



# British Riding Clubs Update

## 24.06.2020

### Updates appear in red



## COVID-19 Update

With further announcements 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 **from the date of this document unless otherwise stated.**

### Dressage to Music

It is still our intention to proceed with the 2020 Dressage to Music Championships. As such, qualifiers for this event may take place, following our COVID-19 guidelines, from 1 July in England and Northern Ireland (see below for details)

We previously announced the cancellation of the 2020 Quadrille and the BRC Advisory Committee have taken the decision to also cancel the pairs classes. We must act within the current guidelines provided by the government and therefore it is not possible for competitors to currently ride a pairs floorplan without breaching the 2m social distancing advice. Whilst we are disappointed, we hope to still provide an excellent event with individual classes available. This will include the brand-new senior prelim class, as requested by many members and areas. It must be noted that should government restrictions change in the future, which would result in us having to cancel the championship, refunds will be given in line with the 2020 BRC Handbook.

## England

In the latest government update (23 June), it was advised that social distancing can reduce to 1m plus from 4 July. However, BRC organisers should be aware that this is only where it is not possible to remain 2m apart, and where additional measures are in place i.e. PPE or screens.

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=IwAR3KKiWvnTyyWteCp7fFkFnFSvElcrI401OZzv7Iq7TXfeuocCMgdIwH-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 six) 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 six. This number of six 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 before 1 July.**
  - 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 six people rule, and social distancing etc must apply. Overnight stays will be permitted from 4 July 2020 providing suitable facilities and management are in place. This would be for individuals or household groups only.
  - Outdoor competitive riding events are permitted from 1 July 2020. There is no restriction on the type of activity. All competitions must be run in accordance with the current government guidance on group numbers, social distancing, and hygiene measures.
  - Indoor riding and unmounted activities – currently not permitted.
- 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.
- **It should be noted that although British Dressage do not permit electronic transmission of their dressage tests without a license, it has now been agreed that BRC Clubs may use BD dressage tests for online competitions, if they are running a members only competition. The test sheets can be bought from the BD shop. If Clubs are opening it up to non-members, then they cannot use them.**

**BRC have 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 which are open to non-members. 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 – Activities where current social distancing cannot be adhered to, such as the quadrille, pairs, or teams of four / six classes, are not permitted. This will only be reviewed when social distancing guidance is changed.
- All other BRC activities that can comply with the above guidelines are now permitted.

## Scotland

Update for social gatherings: Groups up to eight people from **three** different households can meet outside with immediate effect, from **Sunday 19 June**. The full government update can be found here:

<https://www.gov.scot/collections/coronavirus-covid-19-scotlands-route-map/#phase2-routemapthroughandoutofthecrisis>

### 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 **up to two** other households. 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 **up to two** other households 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. **From 29 June the use of indoor schools is permitted providing BHS guidance is followed**  
<file:///C:/Users/laura.sanger/Downloads/Equestrian%20Best%20Practice%20Guidance%20Final%20amended%20220620.pdf>
  - Lessons and Training – Latest government guidance states that you may only exercise alone, with members of your own household, or with **up to two** other households. Where **up to three** households come together, it is up to a maximum of 8 people at any one time. Additionally, members of a household should only meet with **up to two** other households per day. Therefore, coaches are only advised to provide lessons to **up to two different household groups** of up to seven riders per day. **Therefore, BRC lessons and training may now take place in groups of no more than eight from a maximum of three different households. This number of eight / three households must include the instructor or any additional organiser. BRC clubs and areas may now organise training activities in-line with these restrictions. 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. The five-mile travel limit must also be observed.**
  - Hacking – This may be done alone, with members of your own household, or with **up to two** other households. Where **up to three** 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 **up to two** other households per day. You should stay local, within five miles of home. **Organised hacks are permitted under the BRC banner providing they can satisfy these requirements.**
  - Fun rides – These are not currently permitted under the BRC banner.
  - 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 eight people rule, from a maximum of three different households, and social distancing etc. must apply. It is expected that overnight stays will be permitted from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 providing suitable facilities and management are in place. This would be for individuals or household groups only and would fall in-line with the proposed opening of camping sites in Scotland from 15 July.
  - Competitive riding events – These are not currently permitted under the BRC banner. It is hoped that this stance will change towards **the end of 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.
- It should be noted that although British Dressage do not permit electronic transmission of their dressage tests without a license, it has now been agreed that BRC Clubs may use BD dressage tests for online competitions, if they are running a members only competition. The test sheets can be bought from the BD shop. If Clubs are opening it up to non-members, then they cannot use them.

BRC have 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 which are open to non-members. 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-July.

## Wales

No change at present. We are expecting a government update **at the start of July** and will then update our guidance accordingly.

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=IwAR2ohH5T6CdbstBaCSiahxqVN9MrfH4U14NgWBwwYImO8uxGt5mLmLXxxfw>

### 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.**

- 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.
  - 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.
  - It should be noted that although British Dressage do not permit electronic transmission of their dressage tests without a license, it has now been agreed that BRC Clubs may use BD dressage tests for online competitions, if they are running a members only competition. The test sheets can be bought from the BD shop. If Clubs are opening it up to non-members, then they cannot use them.

BRC have 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 which are open to non-members. 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 at the start of July.

## Northern Ireland

The latest update is effective from Monday 22 June and can be found here <https://www.executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk/publications/coronavirus-executive-approach-decision-making>

### BRC Permitted Activities

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Any permitted activity below must adhere to the current guidance on group numbers (max 10) 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 – You can exercise your horse indoors in a group of up to six people with whom you do not share a household and in a group of up to ten people outdoors with whom you do not share a household, but you must maintain social distancing and all COVID-19 hygiene measures. Maximum ventilation measures should be observed.
- 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 **indoor and outdoor areas**.
  - Lessons and Training – Lessons and training may now take place in groups of **no more than 10 outside or six inside**. **These numbers** include the instructor or any additional organiser. BRC clubs and areas may now organise training activities in-line with these maximum numbers. 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 9 other people from different households. Organised hacks are permitted under the BRC banner.
  - Fun rides – These are now permitted under the BRC banner.
  - 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 10 people rule (**outside**), and social distancing etc must apply. Overnight stays permitted from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020 providing suitable facilities and management are in place. This applies to individuals or household groups only and falls in-line with the recent update stating that camping and tourist accommodation can re-open from 26<sup>th</sup> June and 3<sup>rd</sup> July respectively.
  - Outdoor competitive riding events are permitted from 1 July 2020. There is no restriction on the type of activity. All competitions must be run in accordance with the current government guidance on group numbers, social distancing, and hygiene measures.
  - Indoor riding and unmounted activities – **Now permitted up to a maximum of six people.**
- 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.
  - **It should be noted that although British Dressage do not permit electronic transmission of their dressage tests without a license, it has now been agreed that BRC Clubs may use BD dressage tests for online competitions, if they are running a members only competition. The test sheets can be bought from the BD shop. If Clubs are opening it up to non-members, then they cannot use them.**
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- Social and un-mounted events – Permitted under the BRC banner. **~~These should only be held outdoors.~~**
  - Other BRC activities – Activities where current social distancing cannot be adhered to, such as the quadrille, pairs, or teams of four / six classes, are not permitted. This will only be reviewed when social distancing guidance is changed.
  - All other BRC activities that can comply with the above guidelines are now permitted.

## **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