



## Channel Gliding Club Covid Management Protocols

To stem the spread of the COVID virus in England, N Ireland, Scotland and Wales, significant public health related restrictions are in place. The following National Governing Body COVID secure guidance is provided to support BGA clubs.

### **BGA GUIDANCE – COVID19 AND GLIDING OPERATIONS**

#### Gliding

The sport of gliding of course takes place outdoors. With care and within limits, gliding can be compatible with social distancing and other COVID mitigating requirements. This BGA national governing body guidance supports COVID-safe gliding operations including solo and dual/instructional flying where permitted.

It must be noted that Government public health requirements and implementation dates may differ between England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. BGA will endeavour to identify any relevant differences between countries which are directly relevant to operations at gliding sites. Other differences, such as quarantine and local restrictions are not included here and should be carefully considered by individuals and clubs in areas where they apply. The following guidance is relevant everywhere.

The following BGA guidance, which supports a COVID-safe risk assessed and risk managed approach to resuming gliding operations, is based on published official guidance from DfT, and all must be alert to any forthcoming new or revised information which may call for new or different actions. Members should also keep each other honest in the interest of the wider community.

### **MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES:**

#### **SELF ASSESS**

- Members who feel unwell or suspect they have COVID symptoms must stay at home and follow current NHS guidance.
- Members who have received a positive test result must stay at home for the required isolation period.
- Members who have been in close contact with someone who has had COVID must adhere to the current Governmental guidance regarding isolation.
- Members are responsible for adhering to club guidance and protocols at all times.

## CLUB RESPONSIBILITIES:

PRODUCE A COVID SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT (see below)

- Identify what activity or situations might cause transmission of the virus.
- Think about who could be at risk.
- Decide how likely it is that someone could be exposed.
- Act to remove the activity or situation, or if this is not possible, control the risk.

Guidance for COVID-19 risk assessments

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/working-safely/risk-assessment.htm>

Share the results of your risk assessment with your members.

### COVID19 RISK ASSESSMENT FOR USE BY BGA CLUBS

Risk	Unmitigated Score	Risk Reduction Measure	Mitigated Score
Lack of awareness.	Medium	Ensure club members aware of BGA guidance re symptoms and recent exposure limitations before attending the club	Low
Spread due to lack of social distance.	Medium	Maintain social distance, or where not possible, maintain 1m distance with face coverings.	Low
Spread due to touching surfaces.	Medium	Clean surfaces regularly, particularly cockpit controls. Wear gloves.	Low
Spread due to unavoidable (eg safety related) working in proximity.	Medium	Use face coverings. Minimise time spent in proximity.	Low
Spread due to enclosure in aircraft cockpit.	Medium	Use face coverings providing it is safe to do so. NB – all passengers MUST wear a face covering*. Ventilate cockpit. Minimise flight time to that necessary to achieve the aim of the flight.	Low
Spread due to contaminated cockpit.	Medium	Carry out cleaning before crew change.	Low
Spread due to retrieve.	Medium	Minimise numbers in vehicle. Use face coverings.	Low

\*DfT published guidance July 2020:

[Passengers must wear a face covering](#) when on board aircraft in England.

This includes individuals taking part in General Aviation activities where they are not sharing piloting or flight crew duties, for example, flying as a passenger in a balloon, or on an introductory flight, or on a cost-shared basis. Face coverings are recommended to be worn by all individuals on aircraft, where social distancing is not possible, where it is safe to do so.

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## Channel Gliding Club Managing visitors during Covid

**Anyone (instructor or trainee) proposing to fly dual in a club glider, including visitors for our Courses and/or Experience Flights, must have had a negative lateral flow test in the preceding 24 hours.** Test kits are available free of charge from any pharmacy or can be delivered to your house (order on <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>).

**Visitors must bring evidence of the negative test result to the Club.** For example: Covid Passport or text from NHS confirming negative test result.

Visitors should ensure they have received both vaccinations, unless medically exempt, as a minimum requirement

**No evidence = no flight. No exceptions.**

### Visitor's requirements:

- Visitors will be required to provide evidence of a negative Covid test prior to the flight taking place (see above)
- They must declare that they are free from any Covid symptoms
- They have not come into close contact with anyone who has tested positive within the last 48 hours (refer to current Government guidance)
- The Passenger must wear a face covering during the flight
- Number of accompanying members of the family should be restricted.
- Passengers must complete the Temporary membership form prior to arrival (to avoid unnecessary handling of pens etc)

### Instructor's requirements:

- Instructors will be required to provide a negative Covid test prior to the day of the flight
- Must stay at home, if displaying any Covid symptoms or are subject to isolation requirements.
- It is recommended that instructors wear a face covering during the flight unless he/she feels it might compromise safety.

### Club Requirements:

- The club has provided an NHS QR code at appropriate locations. Visitors will be asked to scan the code or leave their contact details, so that tracing can take place if required.
- Glider cockpits must be sanitised after each passenger. This should include the control column, seat belt harness buckle, canopy knobs, edges of the cockpit and wing tips etc.
- The parachute harness and seat buckles should be carefully sanitised after each wearer.
- Social distancing must be maintained at the launch point
- We should avoid ferrying visitors to the launch point in club vehicles.
- We should provide socially distanced seating at the launch point for visitors and sanitise seating after each occupant.

## Glider Cleaning Procedures

### After EVERY Flight, please ensure the following are sanitised:

- Canopy catches (interior and Exterior)
- Edges of cockpit
- Clear vision panel knobs
- Control column
- Airbrake lever
- Cable release knob
- Trim lever
- Knobs and switches
- Harness buckle
- Undercarriage lever (where fitted)
- Parachute harness buckles
- Wing tips and handling points
- Cable stops

### Where possible avoid sharing:

- Walkie Talkies/Radios/Phones
- Mugs/Cups/Kitchen utensils
- Pens/stationary
- Parachutes
- Vehicles
- Launchpoint signal box
- Tools/Equipment

The committee believes that these measures strike a workable balance between risk management and the easing of social distancing. Please adhere to them.