



**ENGLAND
HOCKEY**

Return to Play

**Impact of Tier 4
from 20 December 2020**

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LOCAL RESTRICTION TIERS FROM DECEMBER AND WHAT THEY MEAN FOR HOCKEY



**TIER 1
MEDIUM**

**TIER 2
HIGH**

**TIER 3
VERY HIGH**

CLUBS BASED IN AREA **INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS LIVING IN AREA**



RULE OF 6 APPLIES IN ALL SETTINGS

NO MIXING OF HOUSEHOLDS INDOORS
RULE OF 6 APPLIES OUTDOORS

NO MIXING OF HOUSEHOLDS
GUIDANCE AGAINST TRAVELLING IN AND/OR OUT OF AREA



SHOULD NOT TRAVEL TO TIER 3 AREA (U18s & DISABILITY SPORT IS EXEMPT AND CAN TRAVEL)
FOLLOW GOVERNMENT SAFER TRAVEL GUIDANCE

SHOULD NOT TRAVEL TO TIER 3 AREA (U18s & DISABILITY SPORT IS EXEMPT AND CAN TRAVEL)
TRAVEL WITHIN HOUSEHOLD GROUP OR SUPPORT BUBBLE

SHOULD NOT TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF TIER 3 AREA (U18s & DISABILITY SPORT EXEMPT AND CAN TRAVEL)
TRAVEL WITHIN HOUSEHOLD GROUP OR SUPPORT BUBBLE

SHOULD NOT TRAVEL OUTSIDE OF TIER 3 AREA - EVEN TO YOUR MEMBER CLUB* (U18s & DISABILITY SPORT EXEMPT AND CAN TRAVEL)
TRAVEL WITHIN HOUSEHOLD GROUP OR SUPPORT BUBBLE



FOLLOW STEP 5 OF RETURN TO PLAY GUIDANCE
NO LEAGUE MATCHES VERSUS TIER 3 AREA CLUBS

FOLLOW STEP 4 OF RETURN TO PLAY GUIDANCE - INTRA CLUB OR LOCAL ACTIVITY ONLY
NO LEAGUE MATCHES UNLESS VERSUS CLUB IN SAME TIER 3 AREA
LIMIT CONTACT IN TRAINING SESSIONS



MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING AT ALL TIMES BEFORE ACTIVITY
CHANGING ROOMS & TOILETS CAN OPEN IN LINE WITH NEW GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE
HOSPITALITY SERVICES CAN OPEN IN LINE WITH GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE RELEVANT TO AREA TIER

MAINTAIN SOCIAL DISTANCING AT ALL TIMES BEFORE ACTIVITY
CHANGING ROOMS & TOILETS CAN OPEN IN LINE WITH NEW GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE
NO SOCIALISING AFTER ACTIVITY
HOSPITALITY SERVICES SHOULD CLOSE - TAKEAWAY ONLY PERMITTED



SPECTATORS PERMITTED ADHERING TO LEGAL GATHERING LIMITS AND FOLLOWING SOCIAL DISTANCING AND TRAVEL GUIDANCE

***IF YOU LIVE IN A TIER 3 AREA BUT THE CLUB YOU ARE A MEMBER OF IS BASED IN A TIER 1 OR 2 AREA, DO NOT TRAVEL TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITY ORGANISED BY YOUR CLUB. WE ENCOURAGE CLUBS TO ACCEPT PLAYERS THAT CANNOT ACCESS THEIR USUAL CLUB ACTIVITY**



PLEASE NOTE THAT GUIDANCE MAY CHANGE AT SHORT NOTICE AND RESTRICTIONS MAY BE REINTRODUCED. TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH ENGLAND HOCKEY RETURN TO PLAY GUIDELINES VISIT WWW.ENGLANDHOCKEY.CO.UK/COVID19. TO STAY UP TO DATE WITH GOVERNMENT SOCIAL DISTANCING GUIDELINES VISIT WWW.GOV.UK/CORONAVIRUS



Summary (www.Englandhockey.co.uk/covid19)

WHAT IS ALLOWED:

- **Adults – Step 1 of Return to Play Roadmap**
 - One-to-one / household (or support bubble) training
 - Travel locally following Safer Travel guidance
- **Junior activity and disability sport – Step 4 of Return to Play Roadmap**
 - Training allowed
 - Intra club and very local match play permitted
 - Travel locally following Safer Travel guidance
- **Travel for work is allowed for paid individuals**

Summary (www.Englandhockey.co.uk/covid19)

WHAT IS NOT ALLOWED:

- Adult hockey is not permitted outside of household groups or one-to-one activity
- No adult group training or matches allowed

WHAT IS UNKNOWN / NOT CLEAR:

