



ENGLAND ATHLETICS FAQ SHEET FOR CORONAVIRUS

FAQ	RESPONSE
<p>Why did you set an initial end of April deadline for suspension of Athletics training, activities and competitions and why has it moved to the end of May now?</p>	<p>The advice, in line with current Government notifications, is that all face-to-face activity such as club training sessions, events, competitions, club committee and face-to-face meetings, athlete camps, running groups and social events should be suspended until at least the end of May.</p> <p>The situation is very fluid, and we have (24.3.20) reviewed our end of April deadline and moved this to the end of May. We are reviewing this guidance on a regular basis with our partners, UKA and the other Home Country Athletics Federations and will communicate with you as and when we are confident that we have made the right decision based on the facts available to us.</p> <p>We are looking at all options and timelines with a view to making the best decision for the health and welfare of our clubs and our athletes and runners. We are directly informed by the current government guidance on coronavirus and we feel it is important that as the athletics and running family we are putting the health and wellbeing of everyone first above and beyond our sport at this current time.</p> <p>We feel that it is the right thing to do and for the greater good of our society. We are also mindful that athletes need clarity for their training preparation but also a number of competition providers will need time to close down and potentially reschedule events and in some cases, if they leave it too long, then they are likely to incur contractual penalties (if they do not give a long enough notice period with facilities and hotels etc).</p>
<p>As a qualified and licensed UKA coach is my insurance still valid for group or 1:1 training sessions during this period of suspension?</p>	<p>UKA released the following statement on 31.3.20, in collaboration with England Athletics and the other Home Countries Athletics Federations, relating to guidance on coaching (including virtual coaching) during the current coronavirus lockdown period:</p> <p>“The Home Country Athletics Federations along with UKA would like to clarify the guidance on coaching during this period of lockdown as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>As a recap, all face-to-face activity such as club training sessions, events, competitions, club committee and face-to-face meetings, 1:1 coaching, athlete camps, running groups and social events are currently fully suspended until at least the end of May.</p>

It is absolutely essential that all within the sport adhere to this suspension.

However, in response to queries we can confirm that insurance is still valid during this period for clubs, coaches, leaders and registered athletes engaging in virtual coaching, online guidance, e-learning and other digital and remote activities not requiring in-person attendance – however a risk assessment should be undertaken with reference to welfare and safeguarding guidelines and it is advised that coaches and leaders provide club welfare officers with an update on activities that take place in this format.

Of course, any activity must be balanced with adhering to the official guidance. We ask coaches, leaders and athletes to ensure they are always following official guidelines:

- Only leave your home when travelling for food, health reasons or essential work.
- No gatherings in public.
- One form of exercise a day outside such as a run, walk, or cycle. This should be done alone or only with people you live with. Stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people, ensuring you maintain this distance when overtaking and passing others whilst out running.
- Only to travel to essential work (if it cannot be done at home)

The government and health guidelines are developing quickly relative to COVID-19, and in addition to supporting public policy it is important that insurance policies continue to cover any remaining club and coach activities. UK Athletics place an overarching policy for the benefit of the entire sport - please check these links for details:

- [England Athletics insurance link](#)
- [UKA insurance link](#)

We can confirm that Liability coverage subject to the terms and conditions of the policy would trigger in the event of an Insured loss providing proper evidenced risk management plans have been put in place to mitigate risks. People should be mindful however that coronavirus is **not** insurable under the terms of our UKA insurance.

England Athletics wants to support the national efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19 and all that that means to the health of the nation and especially vulnerable/at risk people. England Athletics is also supportive of initiatives to prevent our members putting themselves in risk positions that would put additional pressure on the NHS and the other emergency services.

