Police urge fans to "do the right thing" and stay away from stadiums

Police are urging fans to "do the right thing" and stay away from stadiums as top-flight football kicks off in Scotland today.

Hibs take on Kilmarnock at Easter Road this afternoon and the game will be played without fans present because of restrictions to limit the spread of Covid-19.

Police insist that fans must stick to government guidance, and enforcement will be used "as a last resort".

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Chief Inspector Campbell Crawford, head of Police Scotland's National Football Unit, said: "We are asking people to take personal responsibility to do the right thing and remember the purpose of the measures is to aid the collective effort to stay safe, protect others and save lives by preventing the virus from spreading," he said.

"Police Scotland would ask that supporters follow the guidance from their respective clubs.

"Our officers will continue to engage with the public, explain the legislation and guidance, encourage compliance and use enforcement as a last resort."

SPFL chief executive Neil Doncaster added: "We've all seen what is happening on the continent and in countries such as Australia – potential second waves of coronavirus are a real danger, so we all simply must protect the integrity of the league by being responsible," he said.

"If we all play our part, we have a tremendous opportunity to showcase the very best of our game, in what promises to be a uniquely compelling season ahead."