

'RULE OF 6' GUIDANCE UPDATE

22nd September 2020

TAKE RESPONSIBILITY, HELP REDUCE THE RISK OF COVID-19, RESPECT OUR COMMUNITY

Thank you for your patience. We have based our update on the latest [government announcement](#) that aired yesterday (22nd September 2020). The announcement included updates across a range of areas including activities and how groups meet. Moving forward, the **'Rule of six'** exemptions for certain activities has been removed, specifically in the sport and theatre sectors. To clarify, it is **against the law** to gather in groups of more than 6, where people are from different households or support bubbles.

"Indoor organised sport for over 18s will no longer be exempt from the rule of six. There is an exemption for indoor organised team sports for disabled people (from 24 September)"

Outdoor sport currently doesn't seem to be affected at this point, but please keep up to date with your NGB guidance as they *might* be asked to move a step back on their individual roadmaps.

For indoor activities as from tomorrow (24th September 2020), only groups of six are allowed to take part in any activity. We are still awaiting further information from NGBs who will add further clarification. **However, as these restrictions are implemented as from tomorrow (24th September 2020), we need to act now.**

I will review training time slots over the weekend, but please assume these are still the same as previously published earlier this week. The main things that has changed is the capacities. Below is a list of individual sports club restrictions:

THCS

The curtain on the halfway line must be drawn dividing the sports hall into 2. This will allow for one group of six to use each of the two individual spaces. The two groups must not interact or mix throughout their sessions. Staggered start and finish times must be in place to ensure the two separate groups do not mix, interact or mingle. Social distancing must be maintained between the two groups.

Social distancing in place for members of different households within each sub group

Badminton	1 badminton court per space Maximum of 6 students per court
Rowing	3 rowing machines per space Maximum of 6 students per space
Basketball	6 students per space
Archery	Continue NGB guidance of 5:1 ratio in full sports hall
RoundNet	1 set per half court Maximum of 6 students per space
Volleyball	With volleyball net up in sports hall the two groups cannot safely maintain social distancing and therefore only 6 students in full sport hall

Sports Dome

Netball, Handball, American Football, Futsal	<p>Curtains will be drawn and each court subsequently split in half allowing for 6 useable spaces (each half court space facilitating 1 group of 6)</p> <p>Cones will be used to enforce social distancing between half court and the two separate groups of 6</p> <p>Social distancing in place for members of different households within each activity group</p> <p><i>If the space (1 half court) is too small, you are able to extend to one whole court, however you will be limited to only 6 students per court (18 in total)</i></p>
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Tennis

Curtains will be drawn allowing for 2 playable tennis courts.

Maximum of 6 students per half court

Social distancing in place for members of different households within each activity group

Gym 1

Social distancing cannot be safely maintained within the space meaning only one group of 6 is permitted to be in the space at any one time.

Gym 2

Gym 2 will be split into half allowing for two separate training areas, one for each sub group. This will allow for one group of six to use each of the two individual spaces.

The two groups must not interact or mix throughout their sessions. Staggered start and finish times must be in place to ensure the two separate groups do not mix, interact or mingle. Social distancing must be maintained between the two groups.

Climbing exemption

As social distancing cannot be maintained between groups, a maximum of 6 will be able to use the climbing wall at any one time.

Musical Theatre, and Music practice space

Non-professional performing arts activity can continue to rehearse or perform together where the planned activity is in line with the performing arts guidance and if they can do so in a way that ensures that there is no interaction between sub groups of more than 6 at any time.

In the first instance the activity should only take place for a maximum of 6 students with social distancing in place, please contact SU Activities if you feel the practise space can hold multiple groups of 6.

The government guidance clearly states that If an amateur or sports group is not able to ensure that no mixing takes place between sub-groups of no more than 6 (including when arriving at or leaving activity or in any breaks or socialising) then the activity should not take place. We will, and are required to, take a firm stance on any group not adhering to this guidance.

Failing to follow guidance will result in immediate suspension of the group, removal of any future use of facilities, and an UCSU formal investigation will take place and the matter referred to the University of Chichester.

Further FAQs can be found on the .gov [website here](#)

As mentioned in the training time statement, clubs are able to further split training times to allow for additional groups. However, you MUST ensure you incorporate 10 minutes between each group to allow for cleaning and to ensure sub groups do not meet and mingle when they arrive / leave. You must also stagger start / finish time between groups. For example, you could split a two hours slot into four using the following structure

SPACE 1	GROUP 1 6PM – 6:45PM	CLEANING OF EQUIPMENT	GROUP 3 7:05PM – 7:50PM	
SPACE 2		GROUP 2 6:10PM – 6:55PM	CLEANING OF EQUIPMENT	GROUP 4 7:15 - 8PM

We will be updating our General COVID-19 Guidance in the coming days but I cannot stress enough that these updates will be in place from the **24th September 2020 and immediate action is required.**

Thank you for your time in reading this statement, if you have any questions please post on the FB group for all members to see.

Adam Sewell
Sports & Activities Manager