



Dear Member, I hope the attached summary of requirements for the commencement of the season will be helpful to members and the parents of juniors. The ECB guidance published on 26 March 2021 came with a sigh of relief. We are, however, aware of the responsibilities involved in observing the Government and ECB requirements. It is clear to us that caution is necessary. The ECB has made it clear that in seeking to meet COVID challenges we must not relax our safeguarding standards in other areas.

Remember you must not come to the club, if you are feeling unwell with or have COVID symptoms or if you are in a household where someone is isolating. If you do come to the club, you must register using the NHS Track & Trace QR code by the entrance doors.

When the bar opens it will initially be for outdoor table service only. You must not enter the bar. I'm afraid that if you cannot find a table, at which to sit, you must leave.

The Rule of 6 still applies at the club i.e., you can meet up outdoors with friends and family you do not live with, either:

- in a group of up to 6 from any number of households (children of all ages count towards the limit of 6)
- in a group of any size from up to two households (each household can include an existing support bubble, if eligible)

I want to thank our volunteers for their innovative contributions. Last year the introduction of an online net booking system provided a more efficient way to manage attendance times.

After the COVID setbacks which have had such a devastating effect on many members, let's hope we can enjoy the new season ahead.

Best wishes,

*C. Martin*

Chris Martin, Hornchurch Athletic CC Chairman

## **Summary of requirements for the commencement of the 2021 season Coaching and Matches**

This summary has been prepared as a guide for members and the parents of juniors. Full details of Government/ECB requirements and the club's Risk Assessments and technical announcements are available from your club website – [www.hacc.club](http://www.hacc.club) - please follow Menu links from COVID.

1. A phased approach will involve strong focus on limiting attendance numbers and observing social distancing and the sanitisation of cricket equipment during the early part of the season. We expect to announce further, hopefully positive changes, as the season unfolds. To reduce contamination risk, our experienced coaches, who have been involved in developing the Risk Assessment, may not use some of the traditional coaching equipment or coaching drills.
2. Our cricket sessions take place every day during the season. Subject to some unplanned changes the weekly schedule is:
  - Mondays – U9/U11 Training (Hylands Park & Nets)
  - Tuesdays – U13/U16 (Hylands Park & Nets)
  - Wednesdays – Adult Training/Junior Matches
  - Thursdays – Adult Training/Junior Matches
  - Fridays – Junior Matches/Dynamos
  - Saturdays – Adult Cricket at Hylands & Raphaels Parks
  - Sundays – Junior Matches/All Stars/Adult Cricket (Hylands Park)
3. It is important that you are familiar with the protocols of the venues where you will be attending. This will include away match venues where our team captain/junior manager will inform you or provide a web link of where the information is available. For our grounds, the following protocols currently apply:
  - The net sessions are pre booked with sufficient detail for track and trace; there is no need to 'book in' on arrival, just proceed direct to the nets through the entrance and use the exit indicated. Please note the club house will be locked, there are no toilet facilities and limited shelter.
  - The nets can be booked using an online system. The regulations (which do not permit the use of bowling machines, are not available to U9's and younger juniors and require all juniors aged 16 and younger to be supervised) are available on the web.
  - For other events at Hylands Park & Raphaels Park, there should be toilet facilities but limited shelter (so bring warm and waterproof clothes and sun cream)
4. Please
  - Do not just 'turn up' without prior agreement.
  - Do not attend an event if you are feeling unwell with or have COVID symptoms or if you are in a household where someone is isolating. Let your captain/ junior manager/coach

(for adult/ junior matches and coaching sessions) know if you are unable to turn up or if you feel ill during a match or coaching session. Return home if that is possible. Where possible we will make arrangements for a room to be available if there is need for special support, for example if waiting for an ambulance. You must consider your own health to determine whether playing cricket will provide a more or less healthy environment for you. A room will be available at our three locations on match days, Mondays and Thursdays in the event of someone being taken ill and requiring special medical attention and/or an ambulance. On the busy Monday and Friday junior sessions there will also be a member (s) from our Welfare team with suitable PPE to offer help including first aid.

- Be aware of the travel regulations which could impose some practical problems, particularly for away matches. Car sharing is not currently permitted with someone outside your household or your support bubble. It is expected, hopefully, for this restriction to be removed from 17 May at the earliest.
- Try to arrive five minutes before the start time for coaching, or arrival time for matches. Register (we are trialing two possible alternatives, the use of our hand-held mojo signing in equipment or a manual signing in register placed by the site the coaching or match is taking place). The NHS track and trace system are also in use at Hylands Park. Please use it.
- Parents/ guests should sit in a separate area from the players, in groups of six (the six rule) socially distanced from each group and the players. The players from each team (or coaching group) should sit apart with each player observing the two-metre rule and remain so when their side is batting. The two-metre rule will also be used during matches but with some modifications to allow a one metre distance for some fielding positions. During the match, the cricket ball will be regularly sanitised. Umpires are not allowed to handle the ball or hold players' clothing/ equipment which must be left just over the boundary. Scorers should sit near to each other but observe the two-metre rule, they should not sit together in a score box. A club official will be responsible for setting up the site prior to the match. Cricket captains/ junior managers will be familiar with these requirements. Players and guests only need to know the requirements to socially distance and NOT handle the ball if it goes over the boundary.
- Parents/ guests are encouraged to bring their own portable chairs.
- Do not linger after the match, leave promptly using the exits indicated.
- Players must arrive fully kitted; the changing rooms will not be open.
- Bring a drink in a bottle marked (with the players name on it,) own food, equipment and hand sanitiser and sun cream. Do not bring more equipment than required, normally a bat, marked ball, helmet gloves, protective box, pads for hard ball matches. Do not share equipment particularly helmets, gloves, wicket keeping gloves. It is the players' responsibility to clean his/her equipment before and after use. Please note that some coaches prefer to use club balls and bats which they take responsibility for cleaning.
- Let us have feedback. You can ask questions and express your opinion using our social media channels or face to face. We are experiencing difficult and uncertain times.