

Midland Swing Open Covid-19 Safety Policy – 25th July 2021

On 12th July the UK prime minister outlined that Stage 4 re-opening will go ahead as planned on 19th July, all covid restrictions will be lifted and the onus of responsibility now lies with the individual business operators. Following the announcements, we have taken the decision to write this document to make clear how we plan to operate our weekend events over the coming months. Since the beginning of the pandemic, the situation has been fluid and continues to be so. These plans will be reviewed constantly and adjustments made as required.

Here is what to expect...

Restricted numbers

Masks encouraged but not mandatory

Hand sanitizer will be available

Covid-19 Health status check

Do not attend if you feel unwell

What to do if you feel unwell at the event

Fixed or Mixed partners

Covid-19 refunds

Restricted numbers

This year we will be limiting numbers to 150 dancers including our event staff.

Masks and Sanitizer

Masks are no longer required to be worn by law, but we'd like to encourage you to keep wearing them if you're happy to do so. Especially, in public areas of the hotel and ports of travel.

Multiple sanitiser stations will be positioned around the hotel and ballrooms. These stations should be visited and used frequently by all attendees.

Social distancing

Although social distancing is hard to observe when dancing in close proximity. We ask that you are mindful of your interactions with people that not attending the event but may be in and around the hotel e.g. Hotel guests, Service staff, Taxi and Public transport staff.

Covid-19 Health status checks

Testing - We recommend to everyone in our community to begin testing at home, if you are not already. This will help grow confidence in the dance community and make sure to be ready for a fast response to any outbreak of Covid-19 amongst our attendees.

The quickest and easiest way to accomplish this is through using Rapid Lateral Flow Test (LFT) kits. They are quick and easy to use, with test results being returned within 30

minutes. Testing twice weekly is recommended. Your test results should be submitted to NHS and a confirmation will be sent to you via e-mail and/or SMS.

To attend MSO 2021 you will need to either,

For vaccinated individuals; if you have had your full Covid-19 vaccination and 2 weeks have passed from your latest dose (latest 8th September), then you will need only show a negative LFT report in the past 48 hours leading up to the event. (This is consistent with the NHS covid pass which may also be accepted if widely in use at the time of the event).

For un-vaccinated individuals; If you are immunocompromised or choose not to have the vaccine for personal reasons then we will ask you to show a series of negative LFT results in the lead up to the event. 2 negative LFT results 48 hours apart in the week of the event, as an example, test results from Monday & Wednesday for Thursday arrivals and Tuesday & Thursday for Friday arrivals.

During and After the event – We recommend to everyone to continue using LFT kits during the event and once you have returned home. Testing every 48-72 hours, reporting your results to NHS and informing us if you have a positive test result.

Upon submission of your result to the NHS you will receive a confirmation e-mail or SMS that confirms your test result. That is what we would like you to show the MSO staff upon your arrival. We do not want to see the actual test strips.

The request to show a series of LFT reports is us putting our trust into individuals for the sake of the the community. When asking you to show test results that are completed at home prior to the event, there is no way MSO staff will be able to verify who has actually taken those tests. Please be trustworthy.

For International dancers, the same level of vaccination or negative LFT reports from your own governments/health authorities are acceptable.

Rapid Lateral Flow Tests, available from NHS and many other sites too. Follow this link to order your test kits for free, <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Learn more about NHS Advice on Lateral Flow Tests, <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

Learn how to use a Lateral flow test kit, <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/how-to-do-a-test-at-home-or-at-a-test-site/how-to-do-a-rapid-lateral-flow-test/>

Do not attend if you are unwell

Please stay at home if you are feeling unwell or present any symptoms of Covid-19 in the lead up to the event.

What to do if you feel unwell at the event

If you feel unwell at all, stay in your hotel room, do not attend the event activities. Contact one of the MSO event staff privately, immediately through the messenger app on the Facebook event page or via email through our website. MSO Staff will be happy to help get you medicines, test kits and further medical advice or attention if necessary. **Room sharing** - If one person in a room feels unwell, then all room mates should also begin isolation.

Fixed or Mixed partners

Be mindful that not everyone is ready to mix with others as freely as some may be ready to. Now more than ever, do not be afraid to say 'no', or feel awkward about someone saying 'no' to you. Just try to be understanding, as none of us know anyone else's story. To help with this, we are looking at ways of indicating who is ready to mix or who is staying fixed partners. (An update will follow)

Covid-19 Refunds

If you fall ill due to Covid-19 in the lead up, or at the event itself, we'll be glad to refund you your entire event ticket cost.

Thank you for your support, understanding, dedication and patience,

Lee & Fab