Where possible, athletes and runners at all levels are encouraged to maintain their own personal fitness and keep active during this time, while following government guidelines about safe distance and safe exercise environments, if:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • you are well and have no symptoms and have not recently come into contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID - 19 • follow the advice on social distancing and contact: consider exercising once a day (if in public) solo or with someone e.g. a family member you live with. <p>Facility providers and owners should also be adhering to the government guidance on social distancing during this period. We are aware that a number of existing purpose built facilities have already closed down during this period to support this national effort to help curb the coronavirus.</p>
<p>If a coach meets outside a club to coach athletes (not under the club name) are they still covered by UKA insurance?</p>	<p>Please refer to the answer to the question above. We do not recommend this to be appropriate at this current time within the government advice but in line with any such activity, insurers would expect all clubs, coaches and leaders to undertake and adhere to the necessary medical advice and government guidelines available at the time and act reasonably. It is assumed that a Risk Assessment to be undertaken including reference to COVID-19 and any government guidelines applicable on the day that any such activity is to take place. We confirm that Liability coverage subject to the terms and conditions of the policy would trigger in the event of an Insured loss, but we also reinforce that coronavirus itself is not insurable.</p>
<p>Why should we advise club members to not meet up at the club location / meeting point and training together as normal?</p>	<p>Our guidance is clear on this: we advise that established activity should be suspended until at least the end of May. We want people to keep themselves as individuals physically active and fit but with direct adherence to the government guidance.</p> <p>There are numerous online support services and tools and tips that can be sourced to help with this such as www.athleticshub.co.uk and we are aware that licensed and insured athletics coaches and leaders may be offering online support and guidance to help advise athletes and runners of all abilities and aspirations during this time. The government has permitted that people are allowed to leave their homes once a day for the purpose of exercise under current guidelines and during a period where many outdoor purpose built facilities are closed to the public, lone running, walking, circuit training, HIIT routines and core strength and mobility training are some of the ways in which people can remain active during this period.</p>
<p>Are there separate rules for athletes wanting to train/be coached that are under and over 18?</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>What is the situation with the Club Affiliation & Athlete Registration process, is EA considering a delay for payments to be made or indeed a change</p>	<p>We are acutely aware of the organisational challenges that clubs will also be facing at this time and our staff will work to support you, our members, and to provide flexibility during this period. In response to the unique circumstance we find ourselves in owing to Coronavirus, last week we stated to our members that over the coming period we are committed to:</p>

to the pricing structure for the 2020-2021 year?

- Supporting the Athletics & Running family in England to ensure that we come through this period together in as strong a position as possible.
- Working with you, our members, to understand what specific support is required across our clubs to sustain our sport in the short and the long term.
- Changing the way in which we communicate and provide our services so that we are doing everything we can to encourage people to stay active, wherever possible, which we think is now more important than ever.
- Rescheduling specific activities and programmes for our members and participants.

In response to the feedback in the last few weeks from over 100 clubs and in recognition to the unique and unprecedented circumstances facing us all, we are making some amendments to the timescales and athlete registration fee level for the 2020-21 year. These are detailed as follows.

1. **Athlete fee reduction:** The individual England Athletics Athlete Registration fee will be fixed at **£15** for 2020-21 effective from 1 April 2020 instead of being set at £16 as previously communicated to all clubs.
2. **Deferral:** The deadline for Athlete Registrations for 2020-21 will be extended from 30 June until **31 August 2020**. We hope that this provides clubs with flexibility to help manage cash flow and defer payments until activity commences.
3. **Athlete Eligibility:** In the event of a licensed competition taking place during the summer (prior to 31 August) all athletes who were registered during 2019/20 **will be eligible** for competition up until 31 August. Competition checker facilities will be amended to reflect this decision. Any new athletes entering competition will need to be registered prior to the date of the event.

The following aspects of the 2020-21 membership and affiliation process **remain unchanged:**

4. **Payment Gateway** - The club affiliation & athlete registration year will open as usual on 1st April. This allows clubs to operate as normal if they wish and ensures some income will be generated in Q1. **The individual Club & Member Body Affiliation fee of £150 will remain and clubs are asked to pay by April 30th.**

Despite there being an evident period of practical inactivity during this suspension we want to assure you, our members, that we are still very much operational behind the scenes - our people are proactively working to close down planned activities and to reschedule them for later in the year and there are existing activities scheduled to take place in the

