

COVID-19 Non Fulfillments

Dear Club Secretary

Since 16 August most COVID-19 related restrictions have been lifted allowing us all to regain some normality in our day-to-day life, including playing football.

There are no restrictions on how many people can take part in sport and physical activity, or on the activities they can do. However, there are some steps you should take to reduce the risk of transmission when you are participating.

Before attending any sporting activities, all participants, officials, volunteers, and spectators should self-assess for symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

If you have one or more of these symptoms you should not attend any sporting activity, even if your symptoms are mild. You should follow NHS guidance on testing and self-isolation.

Most adult players will have had the opportunity of receiving both doses of a COVID-19 vaccine and regular lateral flow testing will ensure that non-symptomatic cases are picked up. The new [guidelines](#) advise that people who are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years 6 months no longer need to self-isolate if they've had close contact with someone who has COVID-19, this includes people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

With all this in mind, the DFL proposes to deal with any non-fulfillments of fixture where COVID-19 is given as a reason for postponement in the same way as any other non-fulfilment of fixture. The case will be passed to the Discipline Secretary who will send a charge by email to the offending club. The club should respond to the charge and, if appropriate, send any mitigation and supporting evidence to the Discipline Secretary. The club's case will then be presented to the Discipline Committee at its next meeting for a decision to be made. The Discipline Secretary will then email the Committee's decision to the club.

The DFL hopes that you and your club members will continue to be vigilant against the virus and remain healthy.

We wish you all the best for the forthcoming season.

Kind regards

Jo Corben
Covid Officer

Nicky Speed
DFL General Secretary