



Disciplinary Committee

New Season Dates/ Return to Play

As you will have read, we are currently at Phase B of the Return to Play protocols (copy attached). We still have a fair way to go until we get to a full return to play (phase F).

We have been receiving a number of complaints both directly and from the RFU Disciplinary Department in relation to teams training in breach of the current guidance. As it stands, groups should be fewer than 6 with no close contact work. Some clubs seem to have misunderstood this guidance and we have been made aware of everything from live scrummaging, rucking drills to normal training programs.

We urge all clubs to read the guidance and to follow it, not just from an RFU perspective but also from a Public Health England one.

If the Club and/or Coach continue to breach the guidance then a 5.12 charge against the Coach and/or the Club will be considered.

We have been made aware by the RFU that if clubs train outside of the guidance then it is likely that the club's liability and injury insurances will be voided.

If you have any questions about the RTP process or advice on how to deal with any club/coach issues, please let me know.

Brian H Stott
Honorary Secretary
Lancashire County RFU Disciplinary Committee

RETURN TO RUGBY ROAD MAP: COMMUNITY GAME

PHASED RETURN

WHAT IT COULD LOOK LIKE

CURRENT STATUS



A
INDIVIDUAL TRAINING WITH ONE OTHER PERSON

Exercise with one other person: fitness training or physical development

Maintain social distance

No equipment sharing



B
SMALL GROUP TRAINING

Exercise within a small group (Up to 6) & maintain social distance

No face to face (F2F) /close contact

Equipment sharing kept to a minimum



C
LARGER GROUP TRAINING: LIMITED F2F/ CLOSE CONTACT

Exercise with a larger group

Social distancing potentially not required at all times

Limited F2F & close contact exposure could now be permitted



D
WHOLE TEAM TRAINING: INCREASED F2F/ CLOSE CONTACT

Exercise with a larger group

Social distancing potentially not required at all times

Increase in level of F2F & close contact exposure could be permitted



E
WHOLE TEAM TRAINING: IN PREPARATION FOR MATCHES

Social distancing could no longer be required

Unrestricted F2F & close contact exposure could be permitted

Rugby contact could be permitted



F
RETURN TO MATCH PLAY

Competitive rugby can recommence.

Could include some form of adapted activity dependent on COVID-19 mitigation

STRONG HAND HYGIENE TO BE ADHERED TO AT ALL STAGES

LIKELY TRIGGER TO MOVE TO THIS STAGE

Individuals allowed to exercise with someone from another household



Expansion in numbers allowed to meet together

Equipment sharing allowed if supported by hand hygiene



Further expansion of group size rules & relaxation of social distancing

Risk of rugby training F2F & close contact exposure deemed low enough to allow limited introduction to some traditional training activities



Further easing of group size rules & social distancing

Risk of rugby training F2F & close contact exposure deemed low enough to allow increased participation in more traditional training activities



Removal of social distancing

Risk of F2F & close contact exposure low enough to allow progression to unrestricted F2F & close contact training activities



Social distancing removed completely

Risk of F2F & close contact exposure low enough to allow unrestricted F2F & close contact match activities

