COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR IFF EVENTS

IFF PLAY IT SAFE
RETURN TO FLOORBALL
Contents

1. Introduction ................................................................................................................................................. 4
2. Objectives ................................................................................................................................................... 5
3. COVID-19 Control Team ............................................................................................................................. 6
4. Pre-competition behaviour for risk prevention ......................................................................................... 7
   4.1. Participating Team Delegations ........................................................................................................... 7
   4.2. IFF Officials ....................................................................................................................................... 8
   4.3. LOC Staff, volunteers and event partners ......................................................................................... 8
5. Non-participation & Substitute countries .................................................................................................. 9
6. Vaccinations .............................................................................................................................................. 9
7. COVID-19 testing & participation requirements ...................................................................................... 10
   7.1. Participating Team Delegations & IFF Officials ................................................................................ 10
   7.2. LOC Staff, volunteers, event partners, and media .......................................................................... 11
8. Test results management ............................................................................................................................ 12
   8.1. Negative Results ............................................................................................................................... 12
   8.2. Positive Results .................................................................................................................................. 12
9. International travel procedures .................................................................................................................. 13
   9.1. Participating Team Delegations ........................................................................................................ 13
   9.2. IFF Officials ...................................................................................................................................... 13
10. Accommodation and meals ...................................................................................................................... 14
11. Local transportation ................................................................................................................................ 15
   11.1. Participating Team Delegations ..................................................................................................... 15
   11.2. IFF Officials ................................................................................................................................... 15
12. Medical equipment and personnel .......................................................................................................... 16
   12.1. LOC ................................................................................................................................................. 16
   12.2. Teams ............................................................................................................................................ 16
   12.3. Other participants ........................................................................................................................... 16
13. Venue setup and operations ....................................................................................................................... 17
   13.1. Venue entry and exit ....................................................................................................................... 17
   13.2. Face masks ..................................................................................................................................... 17
   13.3. Hand Sanitiser ............................................................................................................................... 17
   13.4. Cleaning and sanitisation ............................................................................................................... 18
   13.5. Signage .......................................................................................................................................... 18
   13.6. Venue zoning and accreditation ..................................................................................................... 18
   13.7. Team and Referee facilities and services ...................................................................................... 19
   13.8. Team Tribune ............................................................................................................................... 20
   13.9. Office & Working Areas ................................................................................................................ 20
   13.10. Media Tribune ............................................................................................................................ 20
   13.11. Venue isolation room .................................................................................................................. 20

COVID-19 Protocols for IFF Events
Version 2 (June 2021)
1. Introduction

Since the publishing of the first IFF Covid-19 Event Protocols in January 2021, the Covid-19 pandemic has continued to effect daily lives, however, some very positive changes have occurred. The biggest of these is the approval of several vaccines. These are now being administered around the world and is the first step to returning our major events to ‘normal’.

The roll-out of the vaccine will take time and will happen faster in some countries than others. This means that many of the original protocols for the event itself, such as the wearing of face masks, will still need to be followed. The vaccine will, in particular, have a positive impact on the possibility of teams to travel which has, up until now, been one of the major obstacles for holding international events.

This document sets out the framework for the safe return to competition in IFF International Floorball events. The Protocol sets levels of required expertise, infection prevention, hygiene, medical response and compliance for IFF National Team events.

COVID-19 is very infectious and can cause considerable harm to the human body, affecting multiple organs and the immune system itself. While the pandemic continues, medical science is discovering new things about the virus. This means that the way we manage and contain COVID-19 will evolve over time. While the release of vaccines has begun the widespread use of them and the visible effects will take much longer. Until then, we must continue to apply current prevention strategies which have proven to be very effective in reducing the risk of infection in sport.

To minimise the COVID-19 risk in IFF events we need thorough planning and a strong set of guidelines. These will be important and require diligent implementation, guided by expert support. As much as we can propose and implement these protocols, the success of them will rely on the cooperation, behaviour, and understanding of the teams, players, officials, technical personnel, venue management, media, and spectators.

IFF expects all parties to largely adhere to this Protocol that covers hygiene, biosecurity, testing and medical management. They are in place to protect all participants. Non-compliance with these guidelines may have serious consequences for the staging of the competition and for participants, as well as for the authorisation of future events.
2. Objectives

The aim of this document is to set out a medical and operational framework that IFF, Local organisers, teams, and participants shall follow to ensure everyone’s safety at IFF events.

Due to the constantly changing knowledge of the COVID-19 virus, this Protocol will evolve and be regularly updated. Local public health authorities may require stricter measures than those outlined in these guidelines and would therefore take precedence. Similarly, IFF and the local COVID-19 Control Team may agree to implement stricter measures than those applied in the host country. For this reason, the protocols for each event may be different, but the basic guidelines will always remain the same.

All stakeholders will be informed of the specific protocols for their event.

The document sets out the procedures necessary for organising IFF events and covers aspects such as participant requirements, testing procedures, game management, travel, accommodation, venue operations, and symptoms and positive case identification. It is a requirement that all event LOCs, teams and participants follow this Protocol.

Key components are:

- The appointment by the LOC of a COVID-19 Control Team;
- The development of a specific event COVID-19 Implementation Plan by the LOC which is in line with the requirements contained in this Protocol as well as local regulations;
- The appointment of a LOC C-19 Compliance Official who will monitor compliance to this Protocol and the COVID-19 Implementation Plan - and promptly report any deviations to the COVID-19 Control Team and IFF;
- Personal hygiene of participants and the establishment of biosecure team environments;
- Limitation on the number of team participants and exposure to non-team personnel;
- Pre-competition risk assessment, vaccine &/or testing by team medical staff;
- Testing and medical support; and
- Venue and game management including media and broadcast;

Players and support personnel will need to operate in a controlled environment which limits the risk of COVID-19 entry and spread. This will include an assessment of all participants and their risk of infection. It means a medically controlled environment that manages illness and potential COVID-19 infection. It means a process that guides the management of COVID-19 cases and close contacts.
3. COVID-19 Control Team

An IFF event requires the formation of a COVID-19 Control Team by the LOC to govern and ensure a safe environment for all participants. The COVID-19 Control Team requires senior management representation to ensure delegation of resources and implementation of the organisation’s plan. It will also need infectious diseases expertise, sports medicine, compliance and project management capability.

The COVID-19 Control Team shall review these IFF COVID-19 Event Protocols and interpret them for the unique aspects of their own event.

The COVID-19 Control Team will need to liaise with local government and public health authorities. Government and public health authorities will have their own restrictions and controls that must be adhered to or navigated around with their consent.

The IFF Restart Guidelines and WHO Risk Assessment Checklist are useful resources that will assist planning (refer to Appendix 7).

The COVID-19 Control Team shall appoint a LOC C-19 Compliance Official whose role is to ensure compliance to the COVID-19 plan, protocols and restrictions and report any deviations to the IFF C-19 Protocol Officer.

For a full definition of the roles and responsibilities of the COVID-19 Control Team, please see Appendix 1.
4. Pre-competition behaviour for risk prevention

Prior to committing to be part of a team participating in an IFF event, act as an IFF official, or be part of the volunteer staff, all participants must be informed of the conditions under which the event will be held, including these IFF Covid-19 Event Protocols, the specific event Covid-19 implementation plan, and all travel requirements. This information should include (but not be limited to):

- Role of special Covid-19 Compliance officials
- Daily health screening and personal hygiene requirements;
- Transport and accommodation arrangements; and
- Testing procedures before, during, and after the event;
- Vaccination requirements
- General event protocols, such as the wearing of masks

All participants will need to practice good basic personal hygiene and risk-prevention actions prior to and during the event, including:

- Regularly and thoroughly washing your hands with soap and water for twenty seconds;
- Augmenting this with an alcohol-based hand sanitiser;
- Maintaining at least 2m distance between yourself and anyone else including at training except actual participants in the team such as players and coaches;
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth;
- Wearing a face mask when in public;
- Following good respiratory hygiene - covering the mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when coughing, or sneezing, followed by its disposal;
- Showering at accommodation/home before and after training and games;
- Cleaning training equipment before and after individual use;
- Staying home if unwell (e.g. fever, cough, sore throat or difficulty breathing) and call for medical advice; and
- Avoiding public places and transport.

4.1. Participating Team Delegations

Prior to leaving for an IFF Event, all members of a Team Delegation are required to have a 10-day period of relative isolation, as well as either undergo a PCR test or be fully vaccinated. This period of relative isolation does not mean quarantine. Members of the team delegation can live in normal residences and carry on with regular daily activities, but must be conscious of limiting contact with unknown sources. This means still going to school or work but not going to a concert. It can mean doing your regular grocery shopping but not ‘hanging out at the mall’. This means limiting travel on public transport, or doing your gym workouts at home or at times when the gym will have the least amount of people. During this period, teams may compete in official competition and train as normal.

Teams must facilitate and oversee the relative isolation procedures including a limitation of contact from non-team members, limiting the number of participants to those that have essential team roles and compliance oversight.

All teams, including the Host National Team, are expected to nominate their own Team C-19 Compliance Official. This person’s role is to ensure compliance to IFF Competition and team requirements and restrictions.
Requirements and recommendations for training

The training facility shall be appropriately cleaned and sanitised prior to every use.

Players should shower and change at their home or at the hotel immediately prior to and after training. Players should have their own individual towels and drink bottles. Support personnel should also respect social distancing and wear a face mask.

Training at a gym or weight room is permitted but preferably in a controlled environment where only the team delegation are present. All equipment should be sanitised before and after use.

4.2. IFF Officials

Prior to leaving for an IFF Event, IFF referees, staff, appointed Jury and referee observers, and any other representatives (“IFF Officials”) are required to restrict social contacts for a 10-day period. If the individual undertakes high risk employment (e.g. healthcare worker) this shall be declared to IFF. This is to limit the risk of COVID-19 infection.

Individuals may exercise in public spaces during this period but be conscious of COVID-19 infection risks and take precautions.

4.3. LOC Staff, volunteers and event partners

All LOC staff, volunteers and event partners who are appointed to work in the event, particularly where in vicinity of individuals who belong to “Contact Group 1” (e.g. participating Team Delegations, IFF Officials), are required to restrict social contacts as much as possible for a period of 10 days preceding their work in the event. They should also follow the basic personal hygiene and risk-prevention actions listed above. If the individual undertakes high risk employment (e.g. healthcare worker) this shall be declared to the IFF/LOC.
5. Non-participation & Substitute countries

In the case of a team that has qualified for WFC (final rounds only) but is unable to participate due to travel restrictions, quarantine rules, or national law, for reasons connected to Covid-19, the following should apply:

- A substitute nation/s is invited to take part
- The preferred option is that substitute nation/s are chosen based on current world ranking and regional quotas (a team from one region is substituted with another from the same region where possible)
- If regional replacements are not possible, the substitute nation/s will come from the host country continent and be chosen based on current world rankings
- The final date at which a substitution can take place will be decided between the IFF and LOC of the event concerned
- The group placement of the substitute nation/s will take into consideration the ranking of the team, while also minimising the disruption to the overall match schedule

6. Vaccinations

Individuals who have completed a full vaccination programme will be accredited for the event. Proof of the vaccination/s will need to be provided in English, either by an officially recognised printed document or approved digital format. If the formal documents cannot be obtained in English then the National Federation will themselves need to provide a written guarantee that the documents provide the required information.

The full vaccine programme will need to have been completed, with the last stage of the vaccination being taken no earlier than 14 days before arrival at the event.

The hosting country will, in their event-specific COVID-19 Implementation Plan, advise which vaccines are approved by their government/health organisations. If a participant has undergone a vaccine programme which is not approved they will then need to follow the specified testing procedures for their event and provide proof of a negative PCR test before being accredited for the event.

If a participant does meet these vaccination requirements, then they must follow the testing procedures outlined in Section 7.

All nominated IFF Officials are encouraged to complete a vaccination programme prior to participating in an event.

- If a Covid-19 vaccine is available to an IFF official in their home country &/or country of residence, then it is recommended that they complete the vaccine programme before attending an IFF event
- If a nominated IFF official chooses not to complete an available vaccine programme, then any testing required for their participation in an IFF event will be at their own cost

If a nominated IFF Official is unable to complete a vaccine programme due it not being available in their home country &/or country of residence, or not available to their specific age group at the time of their nomination, then the IFF will cover the cost of any tests required for their participation at an event as agreed upon by the IFF and LOC.
7. COVID-19 testing & participation requirements

All IFF event participants are strongly encouraged to receive COVID-19 vaccinations, however it is not a requirement for participation.

Many countries now have more relaxed entry policies for those having completed a vaccine program, while still requiring testing &/or quarantine for those who are not vaccinated.

