

BADMINTON WALES RETURN TO COURT ROADMAP

In May 2020, the Welsh Government set out a traffic light-style approach to the easing of the regulatory restrictions in place during the first wave of the pandemic (Unlocking our society and economy: continuing the conversation).

In August, the Welsh Government published the Coronavirus Control Plan for Wales. This described the approach to managing coronavirus in Wales, from prevention, through to local action to manage outbreaks and incidents, to all-Wales measures.

This refreshed plan - [Coronavirus Control Plan: Alert Levels in Wales](#) sets out in more detail how national measures described in the Coronavirus Control Plan will be introduced in a more predictable way, revisiting the principles of the traffic light system.

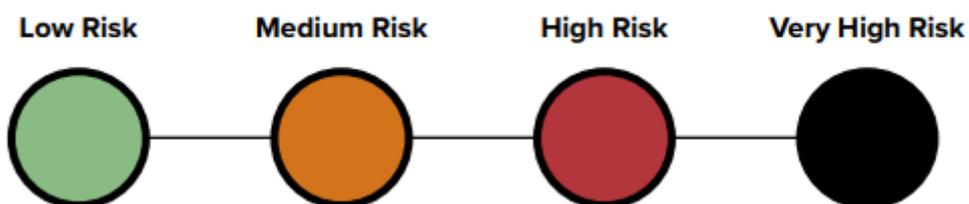
The Sport of Badminton in Wales, just as all other sports, have endured a long and difficult 2020 continually reacting to a pandemic with its ever changing and challenging restrictions. The approval of the first COVID-19 vaccine in December and subsequent start of the vaccination programme brings hope and the promise of a brighter future ahead, where our Badminton Family will be back on court once again enjoying the Sport that we all love. We are on the road to recovery, but it will take time and our guidelines, which will align to the Traffic Light Alert Levels set out in the [Coronavirus Control Plan: Alert Levels in Wales](#), will ensure that the members of the Badminton Community can continue to participate in our sport safely and within the Alert Level restrictions.

With a view to the future, Badminton Wales has updated the roadmap for our return to the court which now aligns to the Alert Levels set out for Wales. The roadmap sets out what we are able to do at each Alert levels enabling us to look ahead to what is possible for our sport as we move through the months on the road back to the court and the sport we love.

The safety and wellbeing of our Elite Performers, Members, Clubs, Coaches, Officials, Volunteers and the wider community is at the heart of any guidance that Badminton Wales distributes. We know that everybody in the Badminton Wales family will be keen to resume Badminton activities in 2021 as soon as it is safe and appropriate for them to do so.

ALERT LEVELS

Indicators



Current Alert Level in Wales (from 3rd May 2021): -



Guiding Principles

Our priority, as we begin our 2021 journey back to court, will be to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone in the Badminton community.

The guidance that follows provides sport specific advice however it is important to note that any return to activity must take account of local conditions and any risk assessment for normal activities should be undertaken as well as ensuring that all government guidance around Covid-19 is taken into account.

It is the responsibility of each athlete, coach and facility to make that assessment based on their local environment. Risk assessments must take into account mitigations and plans for when activities do not go as expected. Planning scenarios around, for example, an injury occurring to a player and the need to support that athlete while distancing should be undertaken – risk assessment template is available from BW.

HEALTH	If you are having any doubts or concerns about the risk to your health or that of others, stop and re-assess!
STAY UP TO DATE	How will you ensure that those you are with are following the latest guidelines?
BEFORE-DURING-AFTER	What do you need to do before taking part? Have you assessed the risks?

When lifting restrictions please consider the following at a local level:

- Can the measures be implemented effectively in practice?
- How will you clearly communicate the changes to all without disadvantaging any parties?
- Will you need to provide extra encouragement or incentives to bring people back to the sport?
- Ensure you consider any consent issues – any decision to participate should be voluntary and informed.

Badminton Wales continues to work in collaboration with other National Governing Bodies and our partners Sport Wales, Welsh Sports Association and Welsh Government throughout these times to ensure we can understand any changes that may be implemented and how these changes will take effect in our Sport.



