

Dear all KSC members, parents & friends

As you will no doubt be aware, Nottinghamshire will move into the so called Tier 3 at on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October and whilst the material below is still subject to last minute changes we want to share with you information Swim England (SE) affiliated clubs have received so far. The information shown below documents how Swim England (SE) believe swimming fits within the Governments 3 tier COVID-19 restrictions announced on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Please take a few minutes to familiarise yourself with this update. Please also **take special note** of the Kimberley SC and Kimberley Leisure Centre specific protocol requests shown at the very bottom of this information as these protocols will take effect from Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020. Whilst we cannot give specific advice about whether you feel comfortable for swimmers to continue to swim with the club right now, we can assure you we have protocols in place which are working well to date with all swimmers behaving responsibly whilst enjoying swimming and we can further direct you to the guidance sections titled

- Exceptions for people gathering in groups larger than 6 people
- Childcare
- Sport & Physical activity
- Travel

Which can be found on the Government website at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/local-covid-alert-level-very-high?priority-taxon=774cee22-d896-44c1-a611-e3109cce8eae>

## **NEW SWIM ENGLAND – COVID-19 Club Guidance & FAQ's Update – Key Changes**

Following the recent announcement from the Government on 12 October of a new three tier system for Covid-19 restrictions, we (SE) have updated our FAQs below based on our interpretation of the new system, this can be found here: <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/coronavirus-faqs-answered/>

Version 9 of the Club Guidance is now live on the Swim England website; <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/pool-return-guidance-documents> the updates are shown in the back of the document. Please see below a summary of the key changes for our sport following the government's COVID-19 tiers announcement:

### **What's changed?**

The big changes relate to indoor team sports (namely water polo and artistic/synchronised swimming) for over 18s. In Tier 1 (Medium) areas the rule of 6 applies. In Tier 2 (High) and Tier 3 (Very High) areas it is only possible for people to play these team sports indoors with members of their own family/support bubble. This is obviously very sad news for our older water polo players and artistic swimmers.

### **What's not changed?**

- **Swimming pools do not legally have to automatically close** (they may close in some tier 3 areas but that will be a decision between local and central government. Even when they are made to "close", they will still be able to be used for U18s, swimming for people with disabilities and school swimming)
- **Under 18s can continue to do any activity** (either indoor or outdoor) **without any restrictions in any tier**. This is obviously good news for most Learn To Swim sessions and club sessions. In tier 2 and 3 areas spectators are not allowed but parents attending in a safeguarding/supervisory role are permitted.
- **Over 18s taking part in our individual sports** (swimming or diving) **can also continue in any tier as part of an organised club session**.

There are no restrictions in any tier for people with disabilities, but if “**in water assistance**” is **required** this must be provide by someone from their own household/support bubble

#### **What about casual swimming?**

For people wanting to go to their local pool for a casual swim that isn't an organised club session the following rules apply.

In Tier 1 (Medium) areas people must limit the size of their group to 6 (or larger if they are all from the same household/support bubble).

In Tier 2 and Tier 3 areas people can only go for a swim with their household or support bubble. The venues themselves can continue to allow more than 6 people/one household in at a time but the groups must remain socially distanced and not mix whilst in the venue.

#### **Kimberley SC & Kimberley Leisure Centre specific requests**

- Everyone entering the Leisure Centre aged 11 or over must wear a face mask until they get onto poolside
- Social Distancing must be observed at all times – especially when lining up before swimming (please remind your swimmers)
- Parents are requested to check their children into the leisure centre at the back door and be assured club staff and leisure centre staff will take care to ensure they remain suitably socially distanced and supervised whilst lining up to swim before being marshalled into the changing rooms as they have been for the past several weeks. We love to see our parents but we need to limit the number of people lining up in the corridor if possible.

**As at 29/10/2020 KSC remains open for club swimming.**