There will be three criteria of regulations for being allowed to participate in an IFF event. A person may participate in an event if they fulfil one of the following criteria:

1. Have completed a full vaccine program prior to the event date, with the last stage of the vaccination being taken no earlier than 14 days before arrival at the event;
2. Proof of recovery from Covid-19 according to the applicable regulations
3. If vaccination has not been taken/completed, then a negative PCR test taken within 72h of arrival at the event will be required;
4. If proof of neither a completed vaccination or a negative PCR test can be presented, then a 14-day period of quarantine in the host country of the event will be required before being allowed to participate in the event

7.1. Participating Team Delegations & IFF Officials

Pre-travel

IFF requires all members of a Team Delegation, including any participants who are located in the country of the Host (or Event), to satisfy one of the criteria listed above, in order to receive accreditation for the event.

VACCINATIONS: The LOC of the event will advise which vaccines are accepted by their government / health authorities. It will be the responsibility of the participating teams to ensure that their team members have an accepted vaccine. All IFF Officials are strongly recommended to complete a vaccination programme

PROOF OF RECOVERY: The LOC of the event will advise if this is a possible option for entry to their country and the details of it according to the current government / health authority information.

PCR TEST: Only reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) tests (“PCR”) from a laboratory accredited by its government or national public health authority to perform PCR testing will be recognised as a valid test. A test is required as follows:

- One (1) PCR test taken no later than 72h prior to departure (or in case of individuals located in the country of the Host, 72hrs prior to arrival at the event location), or earlier if required by the host country authorities in order to enter the host country;

Example:
- Test: 21 November 2020
- Travel: 23 November 2020

Participants shall obtain at least two (2) copies of the results of this test, which shall be in the English language and must be negative in order to travel to the IFF Event. If the official test result is not able to be secured in English, the National Federation of the participant must confirm the negative result in an
accompanying document in English.

Any participants who have a positive test results from these tests shall isolate immediately and shall not travel.

The relevant institutions in the country of the LOC may require online registration (travel card) before arrival for all travellers connected with the Event. The LOC will provide relevant entry information which is specific to COVID-19 regulations to all participants.

If a member of the team delegation or IFF official (who does not meet the vaccination requirement) arrives to the host country more than 72hrs prior to the event they will need to undergo further testing before being accredited for the event. They must present a negative Anti-gen / PCR test result taken no later than 72hrs prior to the event start to receive accreditation.

Members of the host country team delegation will also need to meet vaccine / testing criteria. If they do not meet the vaccination requirement they must present a negative Anti-gen / PCR test result taken no later than 72hrs prior to the event start to receive accreditation.

**Travel and arrival**

**Arrival in country of the Host**
- All participants shall be prepared to present proof of vaccination or results of the PCR test to border officials or to the local medical staff at the airport, if requested.

**Arrival at the hotel**
- If not already submitted in advance to travel, all participants will be required to present the proof of vaccination or results of the mandatory test to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer, upon arrival at the dedicated hotel.
- Participants who fail to present the proof of vaccination or test result to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer shall not be permitted to participate and will not be able to access the official transport, hotel and/or venue.

**On-site testing**

After arrival, participants may be requested to undergo additional PCR or Anti-gen tests by IFF or local authorities at any time upon arrival or during the event.

The LOC will be responsible for arranging such tests and ensuring a maximum of twenty-four (24) hours of testing turnaround time at a local accredited laboratory. Results shall be communicated by the accredited laboratory to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer, who will be responsible for coordinating any required measures in case of any positive results.

**7.2. LOC Staff, volunteers, event partners, and media**

Staff, volunteers, event partners, and media who will require access to Zone 1 (see section 13) and/or who may find themselves in a situation of close contact with teams, IFF Officials or other participants who belong to “Contact Group 1” may be required by IFF to undergo PCR / Anti-gen testing prior to the event, or provide proof of vaccination in order to receive accreditation.

These participants should practice social distancing and maintain relative isolation throughout the period of the event to minimise risks and virus transmission.

Requirements for all other personnel, including media and spectators (who do not require access to Zone 1), are subject to the decision and recommendations of local authorities of the Host Country.
8. Test results management

For additional information regarding measures to be taken in case of symptoms or positive cases during IFF Events, please see Appendix 3.

8.1. Negative Results

Any individual required to show proof of PCR testing and returning negative results to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer as per section 6 shall be permitted to participate in the event. This shall likewise apply to participants that have displayed symptoms and have undergone testing in the host country in accordance with the above and have been cleared.

8.2. Positive Results

A participant returning any positive tests prior to travel should not be permitted to travel and shall not be permitted to participate in the event. They should be immediately treated according to the country of testing public health management protocols.

In the event of a positive COVID-19 detection at the event, the authority in charge at the respective event shall:

- Notify the individual, immediately isolate him/her, and follow the local health regulations regarding positive COVID-19 results;
- Assess for any “Close Contacts” (defined as any individuals who spent with the positive individuals at least fifteen (15) minutes cumulative face-to-face within twenty-four (24) hours or two (2) hours in the same room), arrange testing and isolation;
- If needed, casual contacts may be tested in consultation with other authorities;
- Obtain expert infectious diseases input in order to interpret the results and determine the required responses subject to the medical circumstances;
- Follow local public health management protocols.
9. International travel procedures

For additional information on travel services for IFF Events, please see Appendix 4.

9.1. Participating Team Delegations

Procedures should be in place to reduce the risk of infection during travel on commercial flights. The respective National Federations should liaise with the airport authorities/airlines at both departure and transfer airports to determine whether special arrangements can be made to minimise contact with the general public, such as the use of a fast-track or VIP customs and transfer service. The event LOC should liaise with the local authorities at the official arrival city airport/ port/ train station to determine whether similar special arrangements can be made for teams upon arrival and departure.

As well as meeting the IFF requirements, teams must also be prepared to comply with any COVID-19 regulations set by airlines and other transport providers.

If the flight is on a commercial aircraft, empty seats on either side should be sought. Team members should wear face masks and wipe down their seat and its surrounds prior to use. Shops, food outlets and all other areas in the airport where crowding occurs should be avoided.

If using private bus transport, the bus should be thoroughly cleaned before boarding, and entry should be separated, away from public exposure.

All participants need to have a health check before they leave for the airport and no individual should travel with the team if unwell. It is the responsibility of the Team C-19 Compliance Official to ensure these measures are adhered to.

9.2. IFF Officials

IFF Officials must take maximum care to maintain strict social distancing at all times while travelling on commercial flights, trains, or other transport. It is recommended that a mask be worn at all times, use a hand sanitiser regularly and wipe down the seat and its surrounds prior to use.

If an IFF Official is unwell, they are not allowed to travel and shall immediately report their condition to the IFF.
10. Accommodation and meals

For additional information on accommodation and dining requirements for IFF Events, please see Appendix 4.

Ideally, hotels should be reserved for the sole and exclusive use of teams and IFF Officials and arrangements must be in place to limit contact between event participants and hotel staff. Where possible, only Team Delegations, IFF Officials and a limited number of persons holding appropriate accreditation granting access shall be allowed in the official hotel/s. Access control measures shall be put in place in this respect. If this is not possible, team(s) and IFF Officials must have arrangements that prevent or reduce the risk of close contact between other hotel guests and staff.

It is strongly recommended that participants are accommodated in single rooms to reduce the risk of virus transmission. In case of participants (e.g. players) accommodated in double/twin rooms, it shall be noted that, should a participant be tested positive, the respective roommate will be also immediately required to quarantine.

Participants shall not invite other individuals – whether members of their own team or of other teams – in their room to prevent any risk of virus transmission.

It is strongly recommended that participants keep their own room clean and make their own bed to keep cleaning service requirements to the minimum. Room cleaning should be on demand and shall take place when the participant is out of their room. Clean towels may be left outside the room daily in sealed bags. Minibar products and items (e.g. glasses or cups) may be replenished on demand but limiting contact with any other facilities in the room.

Dining arrangements should be in a private area with no public access. In principle, each team shall be provided one room of sufficient size for its exclusive use as meeting and dining room. Should this not be possible, each dining or meeting area should be for the exclusive use of one team at a time, with full sanitisation between use by different teams.

If possible, a separate exclusive room should be provided as an IFF Officials dining and meeting area.

Participants must stay at the hotel at all times unless for training or competition purposes. Visitors are not permitted. Public areas of the hotel should be avoided as much as possible.

Team social functions may be arranged but these are exclusively for team members and safety protocols must be maintained at all times. Where possible, these should be held in outdoor areas, preferably within the hotel grounds.

When moving around the hotel, event participants must wear face masks and maintain social distancing. If practical, the stairs should be used and sharing of lifts avoided.

The LOC must have an agreement with the hotel that delivers the above requirements as well as ensure:

- Facilitated check-in and check-out to limit contact;
- Full sanitisation of rooms prior to use;
- Regular sanitisation of common areas, corridors, lifts and stairs;
- Regular sanitisation of any dining and meeting areas with restricted access to essential hotel staff while in use;
- Staff wear face masks, maintain social distancing restrictions and not attend the hotel if unwell;
- Security control the entry to the hotel or secure floor from access of non-participants; and
- Quality food service which is freshly cooked.
11. Local transportation

For detailed information on transportation requirements for IFF Events, please see Appendix 4.

11.1. Participating Team Delegations

All team transport by bus requires that the vehicles are thoroughly disinfected shortly before collecting the team. Capacity shall adhere to local regulations in relation to safe distancing. The bus driver shall be either fully vaccinated or provide a negative result to an Anti-gen or COVID-19 PCR test taken within 48 hours of contact with the team.

The bus driver must wear a mask and maintain 2m social distancing even if there is a separate cabin or isolation by glass partition.

If possible, Team Delegation members shall enter and leave the bus by a middle door.

The Team C-19 Compliance Official shall notify the LOC and the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer if these requirements are not complied with.

11.2. IFF Officials

The LOC is responsible for ensuring that IFF Officials have safe transfer and ground transportation from the moment of arrival in the host country or location of the event.

All vehicles must be thoroughly disinfected before use and capacity shall adhere to local regulations in relation to safe distancing. The driver of the vehicle has the same requirements as for bus drivers, namely, being fully vaccinated or provide a negative result to an Anti-gen or COVID-19 PCR test taken within 48 hours of contact with the officials. Social distancing should be maintained and a face mask worn at all times.
12. Medical equipment and personnel

12.1. LOC

The COVID-19 Control Team must ensure that there are adequate medical facilities and equipment to prevent COVID-19 infections and manage any suspected infection on site. This will include, but not be limited to:

- Adequate PPE, including an emergency PPE supply, face masks, gowns, face shields and gloves;
- Appropriate medical equipment, including pathology collection and swabs (this may be delegated to a pathology provider);
- Medical cleaning equipment;
- Medical waste and disposal; and
- Appropriate isolation and transport facilities.

The COVID-19 Control Team must ensure there are event medical personnel sufficient and qualified to manage a COVID-19 infection case. The Control Team should also have hospitalisation and specialist medical support available if required.

The LOC is responsible for providing sufficient face masks and hand sanitiser for all LOC staff, volunteers, and IFF officials for the entirety of the event.

12.2. Teams

All teams are required to provide COVID-19-related medical and personal equipment for their own team. This will include, but not be limited to:

- Adequate PPE, including face masks, gowns, face shields and gloves;
- Personal temperature measuring equipment
- Sufficient face masks and hand sanitiser for the entire team delegation for the entirety of the event, including travel to/from the event

12.3. Other participants

All other participants (media, doping control officers, exhibitors, suppliers etc) are required to provide all of their own COVID-19-related medical and personal equipment.
13. Venue setup and operations

The LOC Covid-19 Control Team is responsible to ensure the training and competition venues are safe and compliant with local public health authority restrictions and these IFF COVID-19 Protocol requirements.

All competition & training venues should have a risk assessment for teams, IFF Officials, media, broadcast and spectators. The WHO Risk Assessment checklist will assist with this assessment (refer to Appendix 7).

13.1. Venue entry and exit

There should be clear social distancing marking for queuing, and hand sanitiser dispensers at all entry points. Arrangements must comply with local public health authority requirements and be applied for anyone entering the venue.

The arrival of Team Delegations and the IFF Officials must be staggered to avoid mixing and crowding in the corridors. During team arrivals, the presence of any staff along the internal arena route should be kept to a minimum, with security in place to temporarily stop any other transit.

Participants must go straight to their changing room or designated area. Dedicated, exclusive access ways for Field of Play (“FOP”) entrance and exit will be prepared wherever possible.

The FOP shall be accessed only when the area has been cleared of any non-authorised personnel and fully sanitised. Teams may then begin their warm-up and should maintain separation during this time.

It is the responsibility of the Team and LOC C-19 Compliance Officials to ensure that these requirements are followed.

13.2. Face masks

It is a requirement of entry to the venue that a face mask be worn by all accredited participants and official service providers at all times. This applies to participants, IFF Officials, media, LOC staff and volunteers, and service providers. It is recommended that spectators wear masks, but is not a condition of entry, unless specified by the local authorities.

