



BRITISH WALKING FEDERATION

GUIDANCE FOR BWF CLUBS

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 UPDATE

Due to Covid-19 there may be some changes to the way that BWF Clubs organise their walks. This guidance is to help walkers keep safe whilst participating in BWF Club Walks and Permanent Trails.

At all times, the latest government advice must be followed – please remember that this may be different in the different regions of the UK. Further information on what you can and can't do [Coronavirus FAQ](#)

From 4th July, people in **England** can exercise alone, with members of your household (or support bubble), or with up to 5 other people from different households **OUTDOORS ONLY**. You should maintain a distance of 2m between people from different households, or 1m plus with mitigations (such as face coverings or avoiding face-to-face contact) where 2m is not possible. Some areas of the country may have additional local restrictions in place. The latest government advice can be found [here](#)

The lockdown easing does allow more freedom for everyone however, the government advice is still to **LIMIT YOUR CONTACT WITH OTHERS**. If you are in the [clinically vulnerable](#) category, in the over 70 age group or have an underlying health condition, you are strongly advised to minimise contact with people outside of your household.

The above guidance applies to England but if a club is planning an event in any other part of the UK, please ensure you follow the local guidance. There are no restrictions on the distances you can travel in any part to get to an event but please check for localised restrictions that could be introduced. The latest government advice on social distancing guidelines can be found [here](#)

Before an event takes place, it must be risk assessed and appropriate precautions taken. The BWF National Committee has put together the following guidelines to assist you in considering whether your club resumes your walk programme.

Permanent Trails

Consider PT suspension if the PT is in a 'high risk' local lockdown area.

[Local lockdown information](#)

Walk Guidelines

1. At all times you must always follow the current government advice on Staying Alert and Safe (social distancing) and gatherings etc for part of the UK

[England/Wales/Scotland/N.Ireland](#)

2. Risk assess your event and record the procedures being followed. The following is a list of things to consider when preparing your risk assessment, but this list is not exhaustive:

- Is the start venue 'Covid Secure'?
- Does the event comply with the government guidelines on group gatherings. Latest government advice [here](#)
- 2m social distancing must be maintained wherever possible, otherwise social distancing of 1m plus face coverings must be maintained. Face to face contact should be avoided. Latest government advice [here](#)
- Use of face coverings needs to be considered, especially indoors and when 2m social distancing is not possible.
- Hand sanitiser should be made available to walkers and walk organisers.
- If gloves are used, these should be changed regularly especially when handling different items such as IVV log books.
- Antibacterial wipes or spray – Regularly wipe/spray the walk entry desk and venue entry points such as door handles, surfaces etc
- Payment for walks should be dropped into a container by the walker, so you do not have to handle the cash
- Consider providing specific start times to prevent too many people gathering together and to allow for social distancing.
- Consider whether walkers should contact the walk organiser at least 48 hours before the walk/event in order to be given a start time, example allow 10 minutes between each one. As walkers return from the walk, there should be someone at the door (if using village halls etc), allowing up to a maximum of 6 people including the walk organisers in the venue. Others must wait outside following social distancing to be allowed in.
- Consider e-mailing the walk routes to walkers in advance for them to print out so contact is minimised to avoid the spread of the virus.
- Use sanitiser/wash hands before and after stamping every set of books to avoid cross contamination.
- Disinfect the IVV/Souvenir stamps and ink pads after each use with antibacterial wipes.
- You should not provide food/snacks or drink due to the risks of contamination. It is recommended that walkers bring their own if required.

3. Retain a list of all walkers contact details (eg. name, phone number) for 21 days after the date of the walk, in a way that is manageable for your club and to assist NHS Test and Trace with requests for that data if needed. This could help contain clusters or outbreaks.

4. It is recommended that clubs should display a notice to state why the details will be kept for 21days after the date of the walk and then securely destroyed (eg shredded).

BWF Website Updates

Could all clubs please email webmaster@bwf-ivv.org.uk as soon as possible with updated walk information including any PT's that have to be suspended.