

Polocrosse – Risk Assessment & Modifications To Activity

Polocrosse is a team sport that is a combination of polo and lacrosse. It is played primarily outside on a pitch that is 55m × 146m in size, on horseback. Each rider uses a cane or fibreglass stick (around 107cm long) to which is attached a racquet head with a loose, thread net, in which the ball is carried. The ball is made of sponge rubber with an impermeable outer skin and is approximately four inches across. A game is typically made up of three chukkas of six minutes (18 mins total) with close contact between players usually less than 30 seconds per chukka. The objective is to score goals by throwing the ball between the opposing team's goal posts.

Risk	Specific Items	Controls already in place during normal polocrosse	Further mitigation actions to mitigate COVID19 Risk
Droplet Transmission (being unable to maintain social distancing during play)	Warm Up area	Playing area is either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor either on a on grass or arena surface • Covered arena 	Space is large, open and well maintained however social distancing must be maintained during warm up.
	Playing area	Playing area is either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outdoor either on a on grass or arena surface • Covered arena 	No change as playing space is large, open and well ventilated.
	Numbers on Pitch	Players are limited to six on the pitch at any one time Game overseen by twp umpires Goals overseen by four (max) judges	Player number remains at six. Umpire number remains at two to ensure sufficient control of game. Goal judges reduced to two max (one at each goal) and remain off-pitch.
	Line Outs	Players stand knee to knee against their opposing player and side by side Distance is maintained from team meetings due to size/length of horse	Additional separation line to be used that increases the space between opposing players. Umpires to stay well back during line out and during game.
	Contact points during play	Contact points are limited to short ride offs that take place side by side. Tackling is allowed, but the use of the racquet requires distance between players to be effective (average racquet length is 107cm)	No change but umpires will monitor and take action if contact points become sustained.

	Officials	Game supported by three officials – field marshal, scorer and timekeeper	All roles still completed but with a minimum of 2m distance between them.
Fomite Transmission (shared equipment and objects)	Racquets	Players use their own racquets and do not swap.	No change but additional sanitising is recommended. If a player drops a racquet during a game, they must retrieve it.
	Balls	Players provide balls.	Umpire provides ball and is the only one to handle the ball. A gloved hand or a racquet to be used to throw in. Umpires stay well back from players. Goal judges return ball to umpire with racquet. No one outside the field returns the ball. Ball regularly sanitised (reminder that ball has an impenetrable outer covering).
	Horse Tack and equipment	Horse tack and equipment can be shared if required.	No sharing of horse tack or equipment. Horse tack to be sanitised regularly.
	Whistles	Umpire provides own whistle with some provided by clubs.	No change but umpire to protect use of whistle and sanitise regularly. Clubs and event organisers will not provide.
	Radios	Handheld radios provided by event organisers	Radios sanitised regularly and transfer between users further minimised.
	Paperwork and Timers	Game Paperwork is completed by scorer and field marshal Timers (and spares) provided by clubs	Game paperwork only completed by scorer and placed into plastic document. Scorer provides own pen. Timers to be provided by timekeeper. If not possible then timers to be sanitised after every use.
Population Risk (reducing the numbers of people involved to a minimum)	On site	No limit on spectators or players	No spectators or public encouragement of attendance Attendance limited to a maximum of 120 per day. Limit attendance by one player plus one person per horse (in line with other disciplines) unless vital support is needed e.g. young player support. All attendees to maintain social distancing.

			<p>All vehicles (cars, trailers and lorries) must be parked a minimum of 5m apart.</p> <p>Access in and out of the venue to be monitored to ensure that Track and Trace information is collected and maximum numbers managed.</p>
Overnight Stays	No limit on people staying on site		<p>Overnight stays to be minimised.</p> <p>Camping in households to be in line with home country guidance.</p>
Travel	No restrictions on travel		<p>Travelling should be undertaken with people from the same household.</p> <p>Travel should remain as local as possible.</p> <p>Travel in line with home country guidance.</p>
Hospitality	No restrictions on hospitality		No club houses or marquees to be used to deter socialising and potential breach of social distancing
Catering	No restrictions on catering		Encourage players to bring their own food and drink although outside hospitality can be provided in line with home country guidance.
Briefings	Briefings often carried out onsite		All information relevant to the game and event to be shared either via email, website or social media platforms
Results and Prize Giving	Results and prize giving normally carried out on site at the end of the event.		All results will be posted online following the event and prizes distributed by post.