The only exclusions to this rule for accredited participants concerns:

- The players, when competing in a game (including when sitting on the bench) or practicing;
- The coaching staff, during games and practices;
- The two (2) Referees, when officiating their game; and
- Any TV Commentators, when commentating the game from the TV Commentary Positions or presenting from their courtside presenter position

For the sake of clarity, all other Team Delegation members sitting on the bench during games shall wear a face mask. All other match officials, apart from referees, shall wear a face mask.

13.3. Hand Sanitiser

Sanitiser dispensers must be positioned at all access points to the venue and checked/refilled periodically subject to needs. This includes:

- All entrances to the venue (mandatory hand sanitisation upon entry)
- Along all main access ways in Zone 1 and in other areas
- Team changing rooms
• Referee changing rooms
• Team benches
• Match Secretariat Table
• At each rink staff seating area (for use by rink staff, volunteers, and photographers)
• Flash Interview area and Mixed Zone entrances
• Press Conference Room entrances
• Inside offices and working areas (LOC, Volunteers, Media)
• HB vehicles (Host Broadcaster responsibility)

Should spectators be allowed in the venue, they shall also undergo hand sanitisation at entrance and be able to access hand sanitiser dispensers along the public concourse corridors.

13.4. Cleaning and sanitisation

In general, all areas of the venue that are in use for the game must be sanitised prior to use following local public health authority guidelines and requirements. These areas may include media working areas, seating (depending on use), offices, meeting rooms and sanitary facilities. This applies also to any practice venues, facilities and equipment.

The LOC C-19 Compliance Official must make sure that a process is in place that ensures compliance.

13.5. Signage

LOC shall increase signage throughout the venue to raise awareness on precautions and measures to be taken.

13.6. Venue zoning and accreditation

A zoning system shall be setup, implemented and overseen by the LOC C-19 Compliance Official. It shall be tied to a personalised accreditation system in order to prevent any uncontrolled or indirect contact with the teams and IFF Officials. The implementation of the required zoning concept is vital for the successful implementation of this COVID-19 Protocol.

As a minimum, the following zones shall be identified:

**Zone 1 – “Team Areas”** which include team entrance, access corridors, changing rooms for teams and referees, first aid room, doping control room, Match Secretariat, team benches, field of play, with a clear delimitation and access control (e.g. LED boards or signage). Any team seating areas in the spectator stands should be also included. Broadcast and manned camera positions are excluded from this zone.

Zone 1 is for the exclusive access of:

- Team Delegation members;
- IFF Officials;
- Key LOC staff
- Essential game operations staff (e.g. Match Secretariat, Rink staff, Statisticians, Public Announcer, etc.); and
- Required Zone 1 security personnel.

The total number of individuals in Zone 1 should be limited to the lowest number possible and follow any restrictions of the local public health authorities.

The LOC shall ensure that all access points to Zone 1 are staffed and secured and only authorised accredited personnel is allowed to enter.
All those accessing Zone 1 must have met at least one of the three participation criteria regarding vaccines, testing, and quarantine, as defined in Section 7. This must be strictly enforced with appropriate biosecurity arrangements.

Zone 2 – “Operations Areas” include the remaining field of play area around the court, any broadcast and photographer areas as well as sport presentation positions and LOC offices (Administration Areas). The “Operations Areas” shall include all manned camera positions.

Zone 3 – “Tribunes, Concourse and Venue Exteriors” extends from the outer limits of Zones 1 and 2, including the media tribune and any spectator tribunes, to the outer boundary of the arena environments (fences, turnstiles, gates, etc.) as well as the broadcast compound.

All access points between zones must be clearly marked and have security control. The LOC is responsible for overseeing the movement of people between different zones.

Entertainment groups (with the exception of the Public Announcer) should be limited to Zones 2 & 3. If, due to venue setup, they need to access Zone 1, their time in this area should be strictly limited. Social distancing and the use of facemasks when not performing is mandatory.

The LOC shall submit to IFF for review its venue zoning as part of its COVID-19 Protocol Implementation Plan.

13.7. Team and Referee facilities and services

All furniture and equipment must be adequately sanitised between practice sessions and games, as per requirements in Appendix 6. Should a separate practice venue be set up, the same principles apply.

Changing rooms for the teams and referees must optimise social distancing and air circulation. Depending on the actual size of the changing room, additional nearby rooms or spaces may be required. Ideally, a room or area should be set aside for the team’s support and medical personnel and lockers should be spaced in a way to enhance social distancing.

The following requirements shall be implemented:

- Exclusive usage of one or more changing rooms shall be provided to a team where possible;
- Any saunas, ice-baths, pools or jacuzzles must be closed or drained;
- All fitness equipment must be disinfected before and after use and located either within an area of the changing room or completely separate, particularly if space is required for warmup and stretching;
- Physio equipment and massage beds must be disinfected before and after use;
- Participants must have individual drink bottles and towels;
- Doping control facilities must align with IFF Protocol with cleaning and restricted access to individuals who have undergone vaccination, testing or isolation procedures. This includes the doping control personnel.

The same principles apply to the referee changing room and warm-up area (where applicable).

The changing rooms, team and IFF Officials access routes (corridors, door handles, handrails, etc.), team benches, penalty benches, and Match Secretariat Tables (including any additional seating used to maintain social distancing) must be thoroughly disinfected prior to the arrival of the teams and IFF Officials.

Once the changing rooms have been disinfected prior to a team’s arrival no one may enter other than designated IFF Officials who have undergone the same vaccination, testing or isolation procedures as the Team Delegation members. It is recommended that the LOC puts in place a “seal” or signage system indicating that a room has been fully sanitised.
13.8. **Team Tribune**

National Federations are allowed between 22 and 30 accreditations, depending on the event, and are encouraged to reduce the team delegation size to the minimum possible, to reduce risks of virus transmission.

*Where the venue size & setup allows,* any accredited Team Delegation members who are not sitting on the bench during the game will be able to watch the game from a dedicated Team Tribune, maintaining safe social distancing and wearing face masks at all times. The LOC shall plan for this space and ensure that it is not accessible to any other groups.

Any other National Federation guests (e.g. using the allocation of tickets provided to the visiting National Federation) will not be able to access this Team Tribune or interact with any member of the Team Delegation (Contact Group 1) at any time.

The number of teams allowed to access the team tribune at any one time should be strictly limited according to the space available. Face masks must be worn at all times, and teams should be kept separated from each other.

13.9. **Office & Working Areas**

All working areas and offices, including those outside of Zone 1, must respect social distancing principles. Furniture and chairs should not be moved and positions pre-assigned wherever possible. Furniture shall be sanitised frequently – as a minimum on daily basis.

13.10. **Media Tribune**

If possible, the Media Tribune should be considered as Zone 3 and should not be positioned on the field of play. Media positions shall be setup allowing for a space of 2m between accredited media (e.g. leaving 2 positions out of 3 empty) and allocating fixed positions to each accredited media representative.

13.11. **Venue isolation room**

Similar to the measures being implemented in the hotel, a designated isolation room must be prepared in the venue to accommodate any individuals who display COVID-19 symptoms or who have returned a positive PCR test result while at the venue.

13.12. **First Aid services**

Medical assistance by First Aid personnel shall be carried out wearing protective equipment and following best practices. Should an individual require to be taken to the First Aid Room, only one individual may be treated in the room at one time and may only be accompanied by one close contact. Single-use paper must be used for the stretcher and examination bed and removed after treatment, followed by appropriate sanitisation.
14. Broadcast, media and technical suppliers

For detailed information on specific risk mitigation measures for media operations for IFF Events, please see Appendix 5.

14.1. General principles

All broadcast, media and technical personnel present in Zone 2 must comply at least with the local public health and IFF requirements including the wearing of masks (except when commentating), maintaining at least 2m social distancing with others, avoiding any unnecessary physical contacts (e.g. handshakes, hugging or kissing as a greeting) and gathering restrictions.

It is the responsibility of the LOC C-19 Compliance Official to ensure these requirements are in place and adhered to. Any non-compliance should be reported to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer who will investigate the matter.

14.2. Staffing, facilities and broadcast positions

Broadcast, media and technical supplier organisations must only appoint the minimum number of participants which will be approved and accredited for access purposes. IFF reserves the right to restrict numbers of such accreditations.

14.3. Post-game interviews

Post-game interviews may be organised for the appropriately accredited media on/around the court once the teams have left the area, or in a suitable pre-approved location. The allocated area must allow for 4sqm per person. The reporter and camera crew must stay at least 2m from the player or coach. All involved in the interview – participant, interviewer, camera/audio operator – must wear a face mask at all time. Microphones on extension arms should be used when possible.

Specific mixed zone guidelines can be found in Appendix 5.

14.4. Post-game press conference

If taking place, press conferences will be conducted in such a way that maintains social distancing and IFF requirements. There will need to be dedicated entry and exit points for Team Delegations and Media with mandatory hand sanitation prior to entrance.

During a post-game press conference media personnel must wear face masks and maintain 3m separation from the team personnel. Players and coaches should also wear a face mask.

As the press conferences will be conducted in an enclosed room, the number of participants will be limited to max 1 per 4 sqm.
14.5. Broadcast

The television compound and truck must be arranged in a way that allows sufficient space for the movement of people without congestion e.g. vehicles appropriately spaced apart, clearly marked corridors and movement lanes.

Camera positions will only be permitted in Zone 2 unless approved by IFF. Any approval of camera positions in Zone 1 will require separation from the team participants and IFF Officials and maintain social distancing of 2m. Any interviews of participants in Zone 1 must have IFF approval, maintain social distancing and be subject to conditions.

Bench and time-out camera will not be permitted, except with IFF approval.

A plan for all camera positions must be approved by the LOC and IFF.

14.6. Photographers

Match photographers are limited to a number decided by the LOC based on the available photographer zone space around the court. The photographer locations must be clearly marked. There must be a minimum of 2m between each photographer position. Photographers must wear masks at all times while in the photographer zones.

14.7. Media

The Media Tribune should be at a considerable distance from the court and in an elevated area (e.g. spectator tribunes). The distribution of media in the Media Tribune must allow a 2m spacing. Media personnel must wear face masks according to the specified guidelines.

Access for media personnel including photographers will be controlled by a designated Press officer with oversight by the LOC C-19 Compliance Official.

The LOC C-19 Compliance Official and, where applicable, the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer, or other IFF staff onsite, will oversee compliance to competition and COVID-19 prevention requirements regarding media, broadcast, photographer activities, including social distancing, mask and gathering restrictions.
15. **Games with spectators**

The presence of spectators at a game shall be determined by the local public health authorities and the restrictions that exist around public gatherings. There will be a number of aspects to venue and game management that will need to be implemented that will add a significant complexity to managing a safe environment.

The distance between Zone 1 and any spectator areas should be extended as much as possible, but should not be less than 2m.

Access, movement and seating arrangements may be impacted and will require careful planning according to local requirements.

All spectators are encouraged to wear masks while inside the venue.

16. **Meetings**

Physical meetings should be limited as much as possible. If they must be held then the meeting space must be large enough to allow safe distancing and all participants must wear masks at all times.

16.1. **Captain’s / Technical Meetings**

Technical meetings should be limited. Information should be provided via written materials or via online methods if possible. If physical meetings are held they should follow these guidelines:

- Room must be big enough for distancing
- Maximum 2 representatives from each team in specified seating
- Limited official representation from IFF/LOC
- Masks to be worn, at all times by all participants
- No captains to attend a physical meeting
- Captain’s photo can be arranged separately

16.2. **Other Meetings**

Meeting attendees should have specified seating throughout the meeting and the number of attendees should not exceed 50% of maximum room capacity. Meeting lengths should be limited and masks must be worn at all times.
17. Development of symptoms

Any accredited participant of an IFF Event who develops any symptoms indicative of a potential viral infection, including COVID-19, must immediately isolate at the hotel and contact the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer for guidance and testing.

Each designated Team Medical Official shall check any potential viral infection and COVID-19 symptoms on all players on a daily basis. The Team Medical Official shall report findings to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer.

Any participant exhibiting symptoms of viral infection or COVID-19, which must be honestly declared, will not be permitted to enter the venue and will be immediately reported to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer, who will decide whether the participant shall be submitted for testing. If required to undergo testing, the participant shall self-isolate in their hotel room until the results of the test are known. Testing results shall be handled in accordance with the below. Should participants (e.g. players) be accommodated in double rooms, it shall be noted that the respective roommate will be also immediately required to isolate, although in another separate room.

In the case of IFF Officials and other non-team members, individuals should contact the designated IFF C-19 Protocols Officer or LOC Medical Doctor.

Any spectators or non-accredited person/s involved with the event who exhibit symptoms of a viral infection should be denied access to the venue and managed according to local health guidelines.

