



COVID-19 Guidance for Cricket Indoors in England – October 2021

This guidance is updated for the 2021-22 Winter and replaces previous Guidance for Cricket Indoors in England. It provides guidance you should consider to play cricket indoors safely this winter. You should also see the [UK Government Advice for Grassroots Sport](#) which provides detailed advice for:

1. Participants
2. Cricket Providers (clubs, coaches, coaching providers and competition organisers)
3. Venue Operators

You can see this guidance at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-coronavirus-covid-19-measures-for-grassroots-sport-participants-providers-and-facility-operators>

This document is subject to change. For the latest advice on COVID safety when participating in cricket in England and Wales see www.ecb.co.uk/covid-19

Note: at the time of issue of this version, there are no restrictions on how many people can take part in sport and physical activity, or on the activities they can do.

Advice for delivering and playing cricket indoors safely this winter

1. **Read and understand the [UK Government grass roots sport advice](#) for [participants](#), [cricket providers](#) and [venues](#).**
2. **Carry out a risk assessment.** Venues and providers should carry out a risk assessment of COVID risk appropriate to their responsibilities and identify suitable safety control measures.
3. **Collaborate and communicate.**
 - a. **Cricket Providers and Venues:** Work with each other to deliver cricket safely through your risk assessment and then communicate the safety measures to your participants well ahead of any session or match.
 - b. **Participants:** Follow your cricket provider’s safety measures – these may vary from provider to provider and from venue to venue so check information you were sent when booking or joining a course, net session, match or other event. Please be aware that you have a

responsibility to yourself and others to participate safely – if you are unsure of any requirements consult with your cricket provider or venue as appropriate.

4. **Do not attend any session with COVID.** Before attending any sporting activities, all participants, officials, staff, volunteers and spectators should self-assess for symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These are:
 - a. a high temperature
 - b. a new, continuous cough
 - c. a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

If you have one or more of these symptoms you should not attend any sporting activity, even if your symptoms are mild. You should follow [NHS guidance on testing and self-isolation](#).

For guidance on what to do if you live with a positive case click [here](#).

For guidance on what to do if you have close contact with, a positive case see [here](#).

5. **Minimise the sharing of equipment** where it is possible and practical, particularly that used around the head and face. Where equipment needs to be shared, it should be cleaned between users and between sessions.
6. **Use hygiene breaks where balls are shared**, for example in matches or in net sessions where balls are made available to participants, minimise the number of people handling the ball and include hygiene breaks in which hands and the ball are sanitised.
7. **Maintain good hygiene:**
 - a. Participants and providers should continue to sanitise their hands frequently, including within and between sessions.
 - b. Common touch points such as playing and training equipment should be sanitised between sessions.
 - c. Avoid spitting or rinsing out your mouth on or around the playing area.
 - d. Avoid sharing water bottles or other refreshment containers. Where possible, you should take your own drink, in a labelled or highly distinguishable container.
 - e. Clean more often.
8. **Provide adequate ventilation:**
 - a. Venues and cricket providers should make sure there is a supply of fresh air to enclosed spaces where there are people present. This can be natural ventilation through windows, doors and vents, mechanical ventilation using fans and ducts, or a combination of both. You should identify any poorly ventilated spaces and consider steps you can take to improve fresh air flow in these areas.
 - b. Cricket providers and participants must be aware of what natural ventilation is included in the venue ventilation strategy and not close doors and windows unless this is in consultation with the venue.
 - c. Participants and cricket providers should be advised to dress in suitable warm clothing, ideally in layers so that they can manage their temperature through the session – especially coaching staff because they will be less active than participants.
 - d. In some places, a CO₂ monitor can help identify if the space is poorly ventilated. You can find more information in the [section on managing your facility](#) of the UK Government Guidance and the [HSE guidance on ventilation and air conditioning during the COVID-19 pandemic](#). As a cricket provider, check with your venue to see whether a CO₂ monitor is in use and what you need to do in response to any alarms or indications from the monitor.

9. **Face coverings** are no longer required by law, but people should consider wearing face coverings in crowded and enclosed settings where they come into contact with people they do not normally meet. Where worn correctly, this can reduce the risk of transmission. For example, you may wish to put on a face covering after your cricket session if you are in a crowded indoor facility, but you don't have to wear one during sport. Cricket providers and venues should carry out a risk assessment and consult with their staff to determine when face coverings should be worn and whether coaches who are in frequent contact with many people should consider using face coverings when not active within coaching sessions. People should not generally wear a face covering while taking part in any strenuous activity or sport, unless advised to do so by a doctor.

Please refer to this [UK Government Guidance](#) and take actions as required for your activity, business and venue