RETURN TO COURT ROADMAP



4 LOCKDOWN



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



ELITE

3 RED



CLUBS
(UP
TO 15)



VENUES

2M
DISTANCING



COACHING



COACH
EDUCATION



SMALL
GROUPS



2 AMBER



OFFICIATING



TRAVEL



CLUBS
(UP TO 30)



MODIFIED
DOUBLES

1 GREEN



COMPETITION
(UP TO 50)



CLUBS
(UP TO 50)



MODIFIED
DOUBLES



LEAGUES



Moving through the Alert Levels of our Sport

Different elements may progress through the Alert Levels at different rates depending on the Control Plan set out by Welsh Government. It's important to note that 'Alert Level 1 - Green' is not a return to a pre-COVID19 normal, it's going to be a phase where the sport is functioning alongside the virus and could last some time.

Element of the sport	Lockdown Alert Level 4	Alert Level 3	Alert Level 2	Alert Level 1
Elite Athletes	<p>Professionals and Identified Elite Athletes only can continue to train.</p> <p>Modified Doubles training and matches can be played</p>	Training continues	Training continues	Training continues
BWPP Players	Solo training, or with family members, at home or within walking distance of home.	<p>Indoor Facilities to open.</p> <p>BWPP Players resume Hub training in small groups in line with PHW guidance.</p> <p>Groups of 15 excluding U11</p> <p>U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18</p> <p>Only singles be played with distancing measures in place.</p> <p>Double can be played where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (one other household).</p>	<p>Groups of 30 excluding U11</p> <p>U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18</p> <p>Modified Doubles training and matches can be played.</p> <p>Double can be played where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (one other household).</p>	<p>Groups of 50 excluding U11</p> <p>U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18</p> <p>Modified Doubles training and matches can be played</p> <p>Double can be played where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (two other household).</p>

<p>BW Members</p>	<p>Exercise with members of your own household. Outdoor Badminton can be played with family members, at home.</p> <p>BW Shuttle Time Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Badminton At Home • Couch to Court 	<p>Indoor Facilities to open with venue specific guidelines and protocols in place.</p> <p>Indoor Badminton to restart with restrictions on group numbers. Only singles be played with distancing measures in place.</p> <p>Double can be played where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (one other household).</p> <p>Groups of 15 excluding U11</p> <p>U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18</p>	<p>Indoor Badminton with restrictions on group numbers.</p> <p>Double can be played where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (one other household).</p> <p>Modified version of Doubles training and matches can be introduced at Alert Level 2.</p> <p>Groups of 30 excluding U11</p> <p>U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18</p>	<p>Groups of 50 excluding U11</p> <p>U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18</p> <p>Modified Doubles training and matches can be played at Alert Level 1.</p> <p>Double can be played where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (two other household).</p>
<p>Clubs</p>	<p>Face to Face Club activity cancelled, clubs maintain remote engagement with members.</p> <p>Solo training, or with family members, at home or within walking distance of home.</p> <p>Clubs to plan for a potential return to facility use and engage with facility operators/providers where appropriate.</p>	<p>Indoor Facilities to open with venue specific guidelines and protocols in place.</p> <p>Clubs to work with facility providers to develop a safe Return to Use Plan at the dedicated Badminton facilities.</p> <p>Indoor Badminton to restart with restrictions on group numbers (15). Only singles be played with distancing measures in place.</p> <p>Double can be played where each</p>	<p>Restrictions on group numbers (30).</p> <p>Double can be played where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (one other household).</p> <p>Modified version of Doubles training and matches can be introduced at Alert Level 2.</p> <p>Groups of 30 excluding U11</p>	<p>Restrictions on group numbers (50).</p> <p>Double can be played is where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (two other household).</p> <p>Modified Doubles training and matches.</p> <p>League badminton may resume whilst maintaining distancing in line with PHW / WG and BW guidance on doubles.</p>

