

GETTING BACK ON TRACK - Q&A

The following Q&A is intended to provide clarity on questions that may be raised upon review of the Getting Back on Track restart guidance. **This document has been updated on 16th April 2021 and will continue to be reviewed as new government guidance becomes available.**

I am an official or marshal – what should I do if I have tested positive for COVID-19 or have COVID-19 symptoms?

Anyone who has tested positive and/or has developed COVID-19 symptoms may not participate for **10** days following the test, even where there are no symptoms, or where there are symptoms for **10** days after becoming symptom-free. Anyone wishing to return within **10** days may only do so after a negative test and only if you are fit to undertake your duties.

What if some Marshals and Officials have concerns about attending events under current conditions?

Whilst Motorsport UK has set out guidance to allow for Events to resume, participation is not mandatory, and every individual must consider their own circumstances and determine whether they should participate. Organisers will follow Government advice that the personal views of individuals are to be respected and that it is the responsibility of all participants to adhere to the guidance for the protection of all involved.

Until 12th April Motorsport UK is issuing single day Permits. What prevents a club running single day Permits on consecutive days?

There may be clubs running over consecutive days however they have been asked to amend their timetable and schedule in order to have no requirement for competitors to stay overnight.

For a single day Permit can scrutineering take place the day before?

This is permissible subject to restrictions on overnight stays in respect of which the guidance is published on our COVID-19 section of the website. In addition, scrutineering the day before competition is not strictly necessary given the entry declaration forms. Post-competition eligibility can run 'as usual' and safety spot checks can be made on the day of competition.

Has any consideration been given to marshals and rescue crews needing to travel to events and requiring accommodation event for a one-day event?

Motorsport UK have issued clarification in regard to overnight accommodation for Officials and Marshals. Officials of all types including marshals are categorised as volunteer workers and would therefore be eligible to stay overnight.

Can you please confirm the dates from when participants are entitled to stay overnight?

For England, workers are entitled to stay overnight and from 12th April a single household is permitted overnight in self-contained accommodation.

When will events which include/require dual occupancy resume?

For England, driving lessons resumed from 12th April and therefore events or activities requiring dual occupancy may again resume as 'organised sport'. For Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland we are waiting for further information from these devolved governments and will provide an update when available.

Can Rallying in England start from 12th April?

Yes, Motorsport UK Permitted Rallies may resume in England subject to landowner restrictions.

How many days in advance of the event should the competitor provide their completed declaration?

It is recommended that this is provided 1 or 2 weeks prior to the event, however the declaration does require that the participant does not attend if their health status alters.

Are the Motorsport UK declarations compatible with tablets/mobile phones?

The declarations can be completed on handheld devices however it will depend on the app used. It is recommended that Adobe Reader is used for PDFs and the Office suite for the Word versions.

Are electronic entry processes still permitted?

Yes. However, organisers should please ensure that the declaration wording being used is updated and in line with the Motorsport UK published declaration.

If Wales don't allow travel to England is it the responsibility of the organiser to check where competitors are travelling from for events in England?

Competitors need to take responsibility to ensure they follow government guidance and it is not for the organiser to carry out checks

What if I become unwell during the meeting?

You should immediately isolate yourself and inform your team if any, and the club officials, by telephone. If necessary, the organisers will refer you to the onsite medic, if any. The organisers will need to record your details and the nature of your condition. It is not always obvious that the symptoms that may be presented are associated with COVID-19 and therefore you would need to leave the venue. You must follow all Government, Public Health England (PHE) or your national Public Health body advice.

A lot of people have had a form of long COVID. Is there any guidance on what we should do if they have symptoms but had COVID-19 weeks or months before?

Participants need to be certain they are testing negative and if they still have symptoms they should not attend.

If the symptoms are such that they are affecting them they would not be in a position to fulfil a role.

The pre-event declaration requires participants to confirm that they are fit to participate or undertake the role. Long COVID mostly results in exhaustion, tiredness, breathlessness etc., all of which would be incompatible with participating in a motorsport event.

Competitors have been reminded that if they are unwell after COVID-19 they need to inform Motorsport UK as their licence may not be valid.

Will Scrutineers be undertaking the usual safety checks?

