



Manchester Cross Country Ski Club

Cross Country Ski, Roller Ski, Telemark and more.

Regular coaching sessions and equipment hire

www.mccsc.org.uk

MCCSC Skiing in a Covid World

Update 18 December 2020 at 11:20am

I'm sure that many members will be wondering when MCCSC will be able to resume some formal skiing activities. We want to reassure members that the club organisers are working hard behind the scenes to re-activate Club Coaching sessions.

We were about to resume activities in September, but were prevented by new and increasingly stricter measures. The major obstacles being crossing boundaries (which are regularly subject to change) and the availability of venues. There are also significant differences between the restrictions to Indoor and Outdoor Snowsports.

Roller Skiing – Adult coaching sessions as an Outdoor activity are theoretically allowed, even in Tier 3 with the Rule of 6, but travel restrictions apply and are reliant upon cycle tracks re-opening to the public (& taking bookings at an acceptable time):

UCLAN, Preston; remains disappointingly un-available for booking.

Salt Ayre, Lancaster; is ungated, thus not taking bookings because it is unable to track & trace.

Tameside; the only club slot available for an exclusive booking would be a Friday night 7.00-9.00pm. Unfortunately, none of our club instructors who reside in Greater Manchester would be available for these sessions. Note Tameside is available at other times for none exclusive bookings and some individual club members are using it.

Wigan; we are also investigating.

Some clubs in the south have been able to resume because they have tracks which are available.

BREAKING GOOD NEWS; Palantine Leisure, Blackpool; has now reopened after refurbishment and is available for club bookings (subject to Tier restrictions). The club instructors plan to meet early in the New Year to discuss. Note some individual club members are already using it.

Telemarking - Chill Factor^e re-opened again on the 2nd December after the second lockdown. There are Covid secure operating procedures, including a one-way system throughout the building & on the slope, which several members and I have experienced separately. The snow is in very good condition, face coverings have to be worn and all the new measures give confidence. The Main slope capacity remains at half that of normal. Opening hours continue to be expanded, with a further temporary increase due w/c 21 December for the Christmas / New Year holiday period.

Indoor Snowsport is subject to far more stringent restrictions; lessons are limited to one household/family bubble, thus adult club coaching is not possible until we are reduced to Tier 1.

BREAKING GOOD NEWS; We have just negotiated with Chill Factor^e to increase the Saturday club sessions from 1.5 to 2-hours, with a new start time of 12:00, as soon as restrictions allow.

We have also provisionally booked the 10th North West Telemark Festival for Saturday 12th June 2021 in anticipation that restrictions will have eased by then.



Manchester Cross Country Ski Club is an affiliated club to Snowsport England.

[follow us on facebook.com/mccsc](https://www.facebook.com/mccsc)





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MCCSC's Covid-19 prevention policy is on our website and MCCSC will continue to progress when formal sessions may restart at Roller Ski and Telemark venues, but we anticipate the answers may not be forthcoming until the new year. Please continue to check www.mccsc.org.uk for updates.

Thank you for your forbearance in these unrepresented times and we look forward to being able to ski together shortly. Stay safe.

Chair of MCCSC

Notes

We have to clearly differentiate between official club activities and those of individual members.

If a healthy individual or group of individuals to a maximum of 6 Outside, or Household / Family Indoors (who have no symptoms, nor their family, friends, colleagues or work place) wishes to continue to ski informally & employing social distancing, then it is currently their right to do so (subject to Tier restrictions and any changes in government or local government advice & policy). Each venue will also have its terms and conditions of use / Covid-19 policy.

Snowsport England states quite clearly that resuming activity will always carry a degree of risk associated with the transmission of Covid-19, however these risks can be mitigated by having procedures in place and by all participants adhering to them. These include the "New Norm" of social distancing & hygiene measures.

Re-starting formal club activities is subject to government restrictions and Snowsport England's guidelines (which is a pre-requisite of our club & coaches' insurance).

For the full breakdown of "Restrictions to Snowsport Activity in England" see www.snowsportengland.org.uk > Covid Guidance Update > Tier Table (currently v9-1 at 4th December 2020) There are 7 other guideline documents there.

For the full current national restriction rules see www.gov.uk/guidance

Remember, "**Hands Face Space**":

Hands – Wash your hands regularly and for 20 seconds.

Face – Wear a face covering in indoor settings where social distancing may be difficult and where you will come into contact with people you do not normally meet.

Space – Stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with where possible, or 1 metre with extra precautions in place (such as face coverings).



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