		<p>member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (one other household).</p> <p>Groups of 15 excluding U11</p> <p>U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18</p>	U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18	<p>Groups of 50 excluding U11</p> <p>U18 excluded in group size number if activity is exclusive for U18</p>
Facilities	Limited re-opening of facilities for Elite Performance Athlete returning to training.	All facilities able to open with restrictions in line with PHW & WG guidance.	All facilities able to open with restrictions in line with PHW & WG guidance.	All facilities able to open with restrictions in line with PHW & WG guidance.
Coaching	<p>Online training/coaching only and support via media platforms.</p> <p>Existing code of conduct to be followed & safeguarding protocols adhered to.</p> <p>Identified Elite Athletes /Coaches return to training.</p>	<p>Return to coaching/leading activity with one other person or small group as facilities allow in line with published Public Health Wales & Welsh Government guidance.</p> <p>Coaches able to travel to facilities to meet athletes for training.</p> <p>Existing code of conduct to be followed & safeguarding protocols adhered to.</p>	<p>Return to coaching/leading activity with one other person or small group as facilities allow in line with published Public Health Wales & Welsh Government guidance.</p> <p>Coaches able to travel to facilities to meet athletes for training.</p> <p>Existing code of conduct to be followed & safeguarding protocols adhered to.</p>	<p>Individual and group Face to Face Coaching resume at all facilities in line with PHW and WG Guidance.</p> <p>Existing Codes of conduct to be followed & safeguarding protocols adhered to.</p>
Competition	All competition and leagues suspended.	<p>All competitions and leagues suspended.</p> <p>National Singles Ladder</p> <p>Double Matches can be played where each member of a pair comes from the same/extended household (one other household).</p>	<p>Competitions resume adhering to WG Guidance on numbers.</p> <p>Modified Doubles Competitions</p> <p>Pilot - Lateral flow testing at Pilot Performance Competition to enable no restriction/modifications in format (working together with SW).</p>	<p>Local and BW sanctioned Competitions may resume whilst adhering to PHW and WG guidance.</p> <p>Indoor events</p>

			Indoor event – pilots	
Officiating	All competition suspended.	All competition suspended.	Officials should be able to resume 'normal' event roles at local events in line with PHW and WG guidance.	Officials should be able to resume 'normal' event roles at local events in line with PHW and WG guidance.
Education	All face to face delivery suspended.	Online learning modules & webinars. Face to face courses to resume in line with PHW and WG guidance.	Online learning modules & webinars. Face to face courses to resume in line with PHW and WG guidance.	Online learning modules & webinars. Face to face courses to resume in line with PHW and WG guidance.
Running the sport – Governance structures & staff working	Online meetings & home working.	Online meetings & home working. Face to face meetings at outdoor venues resume only where necessary and with distancing measures in place.	Limited office availability for staff to work in groups with distancing, cleaning, sanitising and hygiene measures in place having conducted a Covid-19 risk assessment.	Office working and face to face meetings resume where required with distancing, cleaning, sanitising and hygiene measures in place.

At each stage of reopening access to sport, the following questions set out by Welsh Government should be considered.

The seven questions the Welsh Government will ask when it considers relaxing any part of the lockdown restrictions are:

1. Would easing a restriction have a negative effect on containing the virus?
2. Does a particular measure pose a low risk of further infection?
3. How can it be monitored and enforced?
4. Can it be reversed quickly if it creates unintended consequences?
5. Does it have a positive economic benefit?
6. Does it have a positive impact on people's wellbeing?
7. Does it have a positive impact on equality?

Further guidance

In addition to this high-level roadmap of Badminton in Wales, we will be publishing more detailed guidance to help each element of the sport return safely. These documents will continue to be reviewed and new versions published as required:

Document	Version & Publication date
Badminton Wales Return to Court Roadmap	V1 – 22 nd June 2020 V2 – 29 th January 2021 V3 – 30 th April 2021
BWPP – Return to Play	V1 – 12 th August 2020 V2 – 16 th September 2020 V3 – 16 th October 2020 V4 – 16 th November 2020 V5 – 30 th April 2021
Return to Court – Coaching guidance	V1 – 10 th August 2020 V2 – 15 th September 2020 V3 – 5 th November 2020 V4 – 16 th November 2020 V5 – 30 th April 2021
Return to Court - Members & Club guidance	V1 – 10 th August 2020 V2 - 24 th August 2020 V3 – 15 th September 2020 V4 – 16 th October 2020 V5 – 5 th November 2020 V6 – 16 th November 2020 V7 – 30 th April 2021
Return to Court – Competition guidance	V1 - coming soon

More information available from the Welsh Government website