

## COVID-19 Expert Group – Return to Sport (EGRtS)

### Terms of Reference

#### 1. Purpose of the EGRtS

To provide guidance to the National Governing Bodies of sport and other sporting bodies with a view to facilitating consistency of their return to train/play/spectating protocols with the prevailing public health advice. The EGRtS will base its consistency assessment of protocols submitted to it with reference to the provisions and conditions contained in the Roadmap for Reopening Society and Business, the Return to Work Safely Protocol and the prevailing public health advice.

#### 2. Remit

- The EGRtS will consider, across each of the five phases of the Roadmap, the draft protocols prepared by the sporting bodies and assess their consistency with the Roadmap, the National Protocol and the prevailing public health advice. It shall report on its consistency assessments to DTTAS.
- In the event of the EGRtS not being in a position to present a definitive consistency recommendation on the grounds of insufficient information, it will prepare and submit a case to DTTAS, drawing on any international guidance or practice in other countries and including its interpretation of the public health advice, for determination by the Department of Health/NPHET.
- The EGRtS will keep its consistency assessments under review to ensure their continuing alignment with the activities permissible under each phase of the Roadmap.
- The EGRtS will seek external advice and additional expertise as it considers necessary.
- The EGRtS will provide guidance on general issues such as hygiene protocols for equipment and facilities in accordance with the specific requirements of each phase.
- The EGRtS will prepare an overall FAQ framework document providing general guidance that can be used for all sports and also for the purposes of preparing responses to clarification requests received in both DTTAS and Sport Ireland from the general public.

#### 3. Membership

Name	Organisation
Mr. Peter Hogan (Chair)	Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport
Mr. Paul McDermott	Sport Ireland
Dr. Una May	Sport Ireland
Mr. Shane Califf	Sport Ireland
Ms. Niamh O'Sullivan	Sport Ireland
Dr. Jim O'Donovan	Sport Ireland Institute
Dr. Rod McLoughlin	Irish Rugby Football Union

Dr. Alan Byrne	Football Association of Ireland
Mr. Feargal McGill	Gaelic Athletic Association
Ms. Niamh Daffy	Cara Sport Inclusion Ireland
Ms. Betty Griffin	Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport
Mr. James Lavelle	Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport

#### 4. Meeting Arrangements

An **indicative** meeting schedule is as follows:

Phase No.	Scheduled Commencement Date	EGRT Meeting
1	18 May	21 May 27 May 3 June
2	8 June	17 June 24 June
3	29 June	8 July 15 July
4	20 July	29 July 5 August
5	10 August	Thereafter.... TBD

The meetings will be held via video conference. A maximum duration of 2 hours is envisaged, tentatively 14.00 hours to 16.00 hours.

The meetings will be convened by the Chair of the EGRTS, who will also be responsible for preparing the Agenda. Any member of the EGRTS can contribute agenda items with the agreement of the Chair. Papers for meetings will be circulated at least 3 working days in advance of the meeting. Minutes of meeting outcomes will be circulated not later than 3 working days following the meeting.

Decisions will (in general) be by consensus and, once decisions have been made, all members will agree to be bound by the collective decision making process.

The secretariat for the EGRTS meetings will be provided by Sport Ireland.

A minimum number of 8 EGRTS members are required for decision-making purposes.

**5. Information Sharing**

All confidential information received by the EGRtS will be handled accordingly by the Group and by individual members. The EGRtS may decide to use appropriate technology to share information emerging during the course of its own working.

**6. Conflict of Interest**

Where an EGRtS member has an interest, or becomes aware of an interest which could lead to a conflict of interest in the event of the group considering an action or recommendation decision in relation to that interest, they must remove themselves from the decision making process in advance of the meeting in question.