Key indicators of a viral infection, including COVID-19, include high fever, dry cough, tiredness, sore throat, runny or blocked nose, breathlessness or loss of sense of taste and/or smell.

A list of symptoms of COVID-19 can be found here: https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab_3

The LOC must ensure that the venue and the hotel have the appropriate isolation facilities to manage such a situation. The LOC Medical Doctor should be available during all games to support the LOC, teams, and IFF Officials.
18. Compliance and sanctions

It is essential that all levels of this Protocol have oversight and compliance processes. In particular, event Hosts must have access to appropriate medical experts for guidance and appropriate governance arrangements to ensure successful implementation.

IFF requires that all event Hosts, teams and participants follow this Protocol. If there are practicality issues for which a common-sense approach is not obvious, IFF should be consulted. Any non-compliance must be reported to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer.

In order to take part in the Competition, participants may be required by IFF to confirm their compliance to the rules and regulations being implemented for COVID-19 prevention, provide consent to treatment of testing data and acknowledge that sanctions may be implemented in case of non-compliance.

All participants officially accredited for an IFF event, including Team Delegation members, IFF Officials, LOC staff and volunteers, media, venue staff and any other accredited individuals, will be required to acknowledge the terms of this Protocol and their compliance to the requirements outlined here within, prior to receiving their accreditation.

It shall be noted that, in order for IFF and the LOC to ensure the safety and health of all participants:

- The LOC, venue security, or hotel security, have the right to take the necessary action, on behalf of IFF, to deter anyone who tries to violate or breach the Protocol;
- Breaching the protocol may result in an immediate exclusion from the event by IFF;
- Any breach will be informed to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer and LOC C-19 Compliance Official, who in turn will, if needed, report the violation to the authorities in charge;
- Under no circumstances will it be allowed to anyone who violates these protocols, without just cause, to access any official event hotel or competition facilities.

The LOC may also be required by local government authorities to report the incident for application of local quarantine violation sanctions. In this case, local measures may be enforced by the host country authorities as per the applicable rules.
Appendix 1: ROLES and RESPONSIBILITIES

IFF Events COVID-19 Protocol implementation

1. IFF EVENT OFFICIALS

Two IFF Event Officials will be appointed by IFF to oversee the delivery of the competition in accordance to the IFF Competition Regulations and the COVID-19 Protocol:

- One IFF Event Official (IFF Jury) will be responsible for supervising all matters related to the Competition;
- The second IFF Event Official (IFF Event Staff) will oversee all aspects related to Event Operations

Responsibilities between the IFF Event Officials will be allocated as follows:

IFF Jury
- Communicating with all National Team Heads of Delegation on all competition aspects, beginning the day prior to and during the Event;
- Conducting the Technical Meetings and all related procedures;
- In coordination with the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer, monitoring on-site implementation of the Protocol in Zone 1, specifically in the field of play, team areas, and the official hotels, and reporting any violations;
- Ensuring the match run-down is respected and the game starts on time;
- Sitting in the vicinity of the Match Secretariat during the game and liaising with the Match officials as needed during the game;
- Reporting to the IFF Competition Management on their areas of responsibility.

IFF Event Staff
- Communicating with the LOC in the lead-up to and during the event;
- Leading the venue inspection and ensuring the venue set-up is carried out in accordance with IFF requirements, particularly in relation to special measures related to COVID-19 implementation;
- Ensuring that hotel and transportation arrangements are planned and carried out in accordance with IFF requirements, particularly in relation to special measures related to COVID-19 implementation;
- Ensuring the safety & security measures are respected in all official event sites;
- In coordination with the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer, monitoring on-site implementation of the Protocol in all other areas of the venue that are not Zone 1 and reporting any violations;
- Reporting to the IFF Competition Management on their areas of responsibility.

2. IFF C-19 PROTOCOLS OFFICER

The IFF C-19 Protocols Officer will be appointed by IFF and shall be the main contact person for all COVID-19 protocol issues prior to, during, and after the event.

They are responsible for:
- Communicating with LOC C-19 Compliance Official prior to, during and after the event in order to ensure smooth preparations and delivery of all measures foreseen in the IFF Protocol;
- In coordination with the LOC C-19 Compliance Official, reviewing and collecting the proof of vaccination or PCR test results from every team delegation member and every game official.
registered and nominated for the event;
- In coordination with the responsible IFF Official, monitoring on-site implementation of the Protocol;
- Advising the LOC C-19 Compliance Official on any medical issues including matters related to COVID-19;
- Advising the LOC C-19 Compliance Official on any potential issues related to the implementation of the sanitary and hygiene measures;
- Checking any potential health/safety issues from teams (e.g. clinical symptoms of COVID-19, other health and safety issues during team activities, etc.) with Team C-19 Compliance Officials;
- Advising the LOC C-19 Compliance Official on any urgent issues that may arise related to the Protocol;
- Managing any suspected infections or any participants exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 during the event by:
  - Ensuring that the participant will not be permitted to enter the venue and deciding whether the participant shall be submitted for testing
  - If tested, managing PCR test results on-site and liaising with IFF HQ through the responsible IFF Official in case of issues; and
- Reporting any deviations to the responsible IFF Official.

3. LOC COVID-19 CONTROL TEAM

A COVID-19 Control Team shall be formed by the LOC and shall include infectious diseases expertise, sports medicine and project management capability.

The Control Team is responsible for:
- Reviewing and having a full understanding of the IFF COVID-19 Protocol;
- Preparing the LOC Covid-19 Implementation Plan
- Governing and ensuring a safe environment for all participants;
- Liaising with local government and public health authorities for any necessary collaboration on health and safety of all participants for the event;
- Ensuring that there are adequate medical facilities and equipment to prevent COVID-19 infections and to manage any suspected infection;
- Ensuring that there are event medical personnel sufficient and qualified to manage a COVID-19 infection case;
- Ensuring the training and competition areas are safe and compliant with local public health authority restrictions and IFF protocol;
- Arranging team and officials transport that reduces the risk of infection;
- Ensuring that the government and public health authorities’ own restrictions and controls are adhered to or navigated around with their consent; and
- Appointing a LOC C-19 Compliance official.

4. LOC C-19 COMPLIANCE OFFICIAL

The LOC C-19 Compliance Official shall be appointed by the COVID-19 Control Team.

They are responsible for:
- Implementing the IFF COVID-19 Protocol & LOC Covid-19 Implementation Plan (by ensuring appropriate staffing, resources and communication) in close coordination with the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer and the COVID-19 Control Team and promptly reporting any deviations to them;
- Assisting the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer with collecting and reviewing the proof of vaccination or PCR test results of the arriving event participants;
- Collecting and reviewing the required proof of vaccination or PCR tests of the LOC members (staff and volunteers) and clearing their accreditations with the LOC Accreditation manager.
- If required, ensuring on-site PCR testing is available for all participating team delegations and the 1st Tier participants (IFF Officials, LOC staff, TV operations personnel) with maximum 24-hours turnaround
time;
• Monitoring daily operations in close collaboration with the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer and implementing all required modifications and adjustments in order to ensure full compliance with the IFF and LOC Protocols.

They will be the main contact to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer prior to, during and after the event for implementation of the Protocol. As such, it is recommended that the appointed person is not covering other roles in the organisation of the Competition, or has other areas of less responsibility.

5. LOC EVENT CO-ORDINATOR

The LOC Event Co-ordinator is appointed by the Host National Federation to oversee the planning and implementation of the event in the Host Country. They are ultimately the main authority in the Local Organising Committee on behalf of the Host National Federation and the counterpart for the IFF Event Manager. As such, they are responsible for planning and supervising the implementation of the event, including ensuring adequate budget, staffing and coordinating everyone’s work.

In the context of COVID-19, they are responsible for acting on any unresolved protocol violations related to the event organisation reported by the IFF Event Officials or by the participating National Federations and ensuring the requirements and Host obligations are met.

6. LOC MEDICAL DOCTOR

The LOC Medical Doctor shall be appointed by the COVID-19 Control Team.

They must be a Doctor of Medicine, speak fluent English and is responsible for:
• Ensuring implementation of the medical service plan of LOC;
• Making all necessary arrangements with local medical service providers for rapid provision of required medical services;
• Providing medical information fact sheet for IFF and Team Delegations;
• Confirming all medical and organisational requirements for IFF and Team Delegations (e.g. advice on how to obtain prescriptions in the host cities, insurance requirements, instruction on payment procedure for treatment, etc.);
• Organising the anti-doping controls in cooperation with IFF, following the general hygiene protocols;
• Preparing all facilities and train personnel;
• Being present in the venue(s) during games and prepared to manage any medical emergency from at least when teams/IFF officials arrive until their departure;
• Regularly communicating with LOC C-19 Compliance Official on participants’ health and safety issues; and
• Managing all medical care and anti-doping matters prior and during the competition.

7. TEAM C-19 COMPLIANCE OFFICIAL

Each team, including the Host team, shall appoint a Team C-19 Compliance Official amongst the accredited Team Delegation members for the purpose of this Protocol. It is strongly recommended that this individual is not also the Team Medical Official.

They are responsible for:
• Reading the Protocol carefully and making sure that all team members are fully aware of the Protocol;
• Ensuring that all requirements in the Protocol are fulfilled by all team members, prior to, during and after the event;
• Overseeing the vaccination or PCR testing and ensuring test results and other necessary paperwork is
available prior to travel;
• Carrying their own Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) medical supplies;
• Ensuring that their team medical staff undertake daily symptom and temperature checks on all team members; and
• Regularly communicating and reporting any viral illness in the team to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer

8. TEAM MEDICAL OFFICIAL

A Team Medical official shall be appointed by the respective National Federation and shall travel with the Team Delegation.

All Team medical official shall:
• Practice evidence-based medicine in accordance with the highest standards of ethical behaviour as determined by their licensing authority;
• Follow all medical guidelines developed by the IFF Medical Commission, which may include the management of bleeding and non-bleeding wounds, concussion, player collapse, medical evacuation and any other Floorball-relevant urgent medical matters as determined by IFF; and
• Ensure that only medically fit players are permitted to compete in a Competition of IFF.

Also, in the context of COVID-19, they are responsible for:
• Undertaking daily symptom and temperature checks on all team members;
• Isolating immediately and arranging a COVID-19 test on any team member with symptoms of a viral illness during training period;
• Informing the Team C-19 Compliance Official of any viral illness in the team during the event; and
• Being aware of wellbeing and mental health risks within the team.

9. IFF CRISIS MANAGEMENT TEAM

Prior to the event, the IFF Crisis Management Team will be made up of selected IFF staff. Decisions on any changes to event protocols or decisions in matters of urgency will be handled in co-operation with the IFF ExCo. Where time permits, a decision of the full IFF Central Board may be sought.

During the event, the IFF Crisis Management Team will be made up of selected IFF staff, the Event Disciplinary Function, and the IFF Secretary General.
Appendix 2: TESTING REQUIREMENTS

IFF Events COVID-19 Protocol implementation

Participants in IFF Events are required to either meet the set vaccination criteria for participation or undergo PCR / Anti-gen testing according to the chart in the following page, according to the respective category or role in the implementation of the event.

All negative results shall be provided to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer as follows:
- Team Delegation: preferably uploaded prior to travel on a dedicated online directory which will be provided to each National Federation. Alternatively, immediately upon arrival in the host country and hotel.
- IFF Officials: preferably uploaded prior to travel on a dedicated online directory which will be provided to each official. Alternatively, immediately upon arrival in the host country and hotel.
- LOC Staff, volunteers and suppliers (as per requirements in the chart): provided on site to the LOC C-19 Compliance Official and prior to any possible access of those individuals to Zone 1 and/or contact with participating Team Delegation members and IFF Officials.