The declaration which all participants are required to complete and submit pre-event, whether by email or online administration systems, requires the Competitor to detail their equipment and expiration dates as appropriate. The Competitor is signing to declare that their vehicle and equipment is of the required standard and in compliance. The Scrutineers will have sight of the information and can perform site checks. Specific advice has been issued to the Scrutineers.

Is there any consideration being given to extending lifing dates on seats/helmets/harnesses etc.?

Motorsport UK has already published details of a regulation freeze allowing an additional year for seats which have expired during the Pandemic. The life of helmet standard (FIA 8860-2004), which is the only one that expired last year, has been extended by a further year.

Will Motorsport UK be providing any signage or standard designs to be used?

Motorsport UK has prepared royalty-free designs for deployment by organisers / venues and these are available on the [“Getting Back on Track”](#) section of the website.

Marshal reports are to be verbal and not necessarily supported by written reports. How do we know when a written report is still required?

Judicial guidance is available on the Motorsport UK website [“Getting Back on Track”](#), including the possibility of messaging to a dedicated address from post. The Chief Marshal/Clerk of the Course/Event Organiser will advise you based on your role.

Under the current Government guidance, is there a restriction on the number of marshals per post?

Marshal numbers should be kept to a minimum and the post must be capable of facilitating the marshals whilst respecting social distancing.

The Event Organiser (in conjunction with the Clerk of the Course) must ensure that Marshal appointments are to be made to ensure a safe level of cover but not exceeding its function and to take overall responsibility for their post allocation.

The creation of additional marshal posts can always be considered but must be approved by Motorsport UK with the Venue Operator beforehand, in order that the relevant amendment is made to the Track Licence.

It is the responsibility of the Clerk of the Course to ensure the above is complied with and, upon completion of their track inspection, they must confirm that Marshals are located in the appropriate areas in accordance with the track licence.

Will it still be possible to pay the kart circuit for practice or racing when I arrive?

No. You will be required to pre-register / enter and pay using the club's online event management system.

Are participants required to wear a face mask?

All Event participants must wear a [face mask](#) in all areas designated high density at the venue at **all** times and in any other area where 2m social distancing cannot be maintained or as mandated by the organiser.

If a competitor is wearing a helmet and/or a balaclava covering their nose and mouth, there is no need for a further mask.

Are face coverings also acceptable?

- Face coverings **are acceptable** however they must be **clean** and **correctly fitted**. A visor or face shield is **not** an acceptable replacement for a face mask/covering.
- Face masks/coverings are for individual and personal use and should not be shared with others.

Why are visors not an acceptable alternative to a face mask?

Visors are not acceptable without a face mask as the visors don't prevent you breathing over other people.

What if I have a medical exemption from wearing a face mask?

Motorsport UK has removed the provision for individual personal exemptions. All participants must wear a face mask in the designated areas.

Why have medical exemptions been removed?

For the safety of the individual and all participants at events we are unfortunately unable to accept any exemptions. Face masks are effective in preventing the wearer breathing over other people and help reduce dispersing the virus if worn by everyone.

As reported by the Royal Society in their review:

- Cloth face coverings are effective in reducing source virus transmission from the wearer.
- Face masks and coverings cannot be seen in isolation but are part of 'policy packages'...including hand hygiene, sanitisers and social distancing.
- The evidence suggests that wearing a face covering may not protect you but will help protect others if you are infected but have not developed symptoms.
- The number of infected people who are asymptomatic appears to be somewhere between 20% and 80% so you can infect others without even knowing.

Following the reduction of social groupings to a maximum of 6, there is heightened focus on all activities where this may be an issue and sport is most vulnerable.

- In response to feedback from the community regarding inconsistent adherence to social distancing and the wearing of face coverings when needed, a [new policy](#) was issued by Motorsport UK.
- Sport is a discretionary activity as far as the Government is concerned.
- Our COVID-19 Officers have a difficult task in the management of people at venues, with some disciplines more challenging than others. This has led to a need for a clearer application of the rules.
- To ensure motorsport can maintain the support of Government in allowing us to continue to run events and enjoy the freedom to compete.

Is the removal of medical exemptions not discriminatory?

All individuals are able to attend Events however anyone who cannot wear a mask may only undertake duties within an area that is not designated as requiring a face mask, provided they can maintain social distancing.

