

Risk Assessments for Coronavirus September 2020

Issues	Expansion & explanation of hazard/	Risk manageable under current guidance	Risk possibly manageable with care	Risk not manageable under current guidance
Organisers' responsibilities	<p>Event organisers are responsible - not attendees.</p> <p>As a Charity the Trustees have special responsibility for ensuring official guidelines are followed.</p>		<p>Organised classes may be allowable under our aims as a Charity offering teaching of Scottish dance and music</p> <p>The Trustees are ultimately responsible</p> <p>Public Liability Insurance cover to be checked for specific application to Covid</p>	
Legislation, national and local guidelines	We aim to act within the Law and keep to guidelines both national and local. We are not looking for loopholes to circumvent these however much we'd like to hasten the return of our classes.		Non-contact dancing, such as Highland or Step dancing may be considered in well ventilated premises, with younger dancers/teachers	Most of our venues are also charities and have strict risk assessments of their own. These mostly relate to number of attendees and social distancing.
Status of event	Purpose of event - social or education affects the guidance		Formally organised 'education events' are allowed, but must follow government guidelines	Social dancing excluded for foreseeable future at most venues.
Travel to venues	<p>Safe distancing is difficult or impossible in vehicles.</p> <p>Many surfaces to sanitise (door handles, seat belts steering wheel, handbrake, gear lever, mirror.)</p>	Participants advised NOT to car share with other households or use public transport.	Will affect all classes, workshops and social dances, but particularly the Ball in Tadcaster. Strict hand hygiene essential before and after travel.	
Participants	<p>Older persons (over 60s) are at higher risk of getting severe Covid 19 disease. The risk of severe illness increases dramatically with age (over 70s, over 80s even more at risk)</p>		Over 60s advised not to take part.	High proportion of regular dancers in this group

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Participants	Those with underlying medical conditions (such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, cancer, chronic respiratory disease etc) are also at higher risk of severe COVID-19 disease.		Those with underlying medical conditions, or living with such persons , advised not to take part.	Ditto significant proportion?
Transfer of infection	The COVID-19 virus is primarily transmitted between people through respiratory droplets and aerosols formed when coughing, sneezing, singing, laughing or shouting. Aerosols survive longer in the air unless there is very good ventilation; droplets are more likely to land on surfaces, contaminating them. The virus survives on hard surfaces for many hours and contact with hard surfaces can transfer the virus. Infectious persons may be symptom free.		<p>Those with symptoms of Covid 19 or living in a household where someone has symptoms, should self-isolate and NOT attend events.</p> <p>Face coverings to be worn from entering building to class and again on leaving.</p> <p>Wearing masks in class may be advised.</p> <p>Avoid touching face.</p> <p>Physical contact with those from a different household or support 'bubble' not allowed except in an emergency.</p> <p>Teachers will need to use a microphone.</p> <p>No shouting!</p> <p>Anyone arriving or leaving during the class needs to do so by entering/exiting round the edge of the room.</p>	<p>Physical contact with those from a different household or support 'bubble' not allowed except in an emergency.</p> <p>Social distancing (2m) required in class.</p> <p>Wearing masks in class may be advised.</p> <p>Air conditioning required at venue where fresh air from outside is fed into the space.</p>

