

Dealing with Positive Symptomatology - Gaelic Games Interim Guidance, 1st July 2020

The following advice is in place for Gaelic Games for dealing with positive symptomatology on an interim basis and pending general Sport guidance from Government Departments.

For this document Referee refers to all Match Officials.

The Advice below is relevant to all Referees, Referee Administrators/Covid Supervisors.

Close v Casual Contacts definition for Gaelic Games.

1. If a Referees reports positive symptoms on their Health Questionnaire, or has tested positive for Covid-19 **within the 48 hour period** following a training session or game, the Referee should contact his/her GP and should self-isolate until advised otherwise by Public Health authorities.
2. If the incident occurs arising from a game situation, a risk assessment should be performed by Public Health in line with current HPSC Guidelines ([FOR HPSC GUIDELINES CLICK HERE](#)) to ascertain whether some or all of the members of the opposing teams and other Referees should be considered close contacts.

Process:

In either of the scenarios outlined above, the following process should be followed:

1. Match Official should not attend training/game/work, should self-isolate and contact GP to arrange testing.
2. Match official should also inform Referee Administrator/Covid supervisor.
3. If the positive symptomatology has arisen and a match has occurred involving that Referee in the preceding 48 hours, a risk assessment should be performed by Public Health to ascertain whether some or all of the players and other Referees involved should be considered close contact

If positive symptoms in the Match Official **within 48 hours** of last game, the Referee should:

1. Defer all activity (training and games) until test results are available.
2. If the test is **negative**, training and games can resume while continuing to adhere to all control measures & games health questionnaire. The Referee can return to activity once symptom free for 48 hours.
3. If the test is **positive** the Referee should follow public health advice and not return to activity until a medical assessment provides clearance to do so.

Given all of the above, the Gaelic Games' Covid Advisory Group strongly recommends that Referees allow a minimum 48 hours between matches.

Please note that Public Health expert advice is evolving in this area and current guidance will be updated regularly.