

Domestic Competition approach to Covid 19

The Covid-19 outbreak across the world is having a significant impact on our sport and now that the Olympic and Paralympic Games 2020 is postponed to 2021, means athletes can work with their coaches and plan ahead. The domestic competition calendar is key to many athletes' season, and unfortunately many leagues including Youth Development League, English Schools and UK Schools Games have cancelled their fixtures for this season.

The Competition Strategy Group (CSG)* are reviewing the domestic competition calendar pragmatically, hoping that some competition for our athletes can be provided later in the year. This of course, is dependent on if the government ban on social gatherings continues to be extended.

We are aware that there is a need for local competition especially for younger athletes, but also for Seniors and Masters; and will aim to work with County Associations and the providers of young athlete competition to ensure there is a good spread of local events that meet the needs of athletes in the competition dates that are available to us.

With this in mind, the Competition Strategy Group (CSG)* will engage with domestic competition providers so that we can manage the calendar effectively, with the capacity of facilities and officials available. The following has been relayed to competition providers:

- ✚ The domestic track and field calendar will extend to the end of September 2020
- ✚ All league fixtures that are cancelled in line with Government guidelines will not be rescheduled to avoid fixture congestion (due to the capacity of the number of weekends available) and pressure on the Officials. This may mean that some leagues may only have one or two fixtures for the year. If this was the case, then consider;
 - *Arranging an end of year Cup Competition*
 - *Arranging an open meeting format to provide a competition opportunity for as many athletes as possible* (this will depend on whether the ban is extended or not).
 - *Arranging weekday competitions*
- ✚ Leagues should abandon their promotion and relegation process, due to this unusual season
- ✚ The CSG will be mapping rescheduled key fixtures and the priority events will be:
 - ✓ ***British Championships***
 - ✓ ***Home Country Championships***
 - ✓ ***Area Championships***

Useful links:

- [UKA website](#)
- [England Athletics](#)
- [Welsh Athletics](#)
- [Scottish Athletics](#)
- [Athletics Northern Ireland](#)

*The membership of the CSG is UKA, HCAF's and the Athletes Commission; see <https://www.uka.org.uk/competitions/>