

## Sent to Club Chairs, Secretaries, Publicity Officers and Fixture Secretaries of English Clubs

30/10/2020

Dear Member

I have been receiving several emails seeking clarification about if orienteering within a Tier 3 area can take place and if people from Tier 1 & 2 can travel to events within a Tier 3 area and vice versa.

### Orienteering Events

Although even tighter restrictions are in place for areas that have a Very High level of coronavirus infections, orienteering is still permitted to take place outdoors.

Government advice states the "restrictions placed on areas with a Very High level of infections can vary and are based on discussions between central and local government".

But, at a minimum, it means not socialising with anybody you do not live with, or have formed a support bubble with, in any indoor setting or in any private garden, or at most outdoor hospitality venues and ticketed events.

People also can't come together in a group of more than six in an outdoor public space. But orienteering can continue in its current format providing land access is obtained and that you follow the "*Return to Orienteering Guidance*". We would ask where possible if you could highlight the "[Code of Conduct](#)" to those that wish to enter the event and at the event itself.

### Travelling to areas with different restrictions for competitions.

In respect of travel for those living in Tier 3, the government guidance is:

*"We are **advising** people not to travel into or out of an area if it has been categorised as a very high alert level area. This is part of wider measures to help manage the risk of transmission. You can continue to travel into or out of very high alert level areas if you need to for work, education, to access youth services or because of caring responsibilities."*

It is an **advisory** statement only and the government have a desire for the public to act responsibly.

British Orienteering's "[Return to Orienteering Guidance](#)" is following the government's guidance and states "*Participants and volunteers are **advised** not to travel into or out of Tier 3 alert level, including for any orienteering training, activity or competitions*".

To summarize, it is allowable for individuals as either an athlete, volunteer and or coach to travel between different areas (Tiers) and that it is an individual decision if they should wish to do so.

For information, we are aware that the event run by a club last weekend that had several late withdrawals from members living in Tier 3 areas and another club that has restricted competitors from entering from Tier 3 areas.

I hope that this clarifies the situation.

Kind regards

Peter Hart

Chief Executive

British Orienteering