



# IRISH INFLATABLE HIRERS FEDERATION

**Covid 19 Pandemic proposed post lockdown-  
operating procedures**

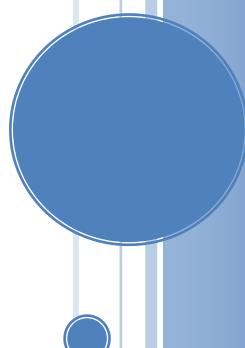
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## DISCLAIMER

All content is for information purposes only and not intended to supersede applicable regulations, nor provide medical or legal advice. The IIHF makes no representation and gives no warranty as to the accuracy or completeness of any information and/or advice or recommendation contained within the plan and the members attention is drawn to the fact that Government Guidance is changing as knowledge of the COVID-19 virus increase.

## **The Irish Inflatable Hirers Federation ( IIHF ) Covid 19 Pandemic proposed post lockdown-operating procedures for the gradual return of hire of Inflatables in Ireland.**

The inflatable industry has closed all operations since before the Government lockdown was introduced 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020. **It is the IIHF policy that NO hire of inflatable take place until the end of the current lockdown.**

In the event of an easing of travel and work restriction this plan will be initiated in consultation with government bodies and our local authorities.

This document will layout the return to work procedures that will set out to protect customers, users of inflatables, workers and the general public from the risk of spreading the Covid 19 virus using the best available guidance nationally and internationally. Whilst also recognising the need to protect livelihoods.

### **The actions set out in this document should be implemented in tandem with HSA health and safety guidelines.**

The hire of inflatables cannot be described as essential or the delivery of them an essential journey. While the IIHF recognise this fact, we also recognise the need as an industry that we should be ready to return to work when the time is right.

We also recognise the ending of movement restrictions will be incremental but should also be carried out with a structured approach for getting back to work.

The children of Ireland will need the return of physical activity and fun associated with inflatables that has been so badly missed during this lock-down time. The inflatable industry in Ireland will need to return to work as soon as reasonably possible.

IIHF members should be aware that at this time .

COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It is caused by a new (novel) Coronavirus virus called CoronavirusSARS-CoV-2.

Current evidence suggests that the virus is significantly more infectious than the flu that circulates every winter. Viruses can be easily spread to other people and patients are normally infectious until all the symptoms have gone. COVID-19 may survive on surfaces for up to 72 hours.

A combination of good personal hygiene and management of social distancing can protect from infection. This is at the core of this document.

The IIHF recommends the following procedures to protect all involved and the wider community so that the effects of our activity will not increase the risks of spreading the virus.

## **When the time is right**

No hiring of inflatables until Government advice changes regarding essential journeys.  
If an activity cannot be undertaken safely, it should not take place.

No persons should take part in the active supply and delivery of inflatables if :

- A. They have virus symptoms. High temperature, cough, shortness of breath or breathing difficulties.
- B. They are living with someone who is self-isolating or waiting for a Covid 19 test result. It should be noted that recent studies have suggested that Covid 19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.
- C. They are living with “at risk groups” as defined by the HSE.
- D. They have returned to the island of Ireland within the last 14 days .  
They should refer to national advice issued by the HSE and or the department of foreign affairs.

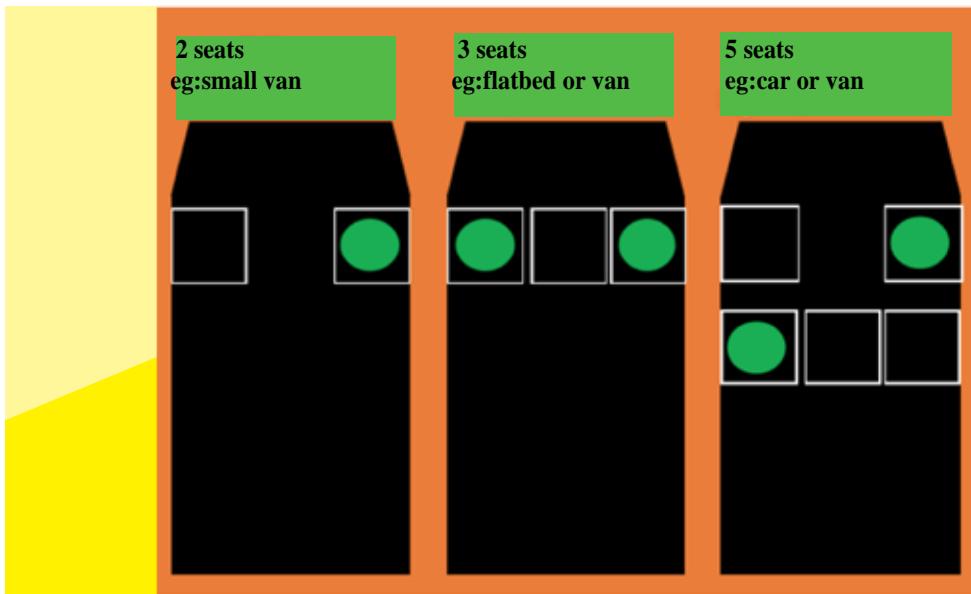
It is incumbent for all IIHF members who take part in the supply, delivery. And set up of inflatables to take all possible steps to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

It is recommended that each IIHF member have a Covid Safety Plan in place that can be clearly shown to your customers, workers and anyone else who might be interested in the procedures.

