to their own vehicle to maintain social distancing if there is insufficient outdoor cover from the rain to maintain social distancing. Parents should remain onsite if the weather is bad in case of match abandonment.
- Application of covers in the event of wet weather should be done whilst maintaining social distancing.