Are there any relaxations to the need for the wearing of face masks in the designated areas?

- Events taking place on the Channel Islands or Isle of Man, **subject of course to the local government relaxations.**
- Whilst eating or drinking participants may temporarily remove their mask whilst ensuring that social distance is maintained.
- A competitor wearing a balaclava that covers the nose and mouth when outside their competition vehicle.

Are young Competitors exempt from wearing a face mask?

- Motorsport UK requires face masks, where necessary, to be worn by anyone 6 years of age and over.

Are organisers able to provide hospitality, to their participants, at events?

- The specific Government advice in regard to the hospitality industry must be followed.

What will the officials do for those that are not complying or refuse to comply with the COVID-19 requirements?

Each participant must be considerate of their actions and the impact on others.

Motorsport UK has been permitted to resume events by the respective Governments and under the [“Getting Back on Track”](#) guidance. It is imperative that all participants adhere to both Motorsport UK and Government guidance so that we can continue to run Events.

It is now mandated that face masks are to be worn in designated areas at the Event (with the exception of relaxations referenced above).

In the event that an individual fails to comply with COVID-19 requirements:

- In the first instance, the nominated officials (Judges of Fact) in conjunction with the COVID-19 Officer will give a gentle reminder.
- Continued transgressions will result in the COVID-19 Officer bringing the report to the Clerk of the Course and Motorsport UK and result in a penalty being applied:
 - a Formal Warning will be given for the second reported transgression
 - followed by removal from the Event for further transgression,
 - the matter will also be reported to Motorsport UK.

Please remember our Officials do not wish to remind anyone of the need to comply. Any abuse towards Event Officials will not be tolerated.

When is the Motorsport UK COVID-19 Guidelines effective for an individual Event?

Once you are onsite or at the assembly area for say a 12 Car or Scatter then you are under Permit and therefore under all Motorsport UK requirements. If competitors disperse home from the final Time Control then that is when you return to Government Guidelines for the general public.

The different Governments are unlocking in varying degrees and different times which may include a restriction on travel outside their residential area, has Motorsport UK obtained exemptions for licensed officials or competitors?

No. There are no specific exemptions for motorsport which would allow individuals to travel to an Event and it is their responsibility to ensure that they comply with the Government requirements in this respect.

Will catering facilities be open as usual at the venue?

You should contact the venue or organiser and review their website to confirm.

Will the medical cover at the venue be operational as before?

The medical cover required for any Event remains unchanged.

Will my family and sponsor be able to come to the events?

Organisers must limit attendance to ensure that they can adhere to social distancing requirements and any limitation on gatherings. Spectators are not permitted in the 'Event Bubble' and they may not interact with any of the participants during the Event.

The recommendation is for Driver +3 however organisers may request agreement from Motorsport UK to alter this restriction, other than karting which is currently restricted driver +2. Non-team personnel should be classified as spectators and as referenced above.

Are spectators permitted at events?

Currently, the Motorsport UK guidance does not provide for spectators. Motorsport UK is aware that some venues may permit spectators to their venues however they will not be permitted to interact with event participants who will be considered to be within the “Event Bubble”.

Can I still hire a transponder for the event?

Transponders may still be hired under sanitised conditions. You should check with the organisers that transponder hire is available at the event.

For Cadet or Bambino Karts it may not be possible to maintain social distancing when lifting the kart itself. How should we deal with this situation?

Where social distancing cannot be maintained in this situation, face masks must be worn by the adults handling the kart and hand sanitising before and after touching the kart.

How can we be assured that the venue toilet facilities will be regularly sanitised?

Public Health England has published guidance which should be adopted by all concerned and this is duplicated below. Motorsport UK has provided designs for signage and these are available at:

<https://www.motorsportuk.org/restart>

Maintaining hygiene, through handwashing, sanitisation facilities and toilets

To help everyone maintain good hygiene, consideration should be given to:

- Using signs and posters to build awareness of good handwashing technique, the need to increase handwashing frequency, avoid touching your face and to cough or sneeze into your arm.
- Providing regular reminders and signage to maintain hygiene standards
- Providing hand sanitiser in multiple locations in addition to washrooms.
- Setting clear use and cleaning guidance for toilets to ensure they are kept clean and social distancing is achieved as much as possible
- Enhancing cleaning for busy areas
- Providing more waste facilities and more frequent rubbish collection
- Replacing hand dryers with paper towels in handwashing facilities
- Minimising the use of portable toilets
- Sufficient provision of automated hand sanitising dispensers in public places

For Speed Events how will the start line accuracy be maintained?

