



RYA Northern Ireland Step 2 Guidance

Date: 15th June 2020

On moving into Step 2 on the NI Executive's plan, we have outlined the main guidance from government agencies and provided some considerations for how this may allow further activity on the water.

We remain engaged in seeking clarification on specific elements of guidance and will share this further once received.

These considerations are the RYANI's interpretation, but clubs, individuals etc. may also apply their individual context and circumstances when deciding upon activity. We will always take a conservative approach to this as we look to keep within the guidance in order to best help eliminate COVID 19 and urge the boating community to continue to do so.

1. NI Executive Guidance*₁:

- Resumption of, for example, team sports training on a non-contact basis in small groups.
- Outdoor activities involving small groups of less than 10 people during which it may be difficult to maintain social distancing but where contacts are brief (less than 10 minutes).

2. SportNI Framework*₁:

As for STEP 1 and in addition:

1. Outdoor water based activities - groups of ≤ 10 people who do not share a household
2. Water-sport team squad training allowed up to a maximum of 10 athletes / staff
3. In all cases, maintain social distancing as far as possible - any contacts are brief

*₁ Special note (15th June 2020) – the following elements under Step 2 have not yet been permitted:

Executive Guidance:

1. Indoor activities involving limited contacts of less than 10 mins and interactions of only 2-4 people that maintain social distancing and prevent congregating in places for any extended period.

SportNI Guidance:

2. Water Sports Centre Indoor activities restricted to ≤ 4 people who do not share a household
3. Indoor facilities used must have public health measures in place
4. Prevent congregations of people indoors

*₂ For the purpose of this guidance our interpretation of '**contact**' means coming within Social Distancing measures (currently 2 metres).

3. Guidance for Boating Activity

Moving to Step 2 in the Recovery Plan the following aspects of activity could now be considered:

Area	Guidance
General	Travel guidance now implies: The Regulations do not set limits for the distance that you may travel for any purpose. You should act responsibly and reasonably.
	Outdoor Activity remains cited as a 'reasonable excuse' to leave home.
Recreational	Recreationally, groups of 10 people can get afloat whilst maintaining social distancing;
	Boating by members of different households in larger craft (e.g. keelboats, motor cruisers) could be considered where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social distancing can be adhered to and any contacts* (see note 2) between individuals are brief (less than 10 mins); - There is still the aim for no shared contact with hard surfaces e.g. equipment and suitable cleaning and public hygiene elements should be in place and consideration to various touchpoints around a boat; - Group numbers cannot exceed 10
	Activity in smaller craft, where social distancing cannot be adhered to should still be undertaken as an individual (e.g. single handed sailing or windsurfing) or in multi-handed craft where members are from the same household.
Structured	With the allowance of brief contacts of less than 10 mins, aspects of safety provision could be considered, where suitable protocols are in place (please refer to the RYA/ Club Guidance).
	Groups of 10 (inclusive of instructors/ group leaders) can get afloat whilst maintaining social distancing. Suitable cleaning and public hygiene protocols should be in place.
	Recognised Training Centres should refer to the RYA Guidance on Restarting Training and Coronavirus Guidance. In particular, considerations for Northern Ireland includes the limited access to facilities and the implications that may have on courses.
	Considerations can be given to the level of activity participants can take part in and the conditions under which they may be afloat.

Competition	The level of activity to be considered by club committee following risk assessment and consideration of government advice (including e.g. group numbers)
	If providing club organised activity has the club prepared for the additional onus of responsibility that brings?
	Please refer to RYA Return to Racing Guidance (NI Version)
Facilities	Indoor facilities are to remain closed with the exception of restricted access to small shared facilities e.g. storage area / toilet / through-ways that are disinfected regularly with sanitation products available.*See note 1 above.

Further Considerations for boaters:

- Check Access - Are car parks, slipways, marinas, boat parks etc open and what guidelines are in place? Each venue, including council-owned facilities, will make their own decisions about when their facilities are ready to open and can be operated safely.
- Check the latest [Government Guidelines](#)
- Can you be Prepared before undertaking activity prior to arrival at any shared space. (e.g. can you change prior to arrival? Have you checked your equipment prepared?)

Useful links

[COVID 19: Cleaning and storing your lifejackets](#)

[COVID 19: Cleaning for Non Healthcare setting guidance](#)

[RYANI Coronavirus and Return to boating guidance page.](#)