

9 October 2020

To whom it may concern,

Ramblers Scotland is a Scottish Governing Body of Sport (SGB) and is working closely with **sportscotland**, the government agency that oversees sporting activity across the country, to ensure all our activities are compliant with the rules and regulations the Scottish Government has implemented to protect us all from the spread of Covid-19.

Organised, outdoor, non-contact sports and physical activities have an explicit exemption from the current rules that cover many other kinds of gatherings, limiting most such gatherings to six people from two households. Organised sports and physical activities are governed instead by procedures and guidelines designed by SGBs, including Ramblers Scotland, and approved by **sportscotland**. These guidelines are designed to help those organising and taking part in physical activities and sport to implement government advice and requirements appropriately, and thus keep everybody safe.

At present, organised, outdoor, non-contact physical activities and sport can take place anywhere in Scotland provided they follow the guidelines of the relevant SGB, which will include a maximum number of participants of up to 30 people, as well as requirements around physical distancing and hygiene. This exemption includes all walks organised by Ramblers Scotland groups, which will also comply with any relevant local restrictions regarding travel and other matters. You can find out more about how sports and physical activities, including Ramblers Scotland walks, are complying with government requirements here:

Scottish Government guidance on sports and physical activity, 8 October

www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-sport-and-leisure-facilities

sportscotland guidance to coaches, 5 October

sportscotland.org.uk/media/6141/october-5th-coaching-guidance-phase-3-edit.pdf

Ramblers guidelines for our walking groups as featured on sportscotland's website, 23 September

ramblers.org.uk/coronavirus

As you would expect, we will continue to keep our guidelines under review to ensure compliance with national and local guidelines as we all move through this difficult period together. If you still have ongoing questions, please email scotland@ramblers.org.uk

Yours faithfully,



Brendan Paddy
Director, Ramblers Scotland

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