IFF is aware that differences exist across countries in the format used to communicate results. Although a standard letter format pdf document remains recommended, various formats will be accepted (including mobile phone screenshots where the test results were received on mobile apps) provided that the following information is clearly indicated in the required accepted languages:
- Laboratory name and location
- Date of testing
- Full name of tested individual
- Test result
- Any other medical information

To prevent possible issues related to mandatory testing requirements for individuals that must be called upon shortly before departure due to positive cases in the pre-travel testing, (ie. Emergency list players) it is recommended that those individuals are also tested in advance by their National Federation and remain on stand-by.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholder Group</th>
<th>Contact Group</th>
<th>Contact Group 2</th>
<th>Contact Group 3</th>
<th>Max. number (if applicable)</th>
<th>PCR / Anti-gen before window</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Team Delegation / Players</td>
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<td>Team Delegation / Team Delegation members</td>
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<td>LOC</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOC &amp; Nat.Federation Staff / Zone 1 &amp; Court</td>
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<td></td>
<td>as few as possible</td>
<td>max 48h before first contact with contact group 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOC &amp; Nat. Federation Staff / Other</td>
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<td>Venue personnel</td>
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<td>according to country regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Venue personnel</td>
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<td>according to country regulations</td>
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<td>max 48h before first contact with contact group 1</td>
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<td>Other Volunteers</td>
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<td>Host Broadcaster / TV Graphics operators</td>
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<td>Host Broadcaster / Staff</td>
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<td>according to country regulations</td>
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<tr>
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<td>according to country regulations</td>
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<tr>
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<td>according to country regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>First Aid personnel</td>
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<td>~12</td>
<td>max 48h before first contact with contact group 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doping Control agency personnel</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>max 48h before first game</td>
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<tr>
<td>Referee staff</td>
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<td>n.a.</td>
<td>according to country regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>USO board operator</td>
<td>x</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>according to country regulations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drivers</td>
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<td>~12</td>
<td>max 48h before first contact with contact group 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Security</td>
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<tr>
<td>Security staff / Zone 1 &amp; Court</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>~12</td>
<td>max 48h before first contact with contact group 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security staff / Other</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>according to country regulations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>n.a.</td>
<td>according to country regulations</td>
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</table>

COVID-19 Protocols for IFF Events
Version 2 (June 2021)
Appendix 3: MEASURES IN CASE OF SYMPTOMS OR POSITIVE CASES

IFF Events COVID-19 Protocol implementation

1. PROCEDURES IN CASE OF COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

1.1. Contact Group 1

All individuals in Contact Group 1 – e.g. members of a Team Delegation or IFF Officials - showing symptoms of COVID-19 upon arrival or at any time during their stay in one of the IFF Events shall declare themselves and must be isolated immediately.

Key indicators of a viral infection, including COVID-19, include high fever, dry cough, tiredness, sore throat, runny or blocked nose, breathlessness or loss of sense and/or smell.

The below procedures shall be followed:

1. Individual to contact the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer – directly or via Team Medical Official – and report symptoms;
2. If symptoms are considered indicators of a possible COVID-19 infection, immediate PCR / Anti-gen testing shall be organised by IFF C-19 Protocols Officer via the accredited laboratory, of the following persons:
   • Symptomatic individual,
   • Roommate, in case the individual is sharing a room with another Team Delegation member;
3. Isolation of symptomatic individual and roommate, in separate hotel rooms, as per “Isolation Housing” policies;
4. Increased precautions and social distancing by all remaining Team Delegation members, particularly any close contacts, while waiting for the PCR / Anti-gen test results of the individuals listed above. However, Team Delegations, including close contacts, may still take part in training and games.

Tested individual(s) shall remain in isolation until negative test results are returned:
   • If PCR / Anti-gen testing returns negative, they may exit isolation and return to their rooms (where applicable) and daily activities;
   • If Anti-gen testing returns positive, the individual(s) shall take a PCR test and continue to isolate until PCR results are received
   • If PCR testing returns positive, the individual(s) and close contacts shall undergo the procedures listed below.

1.2. Other contact groups

Any individual developing symptoms of viral infection or COVID-19 during their involvement in the event shall immediately declare their condition to one of the following responsible persons and isolate:

   • LOC staff, volunteers, suppliers and any other LOC personnel report to LOC C-19 Compliance Official or LOC Medical Doctor;
   • Host Broadcaster report to LOC C-19 Compliance Official
   • Accredited media report to LOC C-19 Compliance Official or LOC Media Doctor
The informed party shall transfer the information to the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer who will decide on the appropriate course of action.

2. PROCEDURES IN CASE OF POSITIVE ANTI-GEN TEST / Contact Group 1

Should any player, Team Delegation member or IFF Official (Contact Group 1) return a positive Anti-gen test result at any moment throughout their stay they should take a PCR test and follow the specified isolation procedures until a result is received.

- If PCR testing returns negative, they may exit isolation and return to their rooms (where applicable) and daily activities;
- If PCR testing returns positive, the individual(s) and close contacts shall undergo the procedures listed below.

Any close contact of the individual who returns a positive anti-gen test should also undergo anti-gen / PCR testing and isolate until results are received.

3. PROCEDURES IN CASE OF POSITIVE PCR TEST / Contact Group 1

The following procedures must be implemented should any player, Team Delegation member or IFF Official (Contact Group 1) return a positive PCR test result at any moment throughout their stay. The IFF C-19 Protocols Officer shall work together with the responsible IFF Event Official on site to report to the IFF Competition management and, where applicable, to the IFF Crisis Management Team (see Appendix 1).

3.1. Positive individual(s)

Hospitalisation
Any individual who requires emergency care or hospitalisation must be relocated to a pre-designated local hospital pursuant to documented protocols for admission, as coordinated by the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer and, for a player or Team Delegation member, in consultation with the respective Team C-19 Compliance Official and Team Medical Official.

Immediate isolation
Any individual who does not need to be hospitalised and will be remaining in the hotel shall remain in, or must enter isolation as soon as possible. Should the individual be at the venue when the results are known, they shall be placed in a room previously prepared, assessed and transferred to the hotel or the hospital with the ambulance team using protective equipment.

The LOC shall designate accommodation in the hotel for this purpose (“Isolation Housing” – see Appendix 7). These rooms shall be located in a separate part of the hotel, e.g. a separate floor.

In the course of relocating from the person’s current environment to Isolation Housing, the individual must be provided and must wear a facemask and refrain from any close contact with any other individuals.

PCR retesting to verify positive result
Due to the possibility of occasional false positive test results, a confirmatory retest protocol may be requested to confirm a positive test. This protocol may only be followed in events with a duration of more than six (6) days. All costs related to a retest will be at the expense of the individual &/or their national federation.

For a retest, the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer will work with the LOC accredited laboratory to administer a second PCR test (the “Retest”) as soon as possible. The processing lab will also be asked to re-run the test using the same sample to validate the test result. If feasible, the Retest will use an alternate assay to verify the initial test result.
If PCR tests match
An individual who returns a second positive PCR test result will be considered a confirmed positive, remain in Isolation Housing, and begin the process for monitoring, management, and resolution.

If PCR tests do not match
If the individual returns a second PCR test result that is negative, and therefore the two PCR test results do not match, the individual will remain in Isolation Housing and retest (e.g. a third time) after twenty-four (24) hours. If an alternate assay was used for the first Retest, the individual will, if possible, take two Retests using both assays.

Third PCR Test
If the individual returns a third PCR test that is negative and is without prior or current symptoms associated with COVID-19, the person will exit isolation and return to full participation in the team’s activities. If the third Retest is positive, the individual will be considered a confirmed positive, remain in Isolation Housing, and begin the process for monitoring, management, and resolution.

3.2. Close contacts

Close Contacts – defined as any individuals who spent with the positive individual(s) at least fifteen (15) minutes cumulative face-to-face within twenty-four (24) hours or two (2) hours in the same room - shall undergo Anti-gen / PCR testing on the first day of the positive individual’s quarantine and then every three (3) days until the end of participation in the event.

Unless a positive result is returned at any time, Close Contacts shall adhere to the following measures:
1. All Close Contacts will be closely followed for COVID-19 symptoms;
2. All Close Contacts shall stay in a single room (arrangements shall be made in case of double rooms);
3. Close Contacts are not allowed to use any hotel common areas including the Team dining/meeting room, fitness areas or swimming pool, etc.;
4. Close Contacts should have their meals in their rooms and should not leave the accommodation except to training and games, with strict maintenance of social distance and limiting all unnecessary movement outside of the controlled environment.
5. Close Contacts are allowed to participate in the team’s group training and games with even increased attention to or introduction of the following precautions:
   - Avoidance of physical contact as much as possible;
   - Use of designated changing rooms and showers/toilets;
   - Use of designated transportation;
   - Use of personal training equipment, towels, and water bottles.
6. On the day of the game, all Close Contacts should:
   - Have been tested one day before or on the same day of the game;
   - Be assessed by medical staff in the presence of the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer for COVID-19 symptoms including high temperature

4. PROCEDURES IN CASE OF POSITIVE ANTI-GEN / PCR TEST / Other contact groups

The IFF C-19 Protocols Officer shall be immediately informed of any positive Anti-gen / PCR testing results which may be reported amongst any of participants in the Event. The positive individual shall immediately quarantine away from the venue and/or hotel. Should the individual be at the venue when the results are known, he/she shall be placed in a room previously prepared, assessed and transferred to his/her quarantine location or the hospital with the ambulance team using protective equipment.

The IFF C-19 Protocols Officer shall consult with the relevant parties to decide on the appropriate course of action.
5. RESPONSIBILITIES IN CASE OF POSITIVE RESULTS & QUARANTINE MEASURES

As Covid-19 is an ongoing threat, the insurance market is reluctant to offer coverage against possible infections. Each National Federation is responsible for covering possible medical costs for its Team Delegation members as well as, where applicable, possible accommodation and service costs in Isolation Housing.

The LOC must have sufficient insurance for covering possible medical, accommodation, and travel costs for IFF Officials, LOC staff and volunteers in the case of infection &/or quarantine.

All other event participants are fully responsible for any costs incurred as a result of their participation in, or attendance at, the event.
1. AIRPORT ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES

The LOC must make every effort to facilitate the arrival and transfer of each Team Delegation and IFF Officials. IFF recommends that travel and thus the number of flights to be taken be reduced to the smallest possible number.

The LOC should liaise with the airport authorities at both departure and arrival airports to determine whether special arrangements can be made to minimise contact with the general public. The following measures could be considered:

- Use of dedicated arrival and departure terminals (e.g. business or first class, V/VIP) or equivalent;
- Use of dedicated arrival and departure lounges (e.g. business or first class, V/VIP);
- Drop-off/pick-up of teams directly at/from the aircraft;
- Priority boarding/group boarding;
- Dedicated or crew/first-class/business-class screening channels;
- Dedicated fast-track channel through immigration, customs or security screening.

The LOC should acknowledge that in some cases Team Delegations will not arrive on one flight / in one group. The required facilitation measures above remain applicable also to all individual arrivals and departures. It is a responsibility of visiting National Federations and IFF to provide detailed travel schedules with sufficient advance.

All travellers should be prepared to undergo testing on arrival, as per the directives issued by the public health authorities in the host country, regardless of their test status before departure, if so required by those authorities. All participants shall be prepared to present results of the Anti-gen / PCR test to border officials or to the local medical staff at the airport, if requested.

The LOC should be aware of the procedures that will be implemented and is required to communicate them in advance to the visiting National Federations and IFF.

Individuals travelling independently, not as part of the Team Delegation or IFF Officials group, are required to follow best practices for hand and respiratory hygiene and reduce interactions to guarantee safe travel.

2. LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

2.1. Driver testing

The Team Delegation bus driver and all other vehicles drivers (Contact Group 1) should have a negative result from a COVID-19 Anti-gen / PCR test taken within forty-eight (48) hours before contact with the team and/or IFF Officials.

All vehicles drivers must wear a mask and maintain 1.5 metre social distancing (if applicable) even if there is a separate cabin or isolation by glass partition (highly recommended).

The total number of drivers deployed should be kept to a minimum. It is strongly recommended to assign
drivers to specific groups to guarantee that the same dedicated driver will be in contact with only one group. For the duration of the Event, drivers should minimise their exposure to potential sources of infection when not on duty.

2.2. Vehicle maximum capacity

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of vehicles and standard capacity</th>
<th>Maximum passengers*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Car (5 seats)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minivan (7 seats)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van (12 seats)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minibus (24 seats)</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bus (50 seats)</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*excluding the driver

Capacity requirements above may be reduced further by local authorities. Additional vehicles shall therefore be provided – passengers should in principle use the vehicle throughout the day.

2.3. Vehicle sanitation

Vehicles must be fully sanitised, and sanitisation spray put in the air conditioner channels at least once a day (ideally at the end of the day when vehicles are on stand-by and parked in the transportation company facilities).

Shortly before collecting participants, vehicles must be sanitised in the following parts: seats, door arm, window buttons, seat belts, knobs, etc.

2.4. Requirements for Team Delegation

Only one team can travel in a bus at a time. Team Delegation members must wear masks throughout the entire period on transport vehicles.

In all Team buses the row behind the driver’s seat must always be kept empty if no screen is installed.

Whenever possible, team members shall enter and leave the bus by the middle door to avoid contact with driver.

It is the responsibility of the LOC to ensure that any transport suppliers are aware of, agree to and meet the specific testing, hygiene and cleaning protocols in order to transport Team Delegation and IFF Officials.

3. HOTEL

The LOC C-19 Compliance Officer must liaise and work with the official hotel/s prior to the Team Delegations’ arrival, in order to ensure that health & safety measures in the hotel/s with regards to hygiene, catering, security are of the required standard and in line with this IFF COVID-19 Protocol.