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Contamination of surfaces	Both hard and soft surfaces at venues may be contaminated. The virus seems to survive longer on hard surfaces including paper, handles (door and cupboards), switches, taps, touch screens, keypads and cash (notes and coins). Touching these after washing sanitising hands will re-contaminate the hands!	Limit contact with hard surfaces (including books, paper and phones); hard surfaces to be cleaned between sessions; avoid touching soft furnishings. Keep to own chairs; bring a bag for shoes etc; bring own refreshments; only one person to manage IT/ music equipment. Ensure chairs, switches, handles etc are sanitised before and after event.		
Payment for events/Branch financial transactions	Cheques (paper) and coins/ banknotes need to be quarantined for 72 hours.	Payments to be made online or by contactless card, or quarantined. Care to be taken not to discriminate against those with no IT access. Receipts and other financial documents to be quarantined for 72 hours		
Hand hygiene	Hands should be kept as free of virus as possible and avoid touching face - and other people/objects .	Frequent careful hand washing (at least 20 secs) or use of sanitiser, on arrival at venue and on leaving as well as between dances/partners.		
Viral load and total number of contacts (and contacts' contacts)	Total viral load increases the likelihood of infection. Viral load can be increased with longer and more frequent contact with the virus via airborne droplets or aerosols or physical contact. The aim is to limit both the total number of contacts and time spent with others, who may be infected, often without symptoms.		Exceptions for organised exercise classes allow for up to 20 in some large venues (dependant on area/volume), but in 'bubbles' of six which should not mix with other bubbles	Limit the number of people attending sessions. Currently Rule of 6. Booking in advance required. Many venues say they can accommodate more - but seated, and not moving around all the time or mixing
	The exponential growth of the virus currently can be explained by the number of people your contact has been in contact with, and the number in contact with each of these - and so on.	Taking contact details of all attending the event and held for 3 weeks for the purpose of tracing contacts of possible infection.		We cannot easily control the contacts of OUR contacts - and so on.

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Length of exposure	There is a need to reduce the length of time we spend in the company of those from a different household, even with social distancing etc. Limiting the duration of contact (in corridors and other indoor spaces) as well as total time at venue decreases the likelihood of viral transfer	Depending on venue, use of separate doors in and out; one way traffic in corridors. Wearing masks in corridors and entrances. Socially distanced queues for toilets.	Consider reducing classes from 2 hours to one.	Day Workshops would allow for excessive mixing time.
Length of exposure	Affects duration of class.	short classes of up to 1 hour	classes of 1-2 hours with short refreshment (see above) break	Day schools and longer (residential) sessions. This is prolonged exposure unless all tested negative and quarantined in advance
Ventilation of venue	Adequate ventilation is necessary to disperse the airborne droplets and aerosols, and time between different groups of users for air change and cleaning (1 hour for dentists!)	Depends on weather and venue. Do groups/classes of dancers need longer between groups at venues? Gyms require air conditioning which pumps fresh air from outside into the room/hall.		
Social distancing	A distance of 2 metres (6'6") between dancers is required to reduce the risk of transferring the virus via droplets from coughing, sneezing, but probably insufficient for aerosols.		Step dancing/Highland/step practice, but floor needs to be marked out. Ventilation needs to be checked. Masks may still have to be worn	2 metre distance from other dancers not feasible for set dances - but see bubbles
Participants per given area/ volume in venue	Most venues now have strict limits for capacity; our limit is likely to be lower as we will be moving around - and breathing hard.	Double check venue's limit and our calculations. Use a booking system for all events, including classes. Like gyms and other exercise based classes, only those pre-booked should attend.		No newcomers/recruitment?

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Physical contact	Physical contact is permitted only with those in the same household or in a permanent bubble with a single adult household unless giving care.			
Bubbles	Two types of bubble are being used currently: permanent bubbles where a single adult (and their under age household) can treat and be treated by one other household as one large household - on a permanent basis. You cannot bubble with different households or single adults on different days . And education/exercise bubbles which are groups of students (young people) who are part of a larger group but mix only with their bubble at school or leisure centre.	Members of a permanent bubble can be accommodated in a class.	<p>Could a set be a bubble???</p> <p>How much space does that need?</p> <p>Can you be in a different bubble at a different event??</p>	
Refreshments	Part of our brief is to foster social interaction; traditionally this is one of the objectives of the refreshment breaks. Most venues have shut their kitchens	Dancers and others attending events to bring their own drinks (water bottle or flask). Social distancing to be observed during breaks. No food unless medically necessary.		Serving hot meals or allowing picnicking at Day Schools is not possible.