



ST BRONAGH'S GAA

An Dún

Covid-19 Return to Play

A chairde gael,

We recently received the welcome news from Croke Park around the Safe Return to Gaelic Games across the island. This joint approach from the GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association outlined a roadmap for getting club and in turn inter county games underway through a number of phases in line with the Irish Government guidelines.

Gaelic Games training will return for clubs, initially on a non-contact basis, once the Irish Government confirm that they are proceeding to Phase 3 of their Roadmap for Re-Opening Society and Business and to games once Phase 4 of that plan comes into effect.

A number of key dates at this stage are as follows (these are subject to change at each government review);

29th June – Opening of GAA pitches. Non-contact training permitted, with social distancing measures in place. Training to be carried out in groups of no more than 10 players and 2 coaches in a designated zone.

20th July – Full contact team training permitted

31st July – Competitive games can commence

As a result of this St Bronagh's GAA, in line with GAA advice are preparing our facilities for the safest return possible, minimising risk to all volunteers.

Any changes to the dates above will supersede this letter and can be found on the club website rosvorvooqaa.com/covid-19

The basic principle for training will be based around 'Get in, Train, Get out'. This notice is based on training up until 30th July 2020. Once competitive games begin, further changes may be communicated.

A number of measures are being put in place by a Covid Return to Games Group within the club, including but not limited to the below 7 items in line with GAA advice. In this initial period until the end of July, it will be the joint responsibility of the club and those using the facilities (players/parents/guardians and mentors) to ensure maximum cooperation and adherence to the protocols is carried out, so we can return to games in the safest manner possible.

1. Preparation of facilities – initially the indoor facilities at Pettit Park (aside from toilets) will remain closed in line with GAA advice. Outdoor signage, sanitising facilities, a one way entry exit system, a pick up/drop off zones as well as pitch zones will be implemented.

2. Health Questionnaire – ALL pitch users will be required to fill out an online Health Questionnaire once prior to return to training, and subsequently sign a declaration before each subsequent session indicating no change to their health status. More information on this will be released by the GAA in due course.

3. Temperature Checking – it will be the responsibility of the individual to ensure their body temperature is at a 'normal' level prior to training. If it is not, they should not attend the session. The club will not be carrying out temperature checks.

4. Sanitising of facilities & Attendance records management – sanitizing stations will be set up around Pettit Park, which should be used by everyone on entry and exit. Records of who attended training will be kept as a result of the declaration signed at the start of each session.

5. Scheduling of activities – a schedule for the use of Pettit Park will be communicated with all teams initially from the period 29th June – 30th July. This will ensure the correct procedures are followed and will limit the amount of people within the grounds at any one time. The schedule will enable club teams at least two session on the pitch in this period.

6. Keeping club members informed – all information on Return to Games will be clearly communicated to club members via their respective management teams if they are players, and all information/documents including this letter are available to view on rostrevorgaa.com/covid-19 for all other members. Any changes or updates will be posted on club social media and the club website.

7. Protocol for Participation - Players and team personnel will be provided with all necessary documentation and will have to complete the Gaelic Games online education module prior to participation. Participants are also required to change at home, travel separately (except family members), shower at home and where possible use toilet facilities at home. Strapping should be applied at home. All players should use their own individual and clearly labelled water bottles. ***The club will provide every player with a new water bottle at the first training session. It will be up to the player to label their bottle appropriately thereafter.***

Some key points for players, parents & mentors to note:

- At this stage there have been fixture schedules published by Down GAA for U13 boys - Senior Men
- There have been no Down LGFA fixtures published as of 19th June 2020
- There have been no Primary level schedules published (U12 and below) as of 19th June 2020
- The initial schedule of activities for Pettit Park beginning 29th June will include training for all teams both men and ladies from U13 upwards, as we do expect a fixture schedule from the LGFA U14 – Senior in due course
- Primary level (U12 and below) training will be phased in after this as measures relax, allowing us to accommodate our larger numbers at these levels. More information will be communicated at a later date.
- It is vital that all personnel using Pettit Park from 29th June complete the GAA E-Learning module, which is a requirement by the GAA for a safe return to gaelic games. This includes players (or parents/guardians), mentors and club officials. The module can be viewed and completed here <https://courses.gaa.ie/Covid19ClubEd/>
- For all players, proof of completion must be provided to team mentors
- For all mentors, proof of completion must be provided to the club Football Development Group
- Information about the Health Questionnaire will be made available to mentors and players/parents/guardians as it becomes available from the GAA

We are looking forward to getting back on to the pitch and commencing games again. **Please be aware that as always, participation is entirely optional. If you are in the high-risk category please consult your GP before any return to games.**

If you have any concerns as a player or parent/guardian, please get in touch with a team mentor in the first instance. Mentors can liaise with Club Executive Committee as a result if necessary.

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