

## UKI COVID-19 Information & Recommendations for UKI Events 2021

As many government required restrictions begin to ease, vaccination rates increase & outbreaks decrease, UKI still urges local trials and other events to be diligent in keeping all members and the wider public safe.

Although many areas have now lifted the majority of their safety measures due to low numbers of the virus and high numbers of vaccinations, other areas have not yet reached their goals. Therefore, during this time, UKI recommends continuing to follow basic safety principals to minimize any potential spread or further outbreaks.

Besides checking your local government information, below are a few other sources of information to refer to.

CDC – requirements & policies for travel <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/travel-during-covid19.html>

AARP - Listing of restrictions per State <https://www.aarp.org/politics-society/government-elections/info-2020/coronavirus-state-restrictions.html>

Gov of Canada <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

### UKI Trial guidelines

UKI recommends the use of the following protocol during a sanctioned event. Please refer to and review your local governments COVID-19 measures and adjust accordingly, as many restriction differ from region to region and are always changing.

#### Trial Managers

Guidelines will be summarized in the premium regarding any measures or required restrictions in order to attend the event. Updates or more detailed information will be made available to the competitors entered into their event. However, the ultimate responsibility lies with the competitor to keep up to date with all matters regarding trial specifics and any Covid measures.

#### Competitors

If you are feeling unwell or have been exposed to someone who has tested positive to Covid-19, you must not come to the event. Please remember that even if you have been vaccinated, you can still contract and spread the virus.

Competitors are NOT required to wear a mask while running, but should have a mask at hand to wear in situations that do not allow for social distancing and places where air flow is minimized.

The responsibility lies with the competitor to monitor all specifics from their local governments mandates as well as the local mandates of the trial that they will attend.

All measures required by the trial or the competitor and anyone attending the event with them must follow event protocols.

## Course Design

Show Managers are always encouraged to be engaged with their judge (s) on course design, however, now more importantly course design and ring layout should be considered.

Such like:

- Nesting, to prevent significant course changes to limit person to person contact.
- Consider using the same entry/exit of the ring for the day, which will allow show managers to control the flow of handlers in and out of the ring\venue.
- And as always, ensure course flow safety of all competitors, dogs and volunteers.

## Measuring Dogs

If a judge and the trial committee feel comfortable measuring dogs then measuring can take place but both judge and handler should wear a mask while doing so as social distancing is not possible. Disinfecting and hygiene basics before and after measuring each dog should be the norm. Only one handler and one dog should be in the measuring area at a time.

## Leash Runner

- An inexpensive pick-up stick or grab stick can be used to preventing touching and handling of leashes.
- If handling leashes, hand hygiene before and after handling a leash is recommended as well as disinfecting the grab stick.
- Alternatively, handlers may place their leashes themselves at a location designated by the judge at the end of the course that they can retrieve themselves.

## Gate Steward

In areas that still require or recommend the use of masks in some situations, the Gate Steward should wear a mask when indoors, especially as the gate steward must shout. The gate is a common area where competitors will gather and it is also near the entry to the ring. Competitors are not required to wear mask while running, this places the competitor who is awaiting to enter the ring at risk, due to the gathering around the gate keeper and shouting of the running order.

## Judge

- If your trial is in an area with restrictions, it is recommended that judges are local and are not required to travel long distances, especially if they are traveling from another area with continued higher infections. If you'd like different course designs, consider asking out of town judges to design courses and have your local judge, judge them on the ground.
- Judge(s) are NOT required to wear a mask while judging as long as government rules do not require them to do so.

## Facilities

All venues & facilities are unique to each other, however, each venue must follow National and local Government regulations and these may differ depending on indoor and outdoor spaces.

### Hand washing & sanitizing stations

Competitors must have access to a hand washing station or as not all venues will have access to running water at minimum a 60% alcohol-base hand sanitizer is available.

### Cleaning/Sanitizing

Commonly touched areas should be cleaned and sanitized at least once a day during the event.

### Physical Distancing

All efforts to maintain 6' (2m) should be kept in mind. Where physical distancing is not possible, masks can be worn.

### Social gathering limit

The recovery phase of COVID-19 differs from state to state, province to province and even county to county. Please check your Governments regulations regarding social gathering limits.

### Contact and Trace

You may also be asked to gather contact tracing information in the case of an outbreak. Be prepared to share names and phone numbers of ALL persons at your event.

All competitors and attendee's must agree to this protocol or they may not attend your event.

### Crating

Crating area should allow for a minimum of 6' (2m) between competitors. Encourage crating out of vehicles if it is possible and safe to do so.

### Social Media

UKI encourages competitors to take pictures, video runs and to post online while following the social media code of conduct outlined in the UKI Rules & Regulations. However, be aware that if you are asked to video other competitors run, before using their device you should clean and sanitize their camera, phone, tablet etc., before and after using that device. Please follow government regulations and your local government guidelines to ensure there are no breaches in regulations.

### Cups, Classics & Opens

For UKI trials such as tournaments, competitors may be travelling in from outside the region that may have more stringent or relaxed Covid-19 measures. With this in mind, UKI encourages these events to err on the side of caution and to follow practices to keep everyone safe.

- Continued hygiene measures should remain in place
- Social distancing as appropriate
- Mask protocol should be encouraged when social distancing is not easy to achieve, especially in indoor environments and where there is limited airflow.