	<p>summer onwards that we hope will continue to take place as planned so this will require income to ensure continuity in this respect.</p> <p>We will also be delivering a number of additional support activities to athletes, runners, club volunteers, officials and coaches/leaders during this period utilising digital platforms to do so. Affiliation and athlete registration fees make up a significant part of our total income and therefore we require funds to ensure the organisation can function and best serve our members.</p> <p>Further consultation with the sport will take place in the latter part of the summer months as we look ahead to setting the affiliation and athlete registration fees effective from 1 April 2021 onwards. The current circumstances will be central to informing our future decisions where further changes may be necessary to support the long-term health of the sport at all levels.</p>
<p>What will you be doing as England Athletics during this period of suspension?</p>	<p>Owing to the unprecedented and uncertain times we find ourselves in as a sport and wider community, we understand that clubs and other athletics bodies will be experiencing some unforeseen and unplanned pressures in the immediate term.</p> <p>If you haven't already been in touch, please complete the form and let us know:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How coronavirus is impacting you or your club or organisation? • The type of help you think would be most beneficial. <p>We are actively working to postpone and reschedule a range of activities that were planned to take place during the coming period in light of the suspension. We are also working actively to support our clubs, coaches and volunteers through our staff – particularly our Club Support Managers, our Regional Coaching Event Group Leads, and our Membership Services Team.</p> <p>Under the banner of our new Athletics & Running For Everyone @home campaign, and within the new Resources section of our website, we are also coordinating the production of a range of activities and services utilising digital platforms and systems to ensure that some support can be provided to people working in the sport as volunteers and to ensure that communication continues during this uncertain period.</p> <p>https://www.englandathletics.org/athome</p>
<p>What % of total income do Affiliation & Registration fees make towards running England Athletics?</p>	<p>It varies between 35% -40% per annum as these numbers fluctuate from year to year as our reliance on other sources of income changes accordingly. EA is reliant on other sources of income as detailed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership and registration 35% • Sport England 35% • Other Grant Funding 4%

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courses & Workshops 14% • Road Race Licensing 6% • Commercial Partnerships 4% • Event/Competition Income 1% • Other Income 1% <p>See Appendix 1 below for further information.</p>
<p>Does Affiliation & Athlete Registration just contribute towards competition costs?</p>	<p>No. Athlete registration and club affiliation income is vitally important to ensuring England Athletics can provide a wide range of services to the sport including:</p> <p>Coaching, officiating, volunteer support, club support, competitions, international team activities, communications, marketing, participation programmes such as RunTogether and funetics, and in ensuring that the sport is structured properly.</p> <p>Athletes receive a URN once registered and this is necessary to compete under the UKA rules of competition. The individual fee contributes to helping the organisation to operate and the athlete fees are critical in enabling England Athletics to organise activities for athletes and those who support athletes including coaches, officials, volunteers, clubs, running groups and so on.</p> <p>The fees plays a much greater role than simply subsidising competition. England Athletics also funds a number of third party competition providers such as English Schools AA, Area Competition Associations and so on. Even though competitions are not taking place at present, the funding from athlete registration fees is needed to pay for bills outstanding due to contractual obligations e.g. facility charges, accommodation and so on as well as for events which need to be rescheduled.</p>
<p>What support and resources are available to coaches, leaders and athletes and the wider England Athletics family?</p>	<p>In reaction to the coronavirus situation, and the restrictions on movement put in place by UK government, we have launched our Athletics & Running For Everyone @home campaign with the aim of benefitting the whole England Athletics family (including RunTogether and funetics) and helping people stay active at home. The campaign – hosted on www.englandathletics.org/athome - incorporates a range of activity, advice and access to free resources for athletes, coaches/leaders, officials, volunteers and clubs – including the following:</p> <p>We’ve launched a regular series of free-to-access online coaching webinars, hosted by leading coaches and covering specific topics across every event group. https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/athletics-at-home/coaching-webinars/</p> <p>The Coaching Resource Library in Athletics Hub,, the “go-to” place for coaching resources - www.athleticshub.co.uk - launched earlier this month and efforts are now going into populating this new Coaching Resource Library with more material for coaches, leaders and athletes to upskill</p>

