ScotSAC Covid update.

Following the latest Government announcements some good news on the horizon for divers.

The best news for divers is probably that travel restrictions for journeys within Scotland will be lifted entirely form 26th April and you will also be able to go and buy kit and book a B & B as the remaining retail opens and tourist accommodation also opens.

See the summary of the details as they pertain to sport below with those particularly relevant to SCUBA highlighted.

The key indicative dates most relevant to the sport sector are:

* **2 April  Stay local**

Stay at home measures become stay local – people can travel within local authority area for a non-essential purpose.

* **5 April**  **For 12-17 year olds**

Outdoor contact sport can resume.

* **12 April** (or end of Easter holidays)  **Schools**

All pupils go back to school full-time.

* **26 April** (Described as a move to a modified level 3 for mainland Scotland.)
  + **Gyms**

Gyms can open for individual exercise (NB: Scottish Government has previously used ‘gyms’ to refer to indoor sports facilities generally).

* + **Outdoor gatherings**

For 12 to 17 year olds – up to 6 people from 6 households can socialise outdoors.  
For adults - up to 6 adults from 3 households can socialise outdoors.

* + **Domestic travel**

All travel restrictions will be lifted in mainland Scotland.   
Scottish Government will consult with island communities on the need for any continued restrictions in travel to the islands and hopes to lift restrictions on travel to the rest of the UK and Ireland on or soon after 26 April.

* + **Accommodation**

Tourist accommodation can open with restrictions in place.

* + **Retail & close contact services**

All shops and close contact services can re-open.

* + **Hospitality**

Hospitality venues like cafes, pubs and restaurants can open until: 8p.m. indoors (no alcohol) 10p.m. outdoors (alcohol permitted).   
Up to 4 people from 2 households can socialise indoors in a public place such as a café or restaurant.

* + **Shielding**

People on the shielding list can return to work; children and young people on the shielding list can return to school or nursery; and students on the shielding list can return to college or university.

* + **Islands**

Possible move from current level 3 restrictions to level 2 restrictions.

* **17 May** (Described as a move to level 2.)
  + **Outdoor sport**

Outdoor adult contact sport can resume.

* + **Indoor group exercise**

Indoor group exercise can resume. (NB: This appears to be distinct from indoor non-contact sport. See Early June.)

* + **Indoor gatherings**

Up to 4 people from 2 households can socialise indoors in a private home or public space.

* + **Hospitality**

Hospitality venues can remain open until: 10:30p.m. indoors (alcohol permitted, 2 hour dwell time) 10:00p.m outdoors (alcohol permitted).

* + **Spectator events**

Small-scale outdoor and indoor events can resume subject to capacity constraints.

* + **Further & Higher Education**

Universities and colleges can return to a more blended model of learning.

* **Early June** (Described as a move to level 1.)
  + **Indoor non-contact sport**

Indoor non-contact sport can take place.

* + **Gatherings**

Up to 6 people from up to 3 households can socialise indoors in a home or public place.   
Up to 8 people from 3 households can socialise outdoors.   
For 12-17 year olds, up to 8 people from 8 households can meet socially outdoors.

* + **Hospitality**

Hospitality venues can remain open until 11pm.

* + **Events**

Attendance at events can increase in numbers subject to capacity constraints.

* **Late June** (Described as a move to level 0.)
  + **Events**

Attendance at events can increase in numbers subject to capacity constraints.

* + **Offices**

A phased return of some office staff.

You can find more information from the Scottish Government site here

https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/