### **For the health and safety of you and your workers you should ensure that:**

- A. 1 person occupies 1 vehicle. Unless your co-worker is living with you or you can install an appropriate divider in the van
- B. Alternatively, you should comply with social distancing in your vehicle as much as possible by adhering to the spacing in the diagram below we strongly advice wearing PPE gloves and masks in this situation
- C. Carry hand sanitiser (at least 60% alcohol) and use it regularly throughout your journey.
- D. Dispose of used wipes/cleaning materials in a designated bin/sealed bag and wash hands for at least 20 seconds.

## Recommended maximum road vehicle occupancy



### Recommended Maximum Road Vehicle Seating Arrangements

No. of seats	Max no. of occupant's	Seating
2	1	1 driver
3		1 in the driving seat 1 in the far passenger seat
5		1 in the driving seat 1 in the far passenger seat

When entering (and leaving) all vehicles the driver should clean all common areas that are liable to be touched including the external door handles, keys and other internal furnishings.



- Steering Wheel
- Gearstick
- Handbrake
- Door handles
- Radio and controls
- Steering column-indicators, window wipers controls etc
- Elbow rests
- Seat position controls
- Door Frame

## Tools and Equipment (van ,hammer ,pegs and peg extractor )

- All tools and equipment should be properly sanitised to prevent cross contamination
- Arrangements for one individual to use the same tool and equipment as much as possible.

## Social Distancing

### What is social distancing?

Social distancing, or physical distancing, is a set of interventions or measures taken to prevent the spread of a COVID-19 by maintaining a physical distance between people and reducing the number of times people come into close contact with each other.

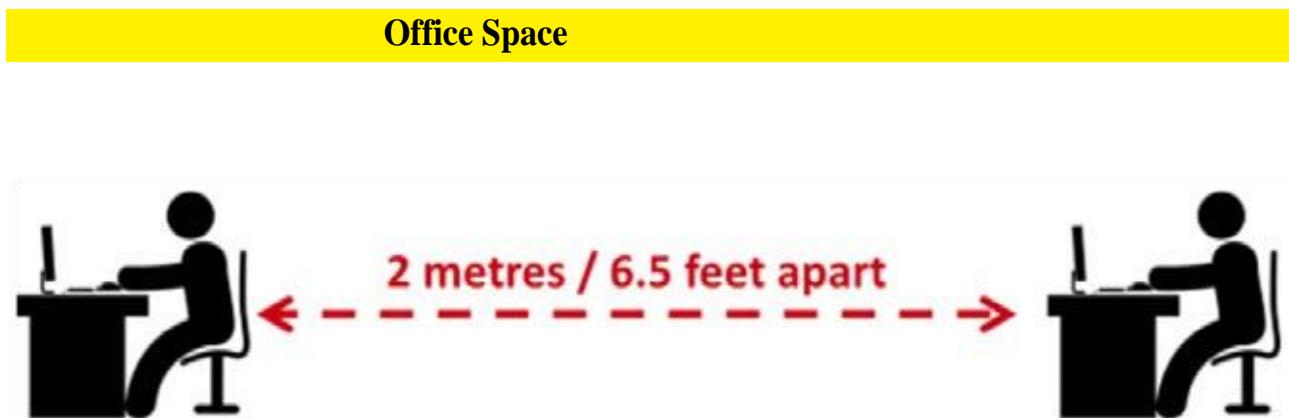
In order to slow the transmission rate of COVID-19,a social distancing of minimum 2m is recommended by the HSE.

## Compliance

Some of the larger operators should consider nominating a Covid 19 compliance offer to oversee safety measures.

## Office Space

Offices space should always adhere to social distancing



## Close Working

Close working is defined if workers are less than 2 meters apart

Elimination of close working is preferable and should be investigated.

Typically, the most likely areas of close working with inflatable workers is

- A. Loading and unloading a vehicle
- B. Rolling up and transporting an inflatable
- C. Members should avoid and take measure to avoid these situations where possible such as using a roller bar
- D. Members should do everything they can to minimize their time in close contact and should wear PPE gloves and masks.
- E. Prior to donning appropriate gloves, personnel shall wash / sanitise their hands thoroughly.

