



WHERE WE ALL BELONG

Return to Gaelic Games

Filleadh ar na Cluichí Gaelacha



We are delighted to welcome you back to our facilities to cover upcoming inter-county endeavours and after a break that stretches back to March when all of our activity was halted and the unfolding of a summer we could never have anticipated.

Our primary consideration in the staging of games, has not changed, in that we want to organise entertaining spectacles in a safe and welcoming environment that allow participants, spectators, stewards, staff and journalists to return home safely afterwards.

This aim has not changed because of the ongoing challenges, in fact it is brought into even sharper focus.

The return of our club games across the island and further afield has been very well received and I would like to thank you for your role in making it a success.

Once again we remind everyone playing or attending our games that while we cannot eliminate risk, we have done everything possible to minimise it, working with the government and our own Advisory Committee to put in place plans and arrangements that adhere to best practice.

Accordingly, the changes in working arrangements and the facilities available for the club activity will remain in place making your working environment at our stadia different to what you have been used to previously.

We look forward to your ongoing co-operation in trying to make things work as best we can for the benefit of all.



Social Distancing

As things currently stand, we must continue to observe a 2m distance for the purposes of social distancing. This will impact on the number of journalists we can accommodate. Those with the most pressing deadlines and a consequent need for power and or connectivity, will be afforded preference for traditional working bays. Other journalists may have to be accommodated in overflow areas. These areas will not always have power and a worktop so please plan accordingly in advance.

In keeping with new societal norms, close contact with other journalists, staff, members of the public and players must be limited at all times.



Pre-registration

Please liaise with the organising body responsible for accreditation for the game you are covering as pre-registration will be required. 2020 GAA accreditation will be required by all of those registering to cover our games, including photographers.

If your employer has not provided return to work training, government advice is available at <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/22829a-return-to-work-safely-protocol/>

You will also be asked in any pre-registration system if you are symptom-free making it safe for you to return to GAA activity.

Sanitisation

We will endeavour to provide hand sanitisers and cleansing gels at our media centres but journalists must bring their own to ensure their needs are met in this regard and regularly use hand washing facilities where available.

Face coverings

Face coverings must be worn in all indoor settings ie indoor media centres (except during in-game commentaries). We encourage the wearing of face coverings at all other times especially when people are in close proximity to each other.



Catering and Refreshments

Where previously catering and refreshments may have been available at some of the venues where you cover games, this may no longer be the case. Working journalists are advised to bring their own with them.

Post-Match

All interviews must be carried out in line with all social distancing rules. All interviews will be conducted outdoors either on the side of the pitch or possibly under the cover of adjoining stands in inclement weather. Informal huddled interviews with players after the formal organised set piece will not be possible in the current circumstances. The mixed zone group interviews at team buses will also not be permitted.



Designated Point of Contact for information

As usual the PRO of the Province or County you are visiting will be the point of contact for journalists and any queries you might have. Feel free to contact the Communications Department at Croke Park also via communications@gaa.ie should the need arise.

Personal Responsibility

Journalists must not attend games if showing any symptoms, similar to those related to Covid-19, in advance of the fixture. Should you feel ill or unwell during a game you are asked to leave the venue and contact your GP when you reach home.

All working journalists are reminded that, like everyone else, you are responsible for managing your own risk and the risk you may pose to others at all times as outlined in Government Health advice.

We hope that you enjoy the games you are covering, return home safely afterwards and we place on record our thanks for your understanding and co-operation.

2020 has not been a regular year and the arrangements outlined above reflect that.

Beir bua,

Is Mise,

Alan Mac Maoldúin
Stiúrthóir Cumarsáide CLG



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