3.1. Hotel staff requirements

It is crucial to limit potential exposure of tested uninfected individuals to any person, object or surface within the hotel that could constitute a COVID-19 infection risk. As a general rule, interactions between hotel staff and Teams and IFF Officials should be minimised. All hotel staff on duty must sanitise hands frequently and wear face mask.
Hotel staff deployed must be kept to a minimum and rotation reduced (e.g. one team dedicated to catering services, one person or small cleaning team per floor).

3.2. Entrance and exit

For the duration of the Event, Team Delegation members and IFF Officials will be required to present their accreditation at the access control while entering the hotel. Access control and visual accreditation screening shall be completed by security personnel appointed either by the LOC or by the hotel.

In case of a non-exclusive Official Hotel, a dedicated entrance and exit shall be provided for all Competition guests.

Team Delegation members and IFF Officials must stay at the hotel at all times unless for training or competition purposes. Visitors are not permitted.

3.3. Hotel check-in procedure

It is recommended that one Team Delegation member will check-in the entire team delegation, with the other members waiting in the bus or in the hotel lobby.

Each individual must carry their luggage / personal belongings at all times. Hotel staff are not permitted to handle any luggage / personal belongings at any time.

Upon arrival in the hotel room, it is recommended that individuals sanitise any objects which have been used outside the room, such as mobile phones or glasses.

3.4. Room policies and cleaning

All team members must be, if possible, accommodated in single rooms on the same floor or area of the hotel. All rooms should be adequately ventilated and hand sanitiser must be provided in every room.

It is strongly recommended that participants keep their own room clean and make their own bed to reduce maid service requirements to the minimum. Room cleaning should be on demand and shall take place when the participant is out of his/her room. Clean towels may be left outside the room daily in sealed bags. Minibar products and items (e.g. glasses or cups) may be replenished on demand but limiting contact with any other facilities in the room.

3.5. Dining/Meeting room

Each team shall have its own dedicated Dining/Meeting room equipped with TV screen and HDMI cables.

The Team Dining/Meeting Room should have sufficient space for up to thirty five (35) people and seating to allow for physical distancing in accordance with the health and safety recommendations.

If dedicated rooms are not possible, then a strict schedule for the use of the room/s should be kept to keep contact between the groups to a minimum. In the case of a shared room, it must be cleaned and sanitised between each group’s use.
3.6. Catering

Buffet food set-up is highly recommended, and food shall be served by hotel staff (behind plexiglass). While waiting to be served, queues shall comply with the minimum of 1.5m physical distancing precautions.

Clean-up should take place after all meals have been finished and the dining room has been vacated.

3.7. Room services and mini bar

Room service is permitted but hotel staff in charge of room services must sanitise hands or wear gloves and face mask and leave food on a tray outside of the room, minimising interaction with the guests. Guests should sign the room service bill with their own pen.

Minibar products and items (e.g. glasses or cups) may be replenished on demand but limiting contact with any other facilities in the room.

3.8. Laundry

There may be additional interactions which typically involve hotel staff. In those cases, for laundry services, one dedicated person from the Team Delegation shall collect the laundry bags and distribute them once cleaned.

3.9. Common hotel areas

All event participants must wear a face mask in common hotel areas. All relevant spaces and surfaces must be thoroughly and regularly sanitised and cleaned. Hand sanitiser stations must be provided and placed in key locations (elevator entrance, check-in area, etc.).

All common areas should have sufficient space and seating to allow for physical distancing in accordance with the recommendations made in the IFF COVID-19 Protocol.

3.10. Fitness and/or leisure facilities

The hotel gym (where existing) shall be available only by appointment booked through the Team Guide. Full sanitisation of the equipment/machines shall take place after every use, after which the room shall be locked.

Where existing, access to the hotel swimming pool shall be carefully monitored by the LOC C-19 Compliance Officer to ensure social distancing. It is recommended that access slots are created for each team throughout the day and a capacity of 1 person for 4sqm and social distancing are respected.

Where existing, wellness facilities such as steam rooms and jacuzzies shall be closed or emptied. Access to sauna may be allowed subject to approval of the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer and adequate sanitisation after each use.

3.11. Hotel restaurants and bars

Existing restaurants and bars in the hotel may be open to the public only if they have independent access from the street without accessing the hotel lobby.

Should they be open, Team Delegation members and IFF Officials shall limit their access to this space.
3.12. Isolation Housing

The LOC C-19 Compliance Official shall work with the appointed Official Hotel and under the supervision of the COVID-19 Control Team in advance to the event to prepare dedicated Isolation Housing.

Isolation Housing shall consist of a sufficient number of single rooms located on a floor or wing of the hotel separate from any other participant rooms. These rooms shall be equipped with as many amenities as possible to prevent the need for room cleaning. In case of players, any facilities that could allow players to maintain mild to moderate exercise while in isolation would be welcome.

Meals shall be delivered outside of the room by personnel wearing all necessary protective equipment.

The hotel and/or government authorities shall nevertheless dedicate well trained staff for necessary housekeeping activities, sanitation and disinfection, meal room service and any other service provided in the designated isolation areas.

The hotel must ensure strict movement control and provide 24/7 security in the area.
Appendix 5: SPECIFIC RISK MITIGATION MEASURES FOR MEDIA OPERATIONS

**IFF Events COVID-19 Protocol implementation**

1. **Media Tribune / Commentary Positions**
   - Should be located on an upper ring, not courtside and at considerable distance from players, benches and court;
   - Keep 1 out of 3 positions or at least 2m between seats, to guarantee social distancing between members of the media when sitting in the tribune;
   - Sanitiser dispensers should be made available at each access point of the tribune;
   - If possible, media representatives should have an assigned position for the entire duration of the tournament;
   - Commentary positions should be separated by space or some kind of divider (separate rooms or plexiglass)
   - Accredited media should wear masks at all times, except for those doing commentary during a match
   - Staff/volunteers must also wear masks while in the media tribune or commentary positions

2. **Photographers Positions**
   - Set a maximum number of accredited photographers based on the available photographer zone space, allowing for a distance of 2m between photographers;
   - Photographers are required to meet vaccination criteria or to undergo Anti-gen / PCR testing no later than 48 hours prior to the first game
   - Photographers shall wear their mask at all times and are responsible for sanitising their own material;

3. **Team Media Attachés / Team Locker Rooms**
   - Only team media attachés who follow the team ‘bubble’ restrictions and vaccination or testing procedures can have access to team locker rooms
   - Designated official LOC media team may access team locker rooms at specified times and provide footage to all takers

4. **Flash Interview Positions / Mixed Zone**
   - Microphones for interviews must be on an extended boom pole/stick, to avoid getting too close to the players (distance of 2m minimum to be guaranteed);
   - Double set of barriers to make sure the 2m distance with players is physically respected in the mixed zone;
   - In the Mixed zone, assign positions in the mixed zone to make sure distance of 2m is respected between media outlets;
   - Interviewees, interviewers, camera persons, media, and staff must always wear masks
5. **Press Conference Room**

- Access to the press conference room will be limited according to the available space
- A request / approval process for access will be managed by the IFF / LOC
- Limit seats in the room (remove chairs if needed) and max-out distances between media (2m minimum): 2 out of 3 positions should be empty to guarantee social distancing between members of the media while sitting;
- The moderator, as well as players and coaches accessing the room, must wear a mask to reach their seat. They can remove their mask during the press conference
- On the stage, the distance between moderator, player and coach must be minimum 2m;
- The media must be 3m from the players and coaches and wear a mask at all times;
- If applicable: the translator should not take place at the table but remain on the side, respecting security distance of 2m with the other persons (and wearing a mask);
- Media and staff/volunteers must wear masks;
- Ideally there should be separate entrance and exit points for media and game participants

6. **Media Working Room**

- Limit seats in the room (remove chairs if needed) and max-out distances between media (2m minimum): 2 out of 3 positions should be empty to guarantee social distancing between members of the media while sitting and not more than 1 person per 4 sqm (a large room required);
- Media and staff must always wear masks;
- Only pre-packaged snacks should be available

7. **Media Accreditation Limitations**

- A limited number of overall accreditations should be distributed, depending on the capacity of the venue’s media areas in COVID-19 set-up;
- Only a limited number of media should be able to access specific zones (eg. Mixed Zone; Press Conference)
- Rights-holders media will have priority for access to media centre, media tribune, Press Conference and Mixed Zone areas
- Media accreditation centre must be organised to avoid waiting queues

8. **Circulation & Flows in the Competition Venue**

- In addition to classic signage to guide media to the media areas, where possible a clear circulation path must be established to avoid crossing, with arrows and additional signals;
- Where possible, entrance and exit separated to all rooms and areas of the venue;
- Sanitiser dispensers available at all access points of the different media areas
1. Team venue arrival and departure

In light of the measures being implemented, Team Delegations shall review their traditional arrival time at the venue and adjust according to court availability and to limit their waiting time in the Team Areas.

After the game, it is recommended that the time spent at the venue be minimised. Showering may be permitted in line with the directives issued by the local public health authorities, however, it is recommended that showers be taken at the hotel.

In case of doping control, sanitised vehicles will need to be provided by the LOC to bring any tested players back to the hotel to prevent the entire Team Delegation from waiting at the venue.

2. Locker Rooms

If possible, each team should be assigned their own locker room for the duration of the event.

If locker rooms are shared between all teams then full cleaning and sanitisation must take place between each use. Access to locker rooms prior to a game will be at 90mins prior to game start, and teams must leave the locker room no later than 45mins after the end of the game in order to allow sufficient time for cleaning.

It is recommended that showering not be allowed at the venue. Teams should return to their hotel to shower. If they are required to stay at the venue, for example to eat a meal, then an option for showering should be provided for them.

3. Field of Play (FOP)

Access to the FOP must be strictly limited. Everyone in the field of play area and in the surrounding rink level must wear masks, except for players and referees directly taking part in a match.

Rink staff seating (in the corners) should be distanced further from the court than normal, as well as being separated from each other (if there are two seats/people)

There should be a limited number of photographer positions - all individually marked (see media for more information)

4. Team benches

Additional space for the team benches should be provided in order to allow greater distancing between players and team officials. If needed, team benches can extend past the regular designated team bench area however substitution zones for entering/exiting the court shall remain the same.

Teams will keep the same bench throughout the game. This means, no changing benches at the end of a period. The only exception to this is if a technical reason, such as sunlight or court defect, is decided by the referees to cause an advantage/disadvantage to a team, and in such case changing of team benches may occur. In such a situation, full sanitisation of the team benches must take place before a team can move to the different bench area. In this situation, the LOC should ensure that sufficient staff and cleaning materials are available to enable the change of ends with a minimal disruption to game time.

Medical personnel must utilise the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and follow local
authority and IFF medical guidelines.

Only those individuals on the official team list may be in the team bench area during matches.

Each team is responsible for its own towels for games and practice sessions. Each player should use their own, clearly marked, towel. The towels should be kept separate and not exchanged. A Team Delegation person should distribute and collect all towels – whether on the bench or in the changing rooms. It is recommended that they sanitise hands frequently and/or wear gloves when handling towels. Laundry shall be organised with the LOC with the assistance of the Team Guide.

Each player shall have their own individually labelled water bottle to be used during play, which must not be shared.

The Team C-19 Compliance Official must be in the bench area and ensure that the safety measures are complied with.

5. Match Secretariat

IFF Officials and all other personnel sitting at the Match Secretariat must have designated seating according to their accreditation. All personnel at the Match Secretariat must wear masks and regularly sanitise their hands.

The number of individuals taking a place at the Match Secretariat shall be reduced to the lowest possible number. All furniture and equipment shall be fully sanitised prior to the first game of the day and between games, with the area accessible only to Zone 1 accredited individuals. During practices, access to the area shall be limited to as few individuals as possible and all furniture and equipment sanitised after use/contact.

Where possible, it is recommended that the Team benches and Match Secretariat be placed on opposite sides of the court.

6. Penalty benches

Penalty benches shall be installed as per standard setup and sanitised regularly. Penalty bench guards must wear masks at all times.

7. Rink staff

Seating for rink staff shall be installed as per standard setup and sanitised regularly. A limited number of rink staff should be used for each match. All rink staff must wear masks and regularly sanitise their hands at each intermission of the match.

8. Team warm-up

Team warm-up prior to the game will be limited to specific access times. Players are not free to warm-up outside of these times. Teams shall always warm-up on the same side as their bench.

9. Opening ceremony

An official opening ceremony may be allowed, but with restrictions. No teams will be directly involved and the LOC should consider the use of pre-recorded video material to use for welcome speeches from selected dignitaries.
10. Pre-game ceremonies and starting line up announcement

If teams are to enter to the court for the pre-game ceremonies from the corridor or tunnel it is preferable that separate entrances are used for each team. If this is not possible, teams should be kept separated as much as possible prior to moving through the shared entrance. Alternatively, teams could enter to the court directly from their team bench and not from the corridor or tunnel. The use of children to accompany the teams entrance should not be used.