- **Volunteers & Coaches exemption to deliver activity that is also exempt e.g. under 18 activity or disability sport**
- **Travel outside of the area for exempt sport activity**
- **Definition of local – government defined as;**
"if you need to travel you should stay local - meaning avoiding travelling outside of your village, town or the part of a city where you live - and look to reduce the number of journeys you make overall"



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Recommendations

- **Do not do anything that makes you feel uncomfortable**
 - **Players should not feel pressured to train or play**
 - **Deliverers should not feel pressured to deliver activity**
- **Games should not be played – unless very local and both teams agree**
- **Keep travel local and to a minimum – sensible judgement required**
- **England Hockey supports clubs' decisions on whether to continue in the short term**
- **Follow the guidance**
- **Stay safe**



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Wider implications

- **Leagues this season** (2020/21 completion)
 - EHL
 - Regional leagues
- **EH competitions** (2020/21 completion)
- **AGM resolution** (2021/22 onwards)



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List of Areas

The Governments list of 'areas' by Local Restriction Tier is available at;

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/full-list-of-local-restriction-tiers-by-area>

Each 'area' is defined by a bullet point.



Questions

- **FAQs received in advance shared on next few screens. Please take a few minutes to read these.**
- **Questions received in the chat during meeting have hopefully been answered. If not, they will be added to the FAQs that get published as part of the updated guidance.**
- **If time allows, a few verbal questions from the attendees.**



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FAQs

Q: When do the Tier 4 restrictions come into effect?

A: The new Tier 4: Stay at Home restrictions are an addition to the already existing Local Restriction Tiers 1-3 and are effective from 20 December.

Q: How are areas defined under the new Local Restriction Tiers?

A: The list of areas which fall under each Local Restriction Tier can be found on the Government website [here](#). Areas are defined by each bullet point. To find out which area you are in, use the Government postcode lookup tool [here](#).

Q: Can we play indoor hockey in Tier 4?

A: No. Indoor sports facilities must close, meaning that indoor hockey is not permitted in Tier 4 areas.



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Q: How do the new Local Restriction Tiers affect hockey?

A: Hockey is still permitted in all parts of the country with greater restrictions at the higher Tiers.

In Tier 4 only one-to-one or household / support bubble activity is permitted for adults. Adults should adhere to Step 1 of our Return to Play Roadmap in Tier 4 Areas.

There is an exemption for Junior (under 18s) activity and disability sport that means activity can continue for these groups. Any activity should be done as locally as possible.

Junior activity and disability sport should be delivered in line with Step 4 of our Return to Play Roadmap. In Tier 4 areas leagues and competitions should not take place and any matches should only be between very local teams (the same town or clubs that use the same venue).

Q: Can we still travel to play hockey as a result of the new Tier 4 restrictions?

A: Yes. However, there are some restrictions in place. Do not travel into or out of a Tier 4 area .

Keep all travel to a minimum and as local as possible. Government have defined local as *"if you need to travel you should stay local - meaning avoiding travelling outside of your village, town or the part of a city where you live - and look to reduce the number of journeys you make overall"*

You should only travel within your household group or support bubble and follow the government safer travel guidance [here](#).



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Q: Are there any exemptions for deliverers of hockey?

A: Travel for work is allowed for paid individuals.

We are seeking clarity on whether volunteers and coaches have an exemption to deliver activity that is also exempt e.g. under 18 activity or disability sport. We will update as soon as possible.

Q: Can under 18s teams play each other in Tier 4?

A: Yes. The exemption for junior (under 18s) activity means that matches can still be played. However, England Hockey recommend that matches do not take place unless both teams agree, and the match can only be held between very local teams following the guidance around travel restrictions.

Q: What will happen to league activity for teams based in a Tier 4 area?

A: England Hockey are working with regional and local league administrators to recommend that no league activity takes place until mid-February at the earliest. England Hockey will continue to show leadership in this area and will review the situation in the line with future Government reviews of the restrictions and guidance. As the situation is different around the country league provision will vary according to what is allowed in each area.



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Q: Can EH Championships fixtures be played?

A: Adult and Masters Championships are not permitted in Tier 4. We recommend no Junior Championships matches are played at this stage. Junior Championships fixtures are set to resume in late January. England Hockey will communicate with all participants following future reviews by Government and an assessment of the situation and impact on competitions by the EH Competitions Department.

Q: How does Tier 4 impact our clubhouses & hospitality?

A: Clubhouses and hospitality venues must close in Tier 4, with the exception of providing food and drink for; takeaway, click & collect, or delivery.

We are seeking clarification of the impact this has on changing rooms.

As household mixing is not allowed in Tier 4, players should expect to come for hockey activity only.

Q: Are spectators still permitted in Tier 4?

A: Spectators are permitted but must adhere to legal gathering limits and follow social distancing guidelines. In Tier 4 this means you should only spectate alongside others from your household / support bubble or one other individual whilst socially distanced.



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Questions

www.englishockey.co.uk/covid19
Clubs@englishockey.co.uk

Thank you

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