Covid-19 Club Policy Effective 19th July 2021

The government confirmed that the move to Step 4 of the Roadmap out of Lockdown will take place on Monday 19th July. Many of the legal restrictions imposed in response to the Covid-19 pandemic will be lifted however this does not mean we can return to life as it was before Covid. The government is urging extreme caution and a slow return to normal. The emphasis has shifted from legal requirements to individuals taking personal responsibility and consideration for others.

The pandemic is not over and a third wave of infections is currently taking place. The success of the vaccination programme offers significant protection against serious illness and greatly reduces the probability of infecting others but the protection is not 100% and there still remains a risk of infection and transmission from mixing in close proximity. Even for the fully vaccinated there remains but a small risk of extremely unpleasant disease from catching Covid-19.

As a members' club we can choose to retain whatever requirements we consider appropriate to protect our members, their families and our visitors. Our instructors who are at the greatest risk of contracting Covid-19 have expressed a strong desire to retain face coverings in the two seaters and continue with the sanitising of club gliders and equipment at every crew change. Your Management Committee in discharge of its duty of care to members, staff and their families has decided to proceed with caution and for the time being retain most of the existing club Covid-19 policy and procedures. The only relaxation to club Covid procedures from 19th July is that members may, with restrictions, use the shared kitchen and bar.

The club detailed procedures are contained in the risk assessments which can be viewed and downloaded from our website here: https://bggc.co.uk/members/committee-news-minutes/

In summary:

- Government guidance of HANDS, FACE, SPACE remains in place.
- Members, students and instructors flying in club two seaters should wear face coverings.
- Club glider cockpits and parachutes should be sanitised at every crew change.
- Members are requested to take regular lateral flow tests if intending to fly in a two seater as student or instructor.
- Do not come to the club if you have tested positive or have been instructed to self-isolate within the past 10 days.
- A maximum of 6 individuals permitted in the launch-point bus with face coverings or one without.
- Trial Flight customers should undergo a Covid-19 self-test within 48 hours before their flight and not come if they have tested positive within the preceding 10 days.
- Under no circumstances should any member enter the club office unless invited in.
- The requirement to ventilate the clubhouse by opening doors and windows remains.
- Members may use the clubhouse common areas. It is strongly recommended that face coverings are worn indoors. Whilst there is no legal limit on numbers indoors, members are requested to maintain social distancing and remain in small groups.
- The members shared kitchen may be used, however occupancy should be restricted to one person at a time and users should thoroughly clean utensils and surfaces before and after use with hot water, soap and/or disinfectant wipes and put items used away after use (it is not acceptable to rinse cups etc in cold water and leave them on the drainer).
- The clubhouse bar and lounge may be used with one person at a time serving, however users must wash up all glasses and thoroughly clean all surfaces and equipment with hot water, soap and/or disinfectant wipes before and after use.
- Doors and windows should be opened for ventilation and social distancing protocols followed.
- The bar lounge area may be used as a briefing room, however if occupancy exceeds 6 then face coverings should be worn and windows / doors opened for ventilation.

Andy Davis, Chairman, 15th July 2021.