



## ROYAL PIGEON RACING ASSOCIATION

### COVID-19

## RACE CLOCKING GUIDANCE IN N.IRELAND

Version 1 - 20<sup>th</sup> April 2021

### Introduction

This document should be read in conjunction with the Race Marking Guidance

**Please note the guidance currently relates solely to N.Ireland**

Under the current restrictions clock striking has to take place outdoors

### Clock Striking

Clubs may have to procure suitable equipment to ensure the welfare standards team are met. For example, a large gazebo may be used to provide initial shelter from rain for the race marking team.

1. Many clubs/organisations race mark at a venue within a pub or club. You should approach the venue to confirm they will be open. Clubs may have to find alternative venues.
2. Where it is not possible for a club or organisation to find a suitable venue they should approach neighbouring clubs or organisations with a view to sharing facilities. In fact we would encourage this as much as possible.
3. The club should appoint a Clock Striking team of no more than ten people from two different households.
4. Where teams consist of members from different households they should adhere to the social distancing requirements and therefore should not come within more than two metres of each other.

### Members attending the clock striking

1. Members should be provided with an appointment time to deliver their clock. Clubs should ensure that appointment times provide sufficient time to complete the task of race marking and therefore avoid a build-up of parked vehicles. Members should deliver their clock in a vehicle. The member should place the clock outside the vehicle or within an open boot.
2. While the member is in the car one of the clock striking team should approach the vehicle and remove the clock. At no time should a member of the clock striking team or the competitor come into contact with each other.
3. If the clock committee are retaining the clock - As soon as the clock is in the care of the clock striking team the member should vacate the premises.
4. If the clock is being returned to the member then this should be completed before the next member arrives and should be placed in the boot. At no time should a member of the clock striking team and the member come into contact.

### Hygiene

1. Each member of the clock striking team should wear a suitable face covering where possible a set of gloves, for example when collecting the clock from a vehicle.
2. Facilities to wash and sanitise hands shall be made available. Before handling equipment belonging to other members the race marking team should disinfect the equipment with a suitable disinfectant wipe. Please check the wipes are suitable to use on timing equipment.
3. After handling equipment each member of the clock striking team should thoroughly wash their hands and ensure their hands are dry before handling other equipment.

4. A two metre exclusion zone is implemented away from the clock striking facilities.
5. Only one member of the team should handle equipment. **Do not double handle.**
6. Gloves should be used at all times
7. External surfaces of all equipment should be wiped over with a suitable disinfectant wipe before storing for the following week.

#### **Due Diligence and responsibilities**

It is important to stress that although the RPRA has developed this guidance to facilitate racing it is ultimately the club that is responsible to ensure Government restrictions and relevant health and safety requirements are met. It is not the responsibility of the RPRA.

It is advisable that all members of the clock striking team are comfortable with the precautions put in place by the