	<p>themselves at home during this fallow period. Users only need to sign up once to the site (or existing users can login as normal) and follow the instructions. You can tag your “favourite” videos, view by event group, sort according to preference and return whenever you want to.</p> <p>To continue to support the ongoing development of coaches and Run Leaders, we have enabled free access to the Athletics 365 XL bundle (on the Athletics 365 App) for coaches, Run Leaders plus any parents with children 11+ who hold a licenced LiRF, Coaching Assistant or higher qualification and have a current DBS. https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/athletics-at-home/free-access-to-new-athletics-365-xl/</p> <p>To further support parents and young athletes to keep active, we are also providing two of our Athletics 365 ‘paid for’ resources free of charge for a limited time. Our Athletics 365 Athlete Handbooks (1 and 2) are available free of charge (normally £9.99 each) until 30 September 2020. https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/athletics-at-home/supporting-11-year-olds-to-keep-active/</p> <p>In advance of the launch to primary schools of the new England Athletics funetics programme, which is supported by Katarina Johnson-Thompson and Enertor ambassador Usain Bolt, we have made our funetics activity videos available free to demonstrate parents and children taking part in FUN activities based on fundamental core movement skills: running, jumping and throwing. Many of these are adaptable for home practice so please share with parents with 4–11-year-old children at home whilst schools are closed and group activities are cancelled. https://funetics.co.uk/for-parents/funetics-activity-videos/</p> <p>Affiliated athletes can also access an improved offer thanks to our relationship with Strava, which gives registered athletes a free three month trial of the Strava Summit app – so now you have to run on your own, it doesn’t mean you have to run alone – you can connect with like-minded individuals on Strava’s online community whilst staying active and tracking your fitness goals. https://promo.strava.com/england-athletics/</p> <p>A new Supporting Mental Health section also helps offer useful advice and signposts to resources and third party support, as we recognise the importance of both mental and physical wellbeing at this time: https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/athletics-at-home/supporting-mental-health/</p> <p>We also continue to work on new activity and resources that can benefit runners and athletes at this time and will continue to update.</p>
<p>What resources are available to help us as club leaders and committee members to focus on addressing some of the</p>	<p>A Resources section has now been added to the England Athletics website so that users can easily access our range of guidance and support documents. The section currently includes information and support materials for clubs focusing on areas such as GDPR, Governance, Health &</p>

<p>“off track/road” governance, structural, administration and management issues during this period?</p>	<p>Safety and Welfare. More material will be added throughout the year. Visit: https://www.englandathletics.org/resources</p> <p>A new programme of Club Support Webinars has also been launched, tailored specifically to clubs and offering two types of weekly webinar – an Open FAQ webinar and a topic-based webinar. An 11:00 and 18:00 session will take place for each webinar to allow for as many club personnel to take part as possible. https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/athletics-at-home/club-support-webinars/</p> <p>We have also created a new Digital Connectivity section on the website to provide advice on online tools and apps that can help clubs continue to operate whilst their key personnel, committee members and wider membership are all based at home. https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/athletics-at-home/digital-connectivity/</p> <p>Clubs are also reminded that a key benefit of affiliation is access to the free legal helpline and legal advice provided by our partner Muckle LLP, funded by England Athletics. To access advice relating to the coronavirus situation, or to contact the legal helpline with a relevant club enquiry (max. initial call length 30 mins), visit: https://www.muckle-llp.com/enews/ea-enews-coronavirus-update-march-2020-2/</p>
<p>What are we planning on doing with regards to those competitions that are cancelled in the coming period?</p>	<p>We are working actively with UKA, the other Home Countries and competition providers to best understand what is possible in this regard and will be looking at whether parts of the domestic competition season can be extended into the months of September and October as a direct result of the coronavirus impact. There will be challenges with doing this naturally. As soon as this is clearer, we will communicate our intentions. Inevitably it will be difficult to reschedule some competitions due to simple calendar congestion.</p>
<p>What about the impact on people’s mental health and wellbeing during this period?</p>	<p>You and your athletes, runners and members might be worried about coronavirus and how it could affect your life. This may include not training, competing or running with your group/club, being asked to stay at home or to avoid other people. This might feel difficult or stressful. But there are lots of things you can try that could help your wellbeing and to maintain your physical fitness and that you can share with your runners.</p> <p>We have collated useful tips and links to online resources to be people protect their mental wellbeing and that of others: https://www.englandathletics.org/about-us/athletics-at-home/supporting-mental-health/</p> <p>Click here for guidance from our friends at Mind, the Mental Health Charity about Coronavirus and your wellbeing.</p> <p>Also visit our #RunAndTalk webpage.</p>