After entry, teams line up for national anthems as per the instructions of the LOC. Players and referees must not shake hands, ‘high five’ or make unnecessary contact with others. The traditional “gift exchange” with the opposing team shall not take place.

Starting line-ups can be called as per usual protocols.

Additional on-court activities in the introductions such as entertainers, mascots, dancers or musicians shall not take place, unless the entertainers are kept strictly separated from the match participants.

11. Game time and intermissions

During period breaks, teams should avoid congregating in the tunnel and should move directly to/from their locker rooms.

Teams will NOT change ends during the match. They will remain on their designated bench for all three periods. Exception to this is outlined in point 4. Team Benches

Players and referees should use hand sanitizer prior to entry and exit from the court, and at breaks in the game.

12. Video review

Video reviews will be conducted as normal. A special area near to the match secretariat will be designated for this, with the required equipment. The referee/s shall wear facemasks while reviewing the video. If the referee/s operate the equipment themselves for the review they should use hand sanitizer before and after touching the equipment. Any LOC staff /IFF official that assists the referees with the review should wear a facemask at all times.

The LOC shall ensure that all the necessary safety materials are available in this area.

13. Medical assistance on the Field of Play

On-court medical assistance by First Aid personnel shall be carried out wearing protective equipment and following best practices. Should a player or individual require to be taken to the First Aid Room, only one individual may be treated in the room at one time and no other individuals may be allowed in the room excluding the Team medical staff. Single-use paper must be used for the stretcher and examination bed and removed after treatment, followed by appropriate sanitisation.
14. Post-game

Players may go through the usual post-game acknowledgement of opposition players and coaches but must limit physical contact, e.g. no handshaking. The swapping of uniforms or other items is discouraged.

Prizes for best players or special occasions (e.g. 50 games) should be delivered on a table that players collect themselves. Awarded players may have a photo together maintaining some social distance. If prizes are presented by someone then that person must wear a mask and must meet the criteria of Contact 1 group.

After the post-game ceremonies, all participants must exit the court in a timely way and not congregate unnecessarily post-game.

Post-game interviews by media should be conducted in well-ventilated areas (for example, beside the field of play) rather than in the corridors or tunnel.

As soon as teams and Match Officials have left the court area, the field of play and the team benches must immediately undergo full sanitisation using appropriate products. It is therefore required that the following time is allowed between practices and games:

- Minimum fifteen (15) minutes between end of a practice session and start of the following one;
- Minimum three (3) hours between the start of games, allowing for sufficient time between end of a game and access to court for following game.

15. Medal Ceremonies

Medal & trophy ceremonies can be conducted with restrictions.

Medals & trophies should be delivered on a table that players collect themselves or which are distributed by the team captain or a team staff member.

If trophies are presented by someone then that person must wear a mask and must meet the criteria of Contact 1 group.

16. Team Stands

The possibility for teams to spectate other games will depend on the local authority regulations regarding spectators and the spectator capacity of the venue.

If teams are permitted to watch games they must sit only in the designated Team Stand, which should be isolated from other spectators, and must wear masks at all times.

Preferably, each team will have their own area in which to sit and socialising with other teams is not permitted.

17. Doping Control

Doping control will be carried out as normal. The doping control spaces must be large enough to allow distancing and only one team should be tested at a time. This should be taken into consideration when making the Doping Control plan.

Masks must be worn at all times by players, support staff, chaperones and Doping Control Officers (DCO).

DCOs must meet the vaccine / testing requirements of Contact Group 1.
18. Final team list

Teams may be allowed to have more players on their final team list than the regulation competition rules allow. Players can be chosen from this extended list for each game during the event. The number of players on the final team list should not exceed 23. IFF will advise the teams of the allowed number of player for an event as early as possible prior to the event, but no later than 2 months prior to the event start.

Teams will still only be allowed a maximum of 20 players on the team list for any one match.

19. Missed Matches

In the case of a team arriving late to the host country due to travel restrictions, possible Covid-19 cases on the way, being prevented from boarding the plane for Covid-19 related reasons, or not being able to field a team during the event because of Covid-19 cases, the following shall apply:

- In the case of a team missing any group match, the match will be considered a walk-over with a 5-0 result.
- In the case of a team missing all group matches, they will be placed as the last team in a group regardless of other results in the group.
- In the case of more than one team being in the above situation, the teams concerned will be placed last in the group according to ranking.
- Even if a team has missed all group games they are still eligible to participate in play-off / placement matches.

20. Replacement of infected or quarantined team delegation members

The following shall apply in cases where team delegation member(s) are unable to take part in the match for Covid-19-related medical reasons:

- The Team Medical official will advise the IFF C-19 Compliance Official about the eligibility or non-eligibility of each team delegation member, which shall be confirmed by the IFF Jury, at least 4hrs before the start of the match.
- Player & team official replacements due to positive Covid-19 cases will be allowed at any time up to 4hrs prior to a match. Only players included on the emergency team list will be allowed to be used as replacements to the final team list.

21. Minimum number of players for a match

Each team must have a minimum of 11 players, including one goalkeeper, on the match team list in order to be allowed to take part in the match. There must also be at least one team official.

In case the above cannot be fulfilled, the match will be considered a walk-over with a 5-0 result.
WHO Mass gathering COVID-19 risk assessment tool – Sports events

Guidance for authorities and organisers of sports events planning mass gatherings during the current COVID-19 pandemic

IFF Restart Guidelines (January 2021)

This document is an overview of the available information on COVID-19 coronavirus, however, information about the virus is changing all the time, therefore, it is important to regularly review the latest information about COVID-19. Much of the information presented here is available on many international public health websites, particularly the World Health Organisation (WHO) website.

This document is primarily for use by National Floorball Federations and Floorball Leagues who are looking for guidance in the restart of Floorball in their jurisdiction, particularly if there is a lack of Government oversight on the management of the COVID-19 virus in sport.
The World Games 2022
Action Plan

INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION

June 2021
THE WORLD GAMES 2022 ACTION PLAN

WHAT ARE THE WORLD GAMES?

The World Games is an international multi-sport event held every four years, in the year following each Summer Olympic Games. The World Games 2022 (TWG 2022) is the 11th edition of the event and will be held in Birmingham, Alabama, USA from 7th – 17th July 2022. Originally scheduled for 2021 the event was postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

TWG 2022 is expected to have more than 3,600 participating athletes competing in 30 official sports, including Floorball. The sports are divided into six categories: Artistic & Dance Sports; Ball Sports (which Floorball belongs to); Martial Arts; Precision Sports; Strength Sports; and Trend Sports. There are also five invitational sports chosen by the organiser – in 2022 these are American Football, Lacrosse, Triathlon, Wheelchair Rugby and Wushu.

The World Games generates worldwide exposure for participating sports and provides a highly visible stage on which athletes from more than 100 countries compete for gold. The World Games is led by the International World Games Association (IWGA), a non-profit organisation that is composed of 39 International Sports Federations and recognised by The International Olympic Committee (IOC).

In the Olympic Agenda 2020 it is only the World Games and the Master Games, which are mentioned as Multi-Sport Events from which you can advance to the Olympics. The IWGA consists of 37 International Sport Federation members, made up of a mixture of Olympic IFs, IOC Recognised IFs and AIMS IF’s. Unlike the Olympic Games the invitation to, and management of, the competitions is in the hands of the International Sport Federations. The principle of The World Games is that only the top six to eight athletes or teams in each sport can participate in the event, and this is a key requirement for inclusion.

The World Games has effectively acted as a test-event for sports and disciplines striving to reach The Olympic Games. Many sports which are now on the Olympic program have previously been on The World Games program, prior to their acceptance to The Olympics. Rugby, one of the new sports at the Rio Olympic Games, as well as four of the five sports proposed by the Tokyo Organising Committee (Baseball & Softball, Karate, Sports Climbing and Surfing) have all been on the World Games program in previous years.

At present, after the IFF World Floorball Championships, The World Games are the biggest Floorball event any national team or athlete can win.
HISTORY OF THE WORLD GAMES

The World Games were founded by a group of International Sport Federations which wanted to create a multi-sports event not in conflict with the Olympic Games but as a complement to them. The first edition was held in Santa Clara, California, USA in 1981, when 1,285 athletes competed in 18 different sports. After this the Games were organised in London GBR 1985, Karlsruhe GER 1989, The Hague NED 1993, Lahti FIN 1997, Akita JPN 2001, Duisburg GER 2005, Kaohsiung TPE 2009, Cali COL 2013, and in 2017 in Wroclaw, Poland.

Floorball participated as a demonstration sport in Lahti in 1997, with four countries - Finland, Latvia, Sweden, and Switzerland – but unfortunately in the following event in Japan, the program of The World Games did not allow space to include another team sport, so Floorball was unable to secure its continued inclusion. It was not until 2013, at the IWGA General Assembly in St Petersburg that the IFF received membership of the IWGA, after a renewal of the IWGA statutes allowed for new IFs to apply for membership.

At the beginning of 2014, IFF applied to be one of the four invitational sports presented by the organiser at TWG 2017 in Poland. However, during that same year, after the International Netball Federation was not able to guarantee that they would have the best teams participating at the event, the IWGA Assembly decided to include Floorball on the official program of the event, with six men’s teams.

For each TWG event, not all IWGA members have their sport or discipline included on the program, which means that the federations must re-apply each time to be included. For TWG 2022 there are 29 sports included in the medal program, plus 5 invitational sports. The inclusion of Floorball to The World Games 2017 was a big step, but the re-selection of Floorball as an official sport for TWG 2022, especially now with eight teams, compared to the six in 2017, proves that Floorball has advanced to a new level, becoming a true part of the international multi-sports program. It is important for Floorball to build on this and become a ‘permanent’ fixture on the games program.
THE WORLD GAMES IN THE HIERARCHY OF MULTI-SPORT GAMES

The challenge for The World Games is that the overall knowledge and awareness of the event is not high enough. It is therefore imperative that we can work to help raise awareness of The World Games 2022 in Birmingham, the role the event plays in the sports world, and the importance of Floorball’s inclusion as a part of our strategic targets for 2032. An important factor here is to work with the National Olympic Committees (NOC) to gain acknowledgement of the event.

The International Olympic Committee and IWGA have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the mutual support and cooperation between the two organisations. The basis for this has been defined in recommendation 6.1. of the Olympic Agenda 2020, which states ". the IOC and the IWGA to closely cooperate regarding the sports programme composition and their respective evaluations".

In short this means:

- that the IOC recognises the importance of The World Games as a multi-sport event, and agrees to support the IWGA and provide assistance
- that the IOC will help to promote IWGA activities within the Olympic Movement
- that the IOC will encourage the National Olympic Committees to support and assist their national multi-sport delegations taking part in The World Games
- that the IWGA recognises the importance for athletes and officials in all sports to participate as a national multi-sport delegation at The World Games.
- that the IWGA is willing to review and further develop the sports program of The World Games with the help and input of the IOC
- that the IWGA is committed to develop its activities in the Olympic spirit and in conformity with the Olympic Charter

In addition to this, it has been agreed that only events/disciplines that are not on the program of The Olympic Games can be included on the program of The World Games. The IWGA shall also ensure that only sports whose International Federation is recognised by the IOC, or are already members of the IWGA, will be included on the sports programme of The World Games. The IWGA Statutes defines that the disciplines of the Olympic IFs can only have 1/3 of all the athletes in The World Games, thereby ensuring that non-Olympic IFs (like Floorball) have a greater opportunity of representation.

The IOC President Mr. Tomas Bach has urged the NOC’s to support The World Games and the national multi-sport delegations, stressing that The World Games and the IWGA plays an important role in the framework of the Olympic Movement.

As the IOC has shown that TWG will be used a test laboratory for the evaluation of sports, we have the continued possibility to showcase the value and interest of our sport via this event. For now, these are our Olympic games! The World Games provides the best possible opportunity Floorball has to expose our sport to the international sports community.
THE WORLD GAMES 2022 IN BIRMINGHAM, USA

PARTICIPANTS

There is a maximum quota of 3,600 athletes in The World Games. Floorball have been given a participant quota of a total of 134 persons – 112 athletes, 8 team officials, and 14 IFF officials. All accommodation, food, and transport at TWG for these participants is covered by the organisers. The participating teams need only pay the cost of their transport to/from their home country to the arrival city. Floorball will be played with 8 men’s teams each team consisting of 14 players and 1 coach. The IFF will negotiate with the IWGA to allow a limited number of extra team officials (3 extra were allowed in 2017). All costs for these extra officials will need to be paid by the participating teams.

The World Games is based on the best athletes and teams of the sport. Although TWG 2022 will be played in the regular Floorball ‘off-season’, it is the task of the National Associations to ensure the participation of the best athletes in their best possible condition.

