



# British Riding Clubs Update

## 02.06.2020



## COVID-19 Update

With the announcements over the last few days from the UK and devolved governments, BRC are now able to issue the following update with regards to BRC activities. It should be noted that whilst the respective governments are producing regular updates, these then require careful consideration and interpretation, to make the guidance relevant to our individual sector. The following updates are BRC's current interpretation of the most recent government guidance and are subject to change, as and when government advice is updated. All updates in this document are effective as of 1 June 2020.

### England

Update for social gatherings: Groups of up to six people can meet in parks or private gardens, effective from Monday 1 June. The full government update can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation/guidance-for-the-public-on-the-phased-return-of-outdoor-sport-and-recreation?fbclid=IwAR3KKiWvnTyyWteCp7fFkFnFSvElcrl401OZzv7Iq7TXfeuocCMgdIwH-fQ>

Information on groups of six can be found here: [https://www.gov.uk/government/news/groups-of-up-to-six-from-different-households-can-exercise-outside-under-new-rules?utm\\_source=f3c5392c-9b8d-4372-9c9d-e2f48a041b85&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_content=daily](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/groups-of-up-to-six-from-different-households-can-exercise-outside-under-new-rules?utm_source=f3c5392c-9b8d-4372-9c9d-e2f48a041b85&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=daily)

### BRC Permitted Activities

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Any permitted activity below must adhere to the current guidance on group numbers (max 6) and the continued social distancing and public health, hygiene and biosecurity requirements. Riders and organisers should also consider the risk of their activity, and only partake in / organise activities where it is safe to do so, taking into account both the horse and riders' capabilities. Risk assessments must be carried out for each activity, to include the COVID-19 specific hazards and controls.**

- General riding – Permitted providing you are alone, with members of your own household, or with no more than 5 other people from different households.
- Riding includes the following details:
  - Travelling – Travelling both with and without your horse, is allowed for exercising, training or facility hire. The government do not specify any limits on distance travelled at this time.
  - Many facility centres are now able to open for facility hire, which you can now use.
  - Locations – All permitted activities detailed here apply to outdoors. Indoor riding arenas and covered arenas may be available for use, depending on the venue's risk assessment and permission from their local authority and insurers. This needs to be checked with each individual venue.
  - Lessons and Training – Lessons and training may now take place in groups of no more than 6. This number of 6 must include the instructor or any additional organiser. BRC clubs and areas may now organise training activities in-line with this maximum number. The type of activity is not limited, as long as it is appropriately risk assessed. All activities must be for training, social, educational or 'have a go' purposes, and may not be competitive at this time.

- Hacking – This may be done alone, with members of your own household, or with no more than 5 other people from different households. Organised hacks are permitted under the BRC banner.
  - Fun rides – These are now permitted under the BRC banner. Risk assessments must be carried out for each activity being run, to include the COVID-19 specific hazards and controls.
  - Camps – These are now permitted as long as the activities fall under the ‘lessons and training’ category above. Camp activities must adhere to the max 6 people rule, and social distancing etc must apply. No overnight stays are permitted – participants must arrive, complete the activity, and return home.
  - Competitive riding events – These are not currently permitted under the BRC banner. It is hoped that this stance will change towards the middle of June / July.
- Online Competitions – BRC organised online ridden competitions can resume. BRC have restarted their leagues with Interdressage. Both flatwork and jumping classes are now included. There are no restrictions on the type of on-line competition activity permitted.
  - We are aware that British Dressage do not permit electronic transmission of their dressage tests without a license. BRC have therefore re-published the BRC dressage tests that we have used in the past and these are available for free use, to help with running online competitions. The tests can be found on our website, and the scoresheets are on the BHS Cloud for free download and printing. Please feel free to use these resources as required.
  - Social and un-mounted events – Permitted under the BRC banner. These should only be held outdoors and should be for no more than six people.
  - Other BRC Activities – No competitive riding events are allowed. It is hoped this will be reviewed mid-June / July.

## **Scotland**

Update for social gatherings: Groups up to eight people from two different households can meet outside with immediate effect, from Friday 29 May. The full government update can be found here:

<https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-framework-decision-making-scotlands-route-map-through-out-crisis-phase-1-update/>

### **BRC Permitted Activities**

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Any permitted activity below must adhere to the current guidance on group numbers and the continued social distancing and public health, hygiene and biosecurity requirements. Riders should also consider the risk of their activity, and only partake in / organise activities where it is safe to do so, taking into account both the horse and riders’ capabilities. Riders in Scotland are encouraged to stay local, if travelling at all.**

- General riding – Permitted providing you are alone, with members of your own household, or with one other household. Where two households come together it is up to a maximum of eight people at any one time. Additionally, members of a household should only meet with one other household per day.
- Riding includes the following details:
  - Travelling – Travelling both with and without your horse, is allowed for exercising, training or facility hire. There is a current travel limit of five miles.
  - Many facility centres are open for facility hire, which you can now use.
  - Locations – All permitted activities detailed here apply to outdoors. Indoor riding arenas and covered arenas may be available for use, depending on the venue’s risk assessment and permission from their local authority and insurers. This needs to be checked with each individual venue.
  - Lessons and Training – Latest government guidance states that you may only exercise alone, with members of your own household, or with one other household. Where two households come together it is up to a maximum of eight people at any one time. Additionally, members of a household should only meet with one other household per day. Therefore, coaches are only advised to provide lessons to one individual, or to one household group of up to seven riders per day. As coaches can only meet one

household per day, and a coach can only coach one individual per day, no BRC organised training or clinics are currently permitted, as this would usually involve multiple riders in succession throughout the day.