In consideration of the relaxation to the current guidance as detailed above, organisers now have several options available for starts enabling organisers to have flexibility regarding start lines in a socially distanced environment and using their preferred method:

- We have given an exemption to GR S3.2.1 to allow for a 1m box behind the start line. Guidance on utilising the European Start system is available at [Getting Back on Track](#) on the Motorsport UK website.
- Marshals may touch the tyres
- It would be preferable for the bodywork not to be touched as if it has come in to contact with the virus there may be the possibility of transference. However, should contact with the bodywork be absolutely necessary marshals must ensure that they sanitise their hands on each occasion. For example, heavy duty gloves can be sanitised by use of a solution or wipe however care must be taken for the gloves not to become immersed in alcohol.
- Marshals may align the vehicle at the start line using a pole.
- It is important that before touching face, mask or food you must sanitise your hands.

It will be for organisers to decide what best suits their event. There is no regulatory requirement for Sprint and Hill Climb starts to operate as they currently do. It may be that operating practices need to be altered depending upon the timing system used. It will be for each organiser to decide whether during these early stages of event resumption hill records should be suspended.

Can the Rescue Unit be used for casualties?

The Medical Advice is simply that if you use a vehicle for a casualty it requires sanitising after such use and during that process, without other cover, the event must halt. Rescue Units themselves are varied and some will find sanitising all of their equipment a rather lengthier process than others. A CQC Ambulance is so configured that this process might only take 10-15 minutes.

The CMO is responsible for ensuring the proper sanitisation of the Rescue Unit in the event of a casualty and that as organisers you must allow for the additional delay to the meeting for your Rescue Unit to complete the sanitisation should it be necessary. This is something that you should verify when making the booking.

Are we still permitted to call county ambulances in the event of the need for a patient transfer?

Organisers should speak with their local ambulance authority when making preparations for the meeting to identify whether the county ambulance would be available in this situation.

Why is it permitted for a Motorsport UK Steward to drive a single venue stage but not at a race or speed event?

It is the Clerks responsibility to ensure that the venue is setup in accordance with the track licence and report to the Steward. The Motorsport UK Steward is acting in the role of Safety Delegate on Single Venue Rallies.

Have ARKS examinations resumed?

The Association of Racing Kart Schools will resume assessments from 29th March in England. Of course, social distancing must be observed during the test, and all participants must follow the circuit rules regarding COVID-19. Other devolved Nations may have different guidance.

All participants must take responsibility for their own and others safety, and should they feel unwell in any way do not attend, and if at the circuit leave as soon as possible having notified the organisers. Novice drivers should pay for their test in advance using the voucher system available from www.arks.co.uk

Have ARDS assessments resumed?

With the resumption of driving lessons in England and Wales ARDS have confirmed that their instructors (in England) will again be available for in-car instruction and to undertake assessments from Monday 12th April. In Scotland with driving lessons resuming 26th April assessments may be undertaken from that date.

Each individual school will have undertaken their own COVID-19 risk assessment in order to identify the procedures they would need to adopt. However, it would be reasonable to suggest that with both the instructor and driver wearing a helmet and balaclava and with the vehicle contact areas (inside and out) being sanitised between change of occupants that this would be acceptable. For further clarification on what provisions may be in place at your local ARDS school please contact the relevant ARDS school direct.

Have BARS assessments resumed?

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If I have gained 12 penalty points against my karting licence, will I still receive a warning letter?

Motorsport UK has suspended Karting penalty totting (C2.1.8 and 2.1.8.1) under its powers within A2.4 of the General Regulations removing warning letters and licence suspensions for accumulation of karting penalties for the remainder of 2021.

This does not indicate in any way any relaxation of driving standards and competitors must drive with respect. In appropriate cases licenses may still be suspended (C.1.1.5 and C.2.6.3) and the facts referred to the National Court based on the severity of the individual offence.

What if I have further queries?

Should you have further queries, please contact Restart@MotorsportUK.org