Junior Nationals & Cotswold Regionals 2021

COVID-19 Safety Information

Introduction

It is important that all competitors, crews, members and visitors feel safe during the competition. We have carefully considered the restrictions required to keep everyone safe whilst also making the competition as fun and friendly as possible. Safety is everyone's responsibility, whether in the air or on the ground, and we're relying on each of you to act in a responsible way that minimises the risk to you and others.

Due to the close proximity of competitors, crews and other airfield users during the competition, should a spread of COVID-19 occur, this is likely to happen rapidly. We have written this guidance to help us manage the risks together; we ask that you read the information carefully and follow the guidance we have set out. The guidance may seem cautious in the context of the current Government guidance, but the aim is to ensure we can maintain a safe environment that will enable you to enjoy the competition with minimal risk.

The information in this document is colour coded for ease of reference:

Mandatory for all pilots, crews, visitors and staff

Strongly recommended guidance

Recommended guidance

Face Coverings

Everyone attending daily briefing is expected to wear a face covering. This is due to the significant number of people who will all be indoors and in potential close proximity. We do not expect any restrictions in relation to face coverings in other indoor settings.

Please take a face covering with you in your glider. If you land out, please carry this with you when looking for the farmer and be prepared to wear it if requested. Please try to meet with the farmer outside if possible. Note that if you land in Wales, the COVID-19 rules are likely to be different to those in the rest of the UK.

Hand Sanitiser & Social Distancing

Hand sanitiser will be available at key areas around the airfield, including on the grid. The use of this is encouraged throughout the competition.

Whilst there may be no legal restrictions on socialising, please use your common sense and avoid any unnecessary close contact wherever possible to mitigate any residual risk.

Symptoms and Positive Tests

DO NOT ATTEND THE AIRFIELD IF YOU HAVE CONFIRMED OR SUSPECTED COVID-19

If you exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 during the competition (e.g. a high temperature, cough, or loss of taste/smell), then you must self-isolate immediately. Please contact Competition Control (ask for the Safety Officer or Competition Director) via telephone on 01285 702102 and we will provide assistance. We have extensive contingency plans in place to assist you as necessary.

Lateral Flow Testing

We need all airfield visitors to take a lateral flow test within the 24 hours before arriving at the airfield at the start of the competition. You will need to confirm that this test is negative, but you do not need to provide evidence unless requested. You must not come to the airfield if the lateral flow test is positive, and must arrange for a PCR test to be taken. If your subsequent PCR test is negative, you will be able to attend the airfield providing a second lateral flow test is also negative.

In the event that any airfield user tests positive (or is suspected to have COVID-19) during the competition, then it is likely that the competition organisation will encourage all airfield users to take a lateral flow test. The competition organisation will endeavor to make airfield users aware if such positive cases occur through the usual communication channels.

Lateral flow tests are available online and in local pharmacies for free with a box containing 7 individual tests. Current Government guidance is to test twice weekly, which we will encourage during the competition. Control will have a limited supply available, however, **please bring your own supply of lateral flow tests with you to the competition.**

Contacting Control

Please contact the competition organisation via telephone instead of in-person when possible. This is to limit exposure and close contacts. Control can be contacted on 01285 702102.

Please note that given the ever-changing nature of the pandemic, we may need to issue updates to this guidance before or during the competition.

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