- Hacking – This may be done alone, with members of your own household, or with one other household. Where two households come together it is up to a maximum of eight people at any one time. Additionally, members of a household should only meet with one other household per day. You should stay local, within 5 miles of home. Organised hacks are not currently permitted under the BRC banner.
  - Fun rides – These are not currently permitted under the BRC banner.
  - Camps – These are not currently permitted under the BRC banner.
  - Competitive riding events – These are not currently permitted under the BRC banner. It is hoped that this stance will change towards July.
- Online Competitions – BRC organised online ridden competitions can resume. BRC have restarted their leagues with Interdressage. Both flatwork and jumping classes are now included. There are no restrictions on the type of on-line competition activity permitted.
  - We are aware that British Dressage do not permit electronic transmission of their dressage tests without a license. BRC have therefore re-published the BRC dressage tests that we have used in the past and these are available for free use, to help with running online competitions. The tests can be found on our website, and the scoresheets are on the BHS Cloud for free download and printing. Please feel free to use these resources as required.
  - Social and un-mounted events – These are not currently permitted under the BRC banner.
  - Other BRC Activities – No other BRC organised activities are permitted at this time. It is hoped this will be reviewed mid-June / July.

## Wales

Update for social gatherings: Two households from the same local area (up to five miles from home) can meet in outside spaces, including private gardens, from Monday 1 June. The full government update can be found here:

<https://gov.wales/guidance-changes-coronavirus-regulations-1-june?fbclid=IwAR2ohH5T6CdbstBaCSiahxqVN9MrfH4UJ4NgWBwwYImO8uxGt5mLmLXxxfw>

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- General riding – Permitted providing you are alone, with members of your own household, or with one other household. Where two households come together, they must be from the same local area (up to five miles from home). There is no restriction on numbers within each household.
- Riding includes the following details:
  - Travelling – Travelling both with and without your horse, is allowed for exercising, training or facility hire. There is a current travel limit of five miles.
  - Many facility centres are open for facility hire, which you can now use providing they are in your local area.
  - Locations – All permitted activities detailed here apply to outdoors. Indoor riding arenas and covered arenas may be available for use, depending on the venue's risk assessment and permission from their local authority and insurers. This needs to be checked with each individual venue.

- Lessons and Training – Latest government guidance states that you may only exercise alone, with members of your own household, or with one other household. Where two households come together, they must be from the same local area (up to five miles from home). There is no restriction on numbers within each household. Therefore, coaches are only advised to provide lessons to individuals, or to one household group. BRC clubs and areas may now organise training activities in-line with these guidelines. The type of activity is not limited, as long as it is appropriately risk assessed. All activities must be for training, social, educational or ‘have a go’ purposes, and may not be competitive at this time. As activity is limited to two households, scheduling of lessons may need to be mindful of sufficient time for the last rider to leave before the next rider arrives on site.
  - Hacking – This may be done alone, with members of your own household, or with one other household. Where two households come together, they must be from the same local area (up to five miles from home). There is no restriction on numbers within each household. Organised hacks are not currently permitted under the BRC banner.
  - Fun rides – These are not currently permitted under the BRC banner.
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  - Other BRC Activities – No other BRC organised activities are permitted at this time. It is hoped this will be reviewed mid-June / July.

## **Northern Ireland**

Update for social gatherings: Groups of up to six people can meet in parks or private gardens, effective from Monday 18 May. The full government update can be found here: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-regulations-and-what-they-mean-you>

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  - Other BRC Activities – No competitive riding events are allowed. It is hoped this will be reviewed mid-June / July.

## **Isle of Man, Jersey and Guernsey**

These guidelines must be read in collaboration with your own government guidance at the time. This may alter some of the guidance, i.e. numbers allowed to meet in groups or distance for permitted travel.

## **Further Information**

To support clubs and areas in starting to organise activities, BRC have produced a Datasheet with considerations for safely resuming activities, along with a template COVID-19 risk assessment. It should be noted that these remain working documents and are subject to change as further government updates are released. However, they will give our organisers an idea of the measures that should be in place for the resumption of our sport. The Datasheet and Risk Assessment can be found on the BRC website and BHS Cloud.

END OF UPDATE