<p>Can I get a refund on EA postponed development and qualification courses?</p>	<p>To avoid missing out on your training opportunity we will be re-scheduling all courses during the autumn and will be allocating all candidates onto a fresh course. The original payment for this course will of course remain valid.</p> <p>For further information, including the transfer of your booking please contact our customer services team hcooper@englandathletics.org. We apologise for the inconvenience caused and hope that you will still consider a leader, coaching or officiating qualification in athletics and running in the future. If you are unable to attend the new date, a refund will be issued. www.athleticshub.co.uk</p>
<p>Is EA doing anything to help people stay active and engaged?</p>	<p>Our Athletics & Running For Everyone @home campaign, including the new website destination, is designed to provide athletes, runners, coaches and leaders, officials, volunteers and clubs across the whole of the England Athletics family with activities, resources and advice at this time. www.englandathletics.org/athome</p> <p>Across all our programmes we are looking to provide resources, advice and tips and are sharing these through our various communications channels. Follow us online:</p> <p>Websites:</p> <p>www.englandathletics.org</p> <p>www.athleticshub.co.uk</p> <p>www.runtogether.co.uk</p> <p>www.funetics.co.uk</p> <p>Social Media:</p> <p>England Athletics Twitter: @EnglandAthletic</p> <p>England Athletics Facebook: @EnglandAthletics</p> <p>England Athletics Instagram: @EnglandAthletics</p> <p>RunTogether Twitter: @RunTogether_</p> <p>RunTogether Instagram: @RunTogether_</p> <p>RunTogether Facebook: @RunTogetherSocial</p> <p>funetics Facebook: @funeticssocial</p>

	<p>funetics Instagram: @funeticssocial</p> <p>funetics Twitter: @_funetics</p>
Can guide runners run with visually impaired people?	<p>Government guidance is that we should all avoid non-essential contact and that social distancing measures (as defined by Public Health England as spending more than 15 minutes and within a 2-metre distance talking to someone) are now advised not only if we test positive or have symptoms, but in day to day life. Individuals are also being advised to exercise out-of-home only once per day (ie. A run, walk etc) and to exercise alone or with people they live with, whilst maintaining social distancing from others. Government guidance is changing daily at present, so it is important people keep up to date with developments. So, this would include guide running. Guide runners should be especially mindful that a significant proportion of visually impaired people also have underlying health conditions so could be at additional risk. Our friends at British Blind Sport are currently working on some resources to support visually impaired people to stay physically active at home: Visit: britishblindsport.org.uk/stay-in-work-out</p>
How do you expect to operate leagues and Champs with the officials over 70 being told to self-isolate or AT LEAST 3 months (to middle of June)?	<p>Activity is suspended until at least the end of May. There will be no licensed competitions taking place during this period. We acknowledge the problem and the situation is constantly under review and we are looking at the numbers of officials in the 70+ age group as part of our forward event planning. More than 60% of our licensed officials are over the age of 60 so this is evidently an important consideration for us as a sport. There are also opportunities to use this period to train officials using online platforms to do so and we are working to advise and partner UKA in this respect. We will keep you updated.</p>
Is it up to the individual competition provider i.e. open meetings, if they go ahead or not?	<p>UKA released the following statement on 31.3.20, in collaboration with England Athletics and the other Home Countries Athletics Federations, relating to guidance on competitions and coaching (including virtual coaching) during the current coronavirus lockdown period:</p> <p>“The Home Country Athletics Federations along with UKA would like to clarify the guidance on coaching during this period of lockdown as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>As a recap, all face-to-face activity such as competitions, club training sessions, events, club committee and face-to-face meetings, 1:1 coaching, athlete camps, running groups and social events are currently fully suspended until at least the end of May.”</p>

SEE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR APPENDIX 1

Appendix 1 – Sources of EA expenditure by funding sources 2018-2019