## General Hygiene

Hands should be washed:

- after coughing or sneezing
- before and after eating
- before and after preparing food
- if you were in contact with someone who has a fever or respiratory symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing)
- before and after being on public transport if you must use it
- before and after being in a crowd (especially an indoor crowd)
- when you arrive and leave buildings including your home or anyone else's home
- before having a cigarette or vaping
- if your hands are dirty
- after toilet use
- Do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean
- Do not share objects that touch your mouth – for example, bottles, cups
- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve when you cough and sneeze
- Put used tissues into a bin and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

## For the protection of our customers, users of your inflatables and the public in general you should:

- A. Wipe down/spray all surfaces that users may have come in contact with on inflatable equipment with anti-bacterial liquid
- B. Always maintain social distancing between you and all other people including your customers .
- C. Before commencing with a hire, you should make clear to your customers what procedures you will be carrying out and that you will expect the same from them. Perhaps you can send them a copy of your basic plan or health and safety procedures that you have put in place.
- D. To avoid close contact, you should get paid online beforehand.
- E. Remind your customers that you will expect minimum 2 meters distancing when you arrive on site
- F. Have hand sanitizer available to wipe the plug and the end of the lead that you may have to hand in the window.
- G. Explain and reassure your customers that the inflatable has been wiped down before it arrives and that on collection you would like a clear site with no people to comply with physical distancing and you should take the opportunity so you can re spray with anti-bacterial liquid. Do not forget the fan.
- H. We strongly recommend wearing PPE masks and gloves while setting up and taking down.

It is advisable to remind customers of their responsibilities regarding who can attend and use the inflatable depending on the government advice at that time.

### Confirmed COVID-19 Case at Work

If a confirmed case is identified in your workplace, the HSE will provide the relevant staff with advice.

#### These staff include:

- any employee in close face-to-face or touching contact
- talking with or being coughed on for any length of time while the employee was symptomatic
- anyone who has cleaned up any bodily fluids
- close friendship groups or workgroups
- any employee living in the same household as a confirmed case
- **Contacts are not considered cases and if they are well, they are very unlikely to have spread the infection to others:**
- those who have had close contact will be asked to stay at home for 14 days from the last time they had contact with the confirmed case and follow the home isolation information sheet.

- they will be actively followed up by the HSE
- if they develop new symptoms or their existing symptoms worsen within their 14-day observation period they should call their doctor for reassessment
- if they become unwell with cough and/or fever they will be tested for COVID-19
- if they are unwell at any time within their 14-day observation period and they test positive for COVID-19 they will become a confirmed case.

Staff who have not had close contact with the original confirmed case do not need to take any precautions and can continue to attend work.

*Note: Close contact is defined by the HSE as spending more than 15 minutes face-to-face contact within 2 metres of an infected person / living in the same house or shared accommodation as an infected person.*

In conclusion there are various categories of hire ,private household hire and small and large event hire ,this document is mainly relevant to private household hire. Event hire may require more detailed consideration when government advice on events is updated from the current situation regarding large gatherings .

## **Protect this child protect this industry**

## **Additional Reading**

### **LATEST INFORMATION FROM HEALTH SERVICES EXECUTIVE:**

For the most up to date information, from health care professionals, members are advised to monitor the HSE website: <https://www2.hse.ie/conditions/coronavirus/coronavirus.html>

### **CONTINUITY PLANNING**

Continuity planning is important at this time and the latest advice on this matter, including a checklist of preparatory actions can be found at:

<https://dbei.gov.ie/en/Publications/Business-Continuity-Planning-Checklist-Responding-to-an-Influenza-Outbreak.html>

**NSAI' COVID-19 WORKPLACE PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT GUIDE**

<https://www.nsai.ie/images/uploads/general/NSAI-Guidelines-COVID-19-Defence.pdf>

**POSTERS**

The HSE has prepared a package of resource materials that may be displayed in all workplaces and sites.

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/partner-resources/>

**TRAVEL ADVICE**

Travel advise is available on the website of the Department of Foreign Affairs at: [www.dfa.ie/travel/travel-advice/coronavirus](http://www.dfa.ie/travel/travel-advice/coronavirus)

**HEALTH PROTECTION SURVEILLANCE CENTRE (HPSC)**

The HPSC provide advice for the general public and for specific groups and settings including employers, healthcare professionals, education settings and religious settings at: [www.hpsc.ie](http://www.hpsc.ie)

**WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION (WHO):**

[www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

**CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC):**

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**The Health and Safety Authority (HSA):**

[http://www.hsa.ie/eng/news\\_events\\_media/news/news\\_and\\_articles/coronavirus.html](http://www.hsa.ie/eng/news_events_media/news/news_and_articles/coronavirus.html)

HSA FAQ's: [http://www.hsa.ie/eng/news\\_events\\_media/news/news\\_and\\_articles/covid-19\\_additional\\_hsa\\_faqs.html](http://www.hsa.ie/eng/news_events_media/news/news_and_articles/covid-19_additional_hsa_faqs.html)

**WORKPLACE RELATIONS COMMISSION (WRC):**

[https://www.workplacerelations.ie/en/news-media/workplace\\_relations\\_notices/covid.html](https://www.workplacerelations.ie/en/news-media/workplace_relations_notices/covid.html)

