



Legionella

Health and Safety Checklist

Legionella Checklist

Legionella is the bacterium which causes legionnaires' disease, a lung infection you can get from inhaling contaminated water droplets. It is uncommon but it can be very serious and potentially fatal. If you mothball your club's premises over winter, then you could be at a raised level of risk of developing legionella bacteria in your water system.

Understanding how legionella forms, how to prevent and how to control legionella is not simple and unless you can be certain your processes and controls are robust and effective then the recommendation is that you seek expert advice from a qualified person/organisation.

The checklist below is simply intended to provide guidance on the likelihood that legionella can develop and survive in your water system as well as understanding who might be at risk. This can then be used to help make an informed decision on whether to seek to get expert advice or not.

HAVE YOU CONDUCTED A LEGIONELLA SURVEY?

Do you:

- Store or re-circulate hot water as part of your hot water system?
- Store water between 20-40°C – this could be your cold-water tank situated in a loft compartment being heated by the ambient temperature conditions.
- See evidence of nutrients such as rust or sludge (this can be seen when you inspect your water tank or if you remove any part of your water system for cleaning or servicing.
- Have conditions that allow water to stagnate? i.e., for long periods not being used, dead end pipes, disused parts of the system e.g., an out of order shower.
- Do you produce water droplets e.g., showers, water sprinklers etc.

Y	N

If you have answered yes to one or more of the above, then you are at risk of developing legionella bacteria in your water system.

WHO MIGHT BE HARMED,

Any person can contract legionnaire disease; however, some people are at greater risk than others. Your survey should consider the demographics of your club membership and others such as visitors.

Do your members and visitors include those who:

- Are over 45.
- Are smokers and/or heavy drinkers.
- Have a pre-conditioned medical ailment, especially those with a suppressed immune system.
- Suffer from chronic respiratory or kidney disease, diabetes, lung, and heart disease.

Y	N

If you answered yes to any of the above, then the risk of someone at your club contracting legionella has increased.

Use the information above to decide if you need further assistance.

Further information can be found [here](#).