

## Covid 19 Guidance boating activity in Northern Ireland

**Last updated:** 13<sup>th</sup> August 2021

This is subject to ongoing review and should be read alongside our Return to Boating page and **FAQs**. A roadmap was produced by the NI Executive and involves steps with reviews in between. Relaxations have moved in a way which make the roadmap obsolete - RYANI's guidance reflects this and consolidates guidance from the NI Executive.

Guidance is primarily based upon [NI Direct](#) and [SportNI](#) advice in conjunction with the [Covid 19 Regulations](#).

This Guidance is designed to be read alongside relevant resources for both individuals and activity organisers, including:

- *RYANI Club Guidance,*
- *RYANI Training Guidance,*
- *RYA Major Event Guidance,*
- *RYA Mixed Household Guidance.*
- *Ni Direct Guidance on Testing for Events & Large Gatherings*

Current Guidance	
<b>Travel</b>	Travel is permitted to and from Northern Ireland for non-essential purposes in line with <a href="#">NI Direct Guidance</a> .
<b>Social Distancing</b>	<p><b>Indoor venues</b> For indoors 1 meter is a requirement in hospitality settings and recommended in other settings where 2m is not viable with consideration given to other risk mitigations.</p> <p><b>Outdoor venues</b> For outdoor venues (including sports facilities) the Executive advises (not through Regulations) social distancing to be adhered to. Where two metres is not viable, a minimum of one metre is recommended with consideration given to other risk mitigations. Risk mitigations should be detailed in risk assessments.</p> <p>Where possible, those organising fixtures/events and venue operators, should maintain a minimum of 1 metre social distancing and ideally 2 metres</p>
<b>Gathering Limits and Large vent Guidance</b>	<p>There are no longer number limitations on gatherings. For activity taking place, the maximum number permitted will be determined by the risk assessment carried out by the venue. A Risk Assessment must be in place for any organised activity where group numbers exceed 30 outdoors or 15 indoors.</p> <p><b>Event Organiser's Responsibilities</b> Anyone planning to run an event or large gathering should familiarise themselves with Guidance on Testing for Events &amp; Large Gatherings and communicate it to participants and attendees well in advance of the date of the event.</p> <p>Although testing is not mandatory, event organisers are advised to strongly recommend that anyone attending an event should test themselves no more than 24 hours in advance of attending an event, and on days 2 and 8 following the event.</p>

	<p><b>Attendance/ participants</b></p> <p>It is strongly recommended that anyone participating in, or attending, any event which will bring them into close proximity with other people from outside their existing bubble should test themselves before they attend, and on days 2 and 8 after the event.</p> <p>When travelling to large events you should walk, cycle or use private transport, shared only with members of your household where possible</p>
<p><b>Risk Assessment requirements for organised activity</b></p> <p>Sailing, windsurfing or powerboating formally organised by a club or training centre, including training and events</p>	<p>The NI Coronavirus Regulations outline: A Risk Assessment <b>must</b> be in place for any organised activity where group numbers exceed 30 outdoors or 15 indoors.</p> <p>A person responsible for organising an activity must, if requested to do so by a relevant person, provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a copy of the risk assessment</li> </ul> <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an account of the reasonable measures taken</li> </ul> <p>Individuals should maintain social distancing, as well as good hand and respiratory hygiene practices.</p>
<p><b>Recreational activity</b></p> <p>Activity falling outside the definition of organised activity</p>	<p>Group sizes subject to wider gathering limitations.</p> <p>Mixed household guidance for sailing and racing applies.</p>
<p><b>Safety</b></p>	<p>Safety recovery mitigations in place to prevent contact unless absolutely necessary. PPE should be available.</p>
<p><b>Clubhouse Facilities</b></p> <p>Use of facilities outside of organised activity and hospitality</p>	<p>Access to clubhouse/ indoor facilities is permitted in line with venue risk assessment and Public Health Agency (PHA) measures in place. Wider gathering limits no longer apply. A risk assessment for the facility/spaces being used to determine safe occupancy that minimises the risk of Covid spread must be in place</p>
<p><b>Changing rooms</b></p>	<p>Changing rooms are permitted to open for use. Participants should be encouraged to arrive and depart changed wherever possible or to limit time in the changing area.</p> <p>Use of shower facilities is allowed. (please check RYA advice on Legionella).</p> <p>Further Guidance: <a href="#">DfC guiding Principles on restricted access and safe use of shower and changing facilities</a></p>
<p><b>Hospitality</b></p>	<p>Full details and guidance for hospitality venues can be found on the relevant section of the <a href="#">NI Direct Webpages</a>.</p> <p>Hospitality venues (cafes, restaurants, bars, pubs, social clubs, including in members' clubs) are permitted to open.</p> <p>Limitations on seating apply, however, from 16 August, there will be no restriction on the number of people permitted to sit together at hospitality venues.</p> <p>Venues will also be required to collect customer details to help with the Test, Trace, Protect contact tracing programme.</p>

	<p>Face coverings must be worn if you leave your table (to pay/ to access toilet facilities), unless exempt. Live music is permitted in licensed and unlicensed premises.</p> <p>A person responsible for a hospitality business must take reasonable measures to ensure that social distancing measures are maintained at all times to limit the risk of transmission of the coronavirus.</p>
<b>Overnight Stays</b>	<p>Up to 10 people from no more than three households can meet in a private home and stay overnight. Children aged 12 and under are not counted in the total.</p> <p>If a household has 10 or more members, the maximum is increased to 15 people from no more than three households. Children aged 12 and under are not counted in the total.</p> <p>You should keep indoor areas well-ventilated, maintain social distancing as much as possible and wash hands well and often.</p>