

LMC Coronavirus (COVID-19) Risk Assessment for organised shooting activities involved with Field Trials

Preventative Measures – Code of Practice to be observed by all those in attendance at LMC Field Trials

1. A Covid-19 Safety Officer will be appointed to ensure that Covid-19 prevention procedures are maintained throughout the day. A log, recorded in the Safety Incident Book, will be kept of any untoward incidents. The Covid-19 Safety Officer will be named on the Field Trial schedule.
2. Government guidelines on social distancing, in force at the time, must be adhered to by all participants, whilst at the trial.
3. If a competitor, or anyone in their household, has Covid-19 related symptoms, has tested positive for Covid-19, or is self-isolating, then they must not attend the event and should self-isolate in-line with Government advice. This applies for a period of 28 days prior to, and including, the date of the trial.
4. Written information on all participants and attendees will be collated prior to the event, this will be detailed enough to allow NHS Test and Trace to contact all participants should any attendee become ill with Covid-19. These records will be kept for 21 days.
5. Competitors must not attend a field trial if they reside in an area covered by a local lockdown enforced by the Government.
6. Competitors are to provide their own face masks, coverings, gloves and sanitation equipment (gel and/or wipes). These must be used appropriately to maintain safe distancing and good hygiene practices. Competitors must provide their own sealed bag/container to dispose of any used hygiene materials and these must be taken home and disposed of appropriately.
7. There will be no physical contact with any competitor, prior or post run. Social distancing must be maintained at all times, in all areas of the trial.
8. Face masks should be worn when judges confer.
9. When handling game passed from a competitor, a face mask should be worn by the judge, judge's steward and game carrier. The handover should be undertaken at the maximum distance possible. Hands must be sanitised between the passing of each bird. Gloves could be worn, but would need to be changed, and safely discarded, following each individual run to ensure no cross-contamination.
10. Shotguns must be handled by the owner only, and cartridges must not be transferred between individuals.
11. Radios will be only be handled when wearing gloves; and thoroughly cleaned using antibacterial wipes before and after use. Earpieces must not be worn unless these are the individuals own.

12. Spectators are not allowed. Only the handler of each dog will be permitted onto the trial ground. If a competitor has more than one dog running, an appointed individual, ideally from their own household must be willing to hold their additional dog. Other competitors should not be used for this purpose. Anyone who travels to the trial with a competitor must make themselves known to the trial organisers before the trial commences. They will be asked to remain in their own vehicle and will not be permitted to spectate. Their details will be collected for Test and Trace purposes.
13. Where possible, travel around the shoot will be on foot, as this allows social distancing to be maintained and reduces the risk of Covid-19 transmission. Where travel by foot is not possible, individuals or household groups must travel in separate vehicles.
14. If using group transport around the shoot, social distancing between passengers must be observed with extra precautions, sitting side by side, not face to face, and increasing ventilation in the vehicle. Face masks must be worn for the duration of the journey by everyone in the vehicle. Hand hygiene — the use of personal hand sanitiser/wipes — before and after each journey is required.
15. Any individual not following Government Guidelines, or who is deemed to be putting the safety of others at risk will be asked to leave the trial ground.
16. Entries will be via post with enclosed cheque. Entries and cheques will be quarantined for 72 hours.
17. There will be no handling of entry forms, cheques, or cash on the day.
18. Competitor armbands will not be provided. Competitors will be required to provide their own number. The number does not need to be an armband, but must be clearly visible.
19. All communication, including the draw and field trial card, will be undertaken electronically.
20. Judges books and current regulations will be provided by the judge concerned and only handled by them. All stationery required by the judge to be provided by themselves
21. No food will be provided to any attendees, including judges and officials.
22. The winners will be announced, but certificates/prize cards will be either, post out after the trial, or sent electronically. Trophies will be sanitised and bagged in a plastic bag and kept aside for a minimum of 72 hours prior to the trial. The FT Sec will sanitise her hands before presenting the bag to the recipient.

NB. All references to face masks also include face coverings as detailed in government guidance and must be provided by the individual concerned.

If this code of Practice is observed the risk to human health and safety, posed by possible hazards that may be encountered during authorized activities, are deemed to be low.

Date: September 2020

Review Date: Ongoing — as per government guidance updates