



COVID-19 protocol: Crossing between Green and Amber Zones on GB racecourses

Introduction

The use of zones is a key mitigating intervention to reduce Covid-19 transmission. Currently on racecourses there are primarily two zones in use:

- Green – Essential Staff
- Amber - Owners

The separation of attendees into zones – and the different requirements in relation to entry education and screening for each zone – reflect the different levels of risk for Covid-19 transmission. Participants in the Green Zone are not always able to maintain social distancing, particularly when handling horses, while owners in the Amber zone are able to remain socially distanced and adhere to different regulations, such as the 'Rule of Six', at all times.

Advice from NHS Test and Trace has indicated that in the event of a positive case of coronavirus within a zone, they may order quarantine of all individuals in any zone that person has entered, reinforcing the need for clear separation of zones.

Zones should be separated by physical boundaries (e.g. 2m wide double crush barriers or a solid divide from the ground).

1. Access to Green and Amber Zones

The Green Zone will be active from 5 hours before the first race, when the screening checkpoint opens. Racecourses may wish to implement their own screening arrangements prior to this point, but all personnel present on the racecourse before this time **MUST** leave and re-enter via the checkpoint when it opens.

Having completed the BHA Green Zone screening process, racecourse personnel will have access to all Green and Amber Zone areas until the Amber Zone opens to owners (usually 1 hour before the first race). All other attendees must remain within the green zone or leave the racecourse.

Access to the Amber Zone will be in line with the agreed protocols and procedures. Social Distancing, hand hygiene and use of face coverings/masks must be observed when in the Amber Zone. Any individual with access to the Amber Zone cannot access the Green Zone. Racecourse personnel who carry out active roles in the Amber Zone must ensure they are in position prior to this zone opening to owners and will not be readmitted to the Green Zone after this time. If they finish their duties prior to the end of racing, they must exit the site from the Amber Zone.

Any individual that has been in an Amber Zone at any racecourse who subsequently needs admittance into any Green Zone on a further raceday must ensure that on return home/to their overnight accommodation, in order to remove any viral contamination, they

- Wash any face coverings or clothes worn in the Amber Zone
- Shower
- Ensure that any clothing, footwear or equipment that cannot be washed or otherwise cleaned is not used in any racecourse Green Zone for a minimum of 72 hours.

2. Permission to cross zones

Where it is necessary for an individual within the Green Zone to cross the Amber Zone to access their usual working area (e.g. for Stewards to reach the viewing box and then return to the Stewards' Room) controlled crossing points may be in place. These crossing points must be rigorously controlled with stewarding in place at all times. There must be no crossover of individuals from different zones.



It may be permissible, in very limited circumstances only, for essential racecourse personnel to move from the Green to Amber Zone. Racecourse operational plans should include the procedures to support this process, which may be agreed with the BHA Chief Medical Adviser. A Senior Member of the Racecourse management team must be responsible for all instances of zone crossing and should ensure that the details are kept of any instance of zone crossing, including the relevant individual(s), timing, reason, PPE used and other operational procedures followed.

Instances where crossing of zones may be permissible are:

a. *Emergency Situations:*

Life or limb threatening medical emergency or critical infrastructure failure which cause a threat to life or are highly likely to cause suspension of racing. In these instances, the zones may be crossed by

- Medical Team wearing Level 3 PPE
- Maintenance Team – must maintain Social Distancing and wear relevant PPE (e.g. gloves and face covering).
- A Senior member of the Racecourse Management team, if not already present in the relevant Zone - must maintain Social Distancing and wear relevant PPE (e.g. gloves and face covering)

These individuals may return to the Zone in which they are usually based, having changed their PPE, washed and sanitised their hands and cleaned any equipment.

b. *Non-Emergency Situations*

Where a member of staff cannot fulfil their raceday role without crossing the Amber Zone and where all alternative options have been explored¹, application can be made to request movement into or through the Amber Zone. Applications must be made in advance to the BHA Medical Department.

Unless in an enclosed vehicle (if multiple occupants, clinical grade PPE should be worn) or wearing full Level 3 PPE, any individual who exits the Green Zone into the Amber Zone in a non-emergency situation may not return to the Green Zone on the same day.

3. COVID-19 requirements

All racecourse attendees must comply with the [BHA COVID-19 Requirements](#). A failure to comply may result in removal from the racecourse and a period of exclusion from all racecourse premises.

Attendees should review this document each time they attend the racecourse.

¹ For example, cross Amber Zone before it goes live on a raceday or travel down a Green Corridor through Amber Zone