



## Briefing Note

Source: Personnel Policy, Army HQ

**Date:** 17 Jul 20

**ABN:** 105/2020

## COVID-19 – RESUMPTION OF ARMY ORIENTEERING

1. **Issue.** An update on the resumption of Army Orienteering delivered as Individual Military Training (IMT) for which the Director of Personnel is the Training Requirements Authority (TRA).
2. **Target Audience.** All Commanders.
3. **Staff Branch for ABN Digest.** G7.
4. **Extract for Routine Orders.** The following is to be repeated on Unit Routine Orders:

**Resumption of Army Orienteering.** The resumption of Army Orienteering delivered as Individual Military Training (IMT) through the Army Orienteering Association will be conditions based and will only resume in accordance with Government, Devolved Administration, National Governing Body (NGB), [FRAGO 001 to Pj PHOENIX OpO 001](#) and the most up to date the Force Health Protection Instructions (FHPI). With effect 1 Aug 20, Orienteering in England is authorised to resume.

Orienteering in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland remains suspended with resumption not permitted until Devolved Administration and NGB direction has been updated.

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5. **Key Points.** The following key points should be noted.
  - a. The authorisation to conduct Army Orienteering Association events remains unchanged and is listed at para 5.052 of [AGAI 5](#) and [2018DIN07-103](#).

- b. Where appropriate the resumption of Army Orienteering Association events must be conducted in accordance with direction from the devolved administrations and in accordance with NGB [Rules for Orienteering](#).
- c. All activity must be conducted in accordance with [FRAGO 001 to Pj PHOENIX OpO 001](#) and the most up to date Force Health Protection Instruction (FHPI). COVID-19 Risk Assessments will be required to be completed for each site and activity using the FHPI RtW assessment as guidance. Further details can be obtained from the [COVID-19 FHP SharePoint Site](#).
- d. All Army Orienteering Association events must have a nominated POC to facilitate any outbreak control of personnel and rapid access to potentially affected individuals. Contact details of participants and support staff must be recorded and maintained for 21 days for contact tracing purposes.
- e. Provided social distancing, hand hygiene and travel arrangements are in place, and extant COVID-19 FHP<sup>1</sup> direction is followed, the biggest risk is environmental transmission from equipment. Where possible individuals should use personal, or personally issued equipment.
- (1) Equipment should not be shared during the activity.
  - (2) Equipment and maintenance tools must be appropriately cleaned taking into account both maintenance instructions and COVID-19 requirements.
  - (3) Where equipment is loaned, it must be appropriately cleaned before being stored for the next user. Ideally equipment should be left for 72hrs before use by the next user. Users must wash their hands before and after use of all equipment.
- f. Until HMG and Army FHP guidance is amended to ease restrictions:
- (1) Event organisers are to conduct pre-activity safety briefings virtually and prior to the event.
  - (2) Only single day events are permitted.
  - (3) Booking in and draw processes are to be conducted remotely (where applicable).
  - (4) Restrictions are to be imposed on gatherings pre and post competition.
  - (5) Results are to be sent out electronically after events.
- g. Considerations beyond the active participation:
- (1) Guidance on travel can be found in [FRAGO 001 to Pj PHOENIX OpO 001](#). Consideration given to travel to and from events, especially if personnel are travelling from or through areas under local lockdown restrictions.
  - (2) Maintenance of Social Distancing whilst undertaking the activity.

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<sup>1</sup> [FRAGO 001 to Pj PHOENIX OpO 001](#)

(3) Use of facilities at the site – provision of hand washing or sanitising facilities, what ablutions can be used (many public toilets remain closed), feeding arrangements (this will change dynamically as HMG guidance on when cafes can open change, however basic principles of eating outdoors and using takeaway facilities where possible, not overcrowding catering facilities and using entry and exit routes and split sittings, and not sharing utensils or crockery remain).

(4) Damp conditions in changing rooms present additional risks from shared showering, therefore communal shower facilities are not to be used. Personnel must use their designated accommodation/home facilities for showering pre and post events.

**6. Points of Contact.**

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