QUALIFICATION

The Men’s World Floorball Championships 2020 will act as the qualification tournament for TWG 2022. The event was originally scheduled to be played in December 2020 in Helsinki, Finland but has been postponed until December 2021 due to Covid-19. The teams that qualify will be as follows:

- Those teams placed 1st – 5th at WFC 2020
- Highest placed AOFC team at WFC 2020
- USA as host country
- Canada as closest neighbouring county to host

To be discussed by CB as to whether they will receive direct qualification (or even participate) due to outstanding debts.

It is vital that all WFC 2020 participating countries actively use this added feature of the World Championships to support their political lobbying work and building awareness for the sport in general, as well as using The World Games as a tool to strengthen the National Association organisation.

COMPETITION FORMAT

The tournament will have a total of 18 games and each game will be played with effective time 3x15 minutes and with 10 minutes intermissions. Group matches can end in a draw. In medal and placement matches, where a winner must be decided, there will be 10 minutes extra time with sudden death and then, if needed, penalty shots with five players.

Eight teams in two groups of four in the round robin stage. Groups are decided by ranking:

- Group A with teams ranked #1, 4, 5, 8
- Group B with teams ranked #2, 3, 6, 7
Each team plays each other once in the group stage. The two best teams in each group will play in the semi-finals, with A1 v B2 and B1 v A2. Winners of the semi-finals will play for the gold medal, losers will play for the bronze. 3rd placed teams in the group will play for 5th place, with A3 v B3. 4th placed teams in the group will play for 7th place, with A4 v B4.

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded, and in accordance to the IWGA rules, only the players will receive medals (not team officials).

PRELIMINARY DAILY SCHEDULE

Tuesday 5th July
Jetlag day

Wednesday 6th July
Official arrival day

Thursday 7th July
Team Training Sessions (60 minutes each)
Captain’s & Technical Meeting
Official TWG 2022 Opening Ceremony

Friday 8th July
Competition day 1 – group games
Floorball Opening Ceremony

Saturday 9th July
Competition day 2 – group games

Sunday 10th July
Competition day 3 – group games

Monday 11th July
Semi-finals
5th place match
7th place match

Tuesday 12th July
Bronze medal match
Gold medal match

Wednesday 13th July
Official departure day
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR THE FLOORBALL FAMILY

WHAT DID WE LEARN FROM TWG 2017?

At TWG 2017, in Wroclaw, Floorball proved that it could shine within a multi-sport event. IWGA CEO Joachim Gossow saw Floorball as a good addition to The World Games:

- I had the pleasure to visit the Floorball tournament twice. The organisation and execution of the event as well as the atmosphere were professional and impressive.
- IFF met the expectations of the IWGA with their participation and fulfilled their commitments given in their Application for Participation in the Games. In the cluster of Ball Sports, Floorball was a good addition and obviously well appreciated by the Polish audience onsite and by the media.
- A modern, dynamic sport which tries to approach the spectators with a suitable sport presentation and in addition with activities for the spectators around the tournament (e.g. mini playing field for youngsters). The IFF is also a very active and progressive federation pertaining to the use of modern technology and media rescores to promote their sport. It understands to make use of TWG for their sport as a “showcase” to attract new, non sport-specific audience for the future.

The key media figures from TWG 2017 were as follows:

Data provided by Meltwater

- During 20th – 30th of July, The World Games had 47k public posts and 6.9k out of the 47k were floorball related posts
- Out of all The World Games sports, floorball had the most The World Games related posts and were almost 15% out of the whole amount of The World Games posts
- The social reach of all The World Games posts was 750 million. Gymnastics had the biggest social reach with 34.6 million. Floorball came second with approximately 32.6 million

TWG on IFF Social Media (26th – 31st July 2017)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Media</th>
<th>Impressions</th>
<th>Engagement</th>
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<tr>
<td>IFF Facebook</td>
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<td>10,691</td>
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<td>17,785</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IFF Instagram</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Facebook pages of the national associations of the participating teams had a reach of 1,797,012 in total.
TWG 2017 on YouTube (27th July – 4th August 2017)

Video uploads: 33 (This includes only TWG matches, highlights & interviews)
Views: 273,508
Estimated minutes watched: 2,750,525
New subscribers: 976
Likes: 2,005
Comments: 6,771
Shares: 1,508

IFF Website (www.floorball.org) (26th – 31st July 2017)

Total amount of users during TWG: 17,856
Total amount sessions: 34,049
Countries visiting: 114
Total page views: 101,109
Pages/Session: 2.97

The national associations of the participating teams gained 282,997 page views on their websites.

IFF Events Mobile App (26th – 31st July 2017)

Users: 4,126
Sessions: 43,756
Screens/session: 5.33

A total of 1,054 persons took part in the Guess the results competition.

AOFC Promotion

As no team from the Asia Oceania region was participating in 2017, special efforts were made to raise the awareness of the event in the region, with the IFF and AOFC launching a social media activation campaign. The AOFC Campaign successfully activated the Asia-Oceanian National Associations to follow and speak about the TWG. During the competition timeline (20th July – 7th August 2017) there were 8.86k public posts that were connected to the AOFC TWG competition. The social reach of the said posts was 3.3 million.
WHAT CAN WE ACHIEVE IN 2022?

The exposure that Floorball will get in the North American market during WFC 2022 presents us with an amazing opportunity. We know there is a huge market there, especially with the compatibility of floorball and ice hockey skills but getting a serious foot in the market has been difficult. It is important that these games hit three marks:

- Tapping into the USA / Canada / Latin America market
- Still getting good visibility in Europe when the event is being held outside the region
- Maintaining / strengthening our position within the multi-sport event community

The Floorball Family should be proud of the effort that was put in previously, promoting TWG 2017 and raising the awareness of the event. This was no small task - when we began, very few people had even heard of The World Games. Now, as we prepare for TWG 2022, we are starting from a totally different position. Awareness of the event is much greater within the general Floorball community; National Associations are much more familiar with the event and the benefits it can bring; National Olympic Committees are more open to supporting teams, having shown that Floorball in The World Games was not just a 'one-time thing'.

From an organisational point of view, the IFF is also starting from a different position. A much stronger one. We have shown that our sport is strong and will attract good spectator and media attention. We are better informed on what we can expect from the event and have been included much more, by the organising committee, in the planning process.

The strategic outcome for TWG 2022 should be evaluated on the following factors:

- Reach a broader media visibility and reach new spectators
- Improve / maintain our position with the other TWG sports
- Strengthen the position of floorball within the USA / Canada / Latin America market – both on a political and sport level
- Build networks for growth within these markets, creating new partnerships between existing and potential Floorball organisations
- Secure the participation to The World Games 2025 as an official sport, with the inclusion of both men’s and women’s teams

On the National level the key objectives are:

- Build on the work from 2017, further raising the awareness of the TWG, and thereby supporting the development of Floorball's political position
- Find ways to strengthen the cooperation with NOC's, increasing the opportunity to gain funding for participation in future events
ACTIONS FOR THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

To maximise the opportunity that TWG presents us, there need to be some clear actions for all National Associations, and further specific actions for those with teams participating at WFC 2020. These activities need to start as early as possible in the second half of 2021, increasing as we move towards the World Championships at the end of the year, and then as we get closer to TWG 2022 itself.

FOR ALL NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Promote TWG 2022 on own media channels
- Highlight the opportunity that participation in TWG gives to Floorball as a whole
- Talk of your hopes to participate at TWG (whether this be a short- or long-term goal)
- Use the inclusion of Floorball at TWG to ‘get a foot in the door’ with your National Olympic Committee and seek recognition by them, if not already secured

FOR NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS PARTICIPATING AT WFC 2020

- In advance of WFC 2020, promote TWG 2022 and your team’s journey on their #RoadtoBHM
- When promoting WFC 2020 always include its connection to TWG 2022 and the opportunity it gives you
- Speak to your NOC about this opportunity and seek increased cooperation & funding for both WFC 2020 (as the qualification event for TWG) and for TWG itself
- If Floorball is not already recognised by your National Olympic Committee or National Sports Organisation, get confirmation from the necessary body that you can participate in The World Games if qualified
- Appoint a player from your team as a TWG (Social Media) Ambassador

FOR TEAMS THAT QUALIFY TO TWG 2022

- Fully participate in all TWG promotions as advised by the IFF and TWG organisers
- Promote, promote, promote

It is crucial that the entire Floorball community takes this chance to showcase the sport and use our inclusion in TWG in a positive manner. This is not an event run by us, and as such there are conditions that we would perhaps like to change but cannot, or ways that we would organise that may be different. However, now is not the time to highlight these, and especially not in the media. Our task is to praise the event in every possible situation and address any shortcomings on an internal sport level.
ACTION PLAN TASKS

The plan is to focus within several different fields, dividing the tasks between the United States Floorball Association, the National Associations, and the IFF.

GENERAL TASKS

- IFF Action plan to be launched on 7th July 2021 – one year to the event
- IFF to provide all National Associations with TWG media guidelines and talking points
- IFF to provide all WFC 2020 teams with specific media guidelines and talking points that can be included in interviews prior to WFC 2020
- National Associations to be in contact with their NOCs about TWG
- National Associations to promote TWG on their own media pages (eg. website banner)
- Approval of the TWG Marketing Plan by the IFF CB no later than August/September 2021
- USFbA to seek support of Hockey USA
- USFbA to co-operate with Special Olympics
- Workshop to be held in Birmingham in conjunction with test event

ATHLETES / COACHES

- Prepare and coach the athletes according to how the matches will be played at TWG
- Educate the athletes on how to talk about The World Games prior to WFC 2020 and then again prior to TWG 2022
- IFF Athletes Commission to speak about the TWG
- Each qualified country to nominate their own TWG Ambassador
- Hold a TWG education session for national team coaches / managers during WFC 2020

MEDIA

- IFF to plan own social media campaign
- Include the TWG as a part of the WFC 2020 promotion
- Article series on the potential stars who could play in the TWG on IFF website
- Use of the #RoadtoBHM (most important for qualifications), #TWG2022, #WeAreTheWorldGames
- Tag TWG in social media posts (Instagram and Twitter: @theworldgames, Facebook: @iwga.theworldgames)
- IFF to publish TWG Update newsletters in October, December, March and June
- IFF to prepare a TWG microsite / pages on IFF website
- IFF to provide a monthly TWG News for the members to publish on their channels
- Use of IFF Social Media ambassadors to promote TWG
• Include the TWG logo in the competition related communication
• Provide the TWG graphics and other media formats for use by National Associations
• Educate the NAs and floorball media of the difference of the event compared to ours and the fact that it is governed by the IWGA
• Secure national and international floorball media participation at TWG
• Prepare a lot of content for the month prior to TWG with stories from all of the participating countries, videos, Instagram takeovers etc.
• Promote the WFC 2020 matches that are TWG qualification matches &/or matches between possible TWG teams

VENUE
• Work with LOC to present a visually pleasing venue
• Present the event with as many regular IFF event features / setup as possible
• ‘Americanise’ the event, marching bands, cheerleaders, mascot etc
• Spectator activation plans – ‘Meet the players’ sessions, intermission competitions etc

SPECTATORS
• Focus on the local market by generating high interest with youth / local schools / universities etc
• Run corporate promotion days, introducing the sport, and connecting it to TWG. Are there any large European companies with offices in Birmingham or nearby?
• Use of North American Floorball League for promotional events, ticket competitions, etc
• Use NHL teams that already have a connection to Floorball to promote TWG
• Engage a European-based travel agency to act as the official travel agent
• IFF, USFbA, & Floorball Canada to create a VIP invitation list

ACCOMMODATION
• IFF to select a hotel as their official hotel (in agreement with travel agent / LOC) and promote it
• Only those on the IF passport are provided accommodation by LOC so rooms need to be secured for extra officials, CB members etc

LOBBYING
• Build close contact with Birmingham city officials and local organisers
• Plan test events in Birmingham
TV & LIVESTREAM

- Confirm what games will be covered by Host Broadcaster
- Secure visibility of matches not covered by the local Host Broadcaster – Can we broadcast? Who will produce it?
- Confirm the making of highlight packages for all games – especially important for the European market because of the time difference

MARKETING

- High visibility of TWG at WFC 2020/WFC 2021
- Create TWG promo video to be shown during WFC 2020 livestream intermissions
- TWG logo on referee outfit for WFC 2020/WFC 2021
- Discuss with LOC about what marketing / promo opportunities are available in Birmingham (street advertising, promo events, bus stops ads etc)
- Plan some kind of local Floorball event that culminates in finals that are held during TWG or just prior to the event (eg. Street floorball, company tournament)
- Include the manufacturers of the Development Board to coach their star players about the TWG
- NAs who qualify to include TWG in rink/floor commercials in their national leagues in the first half of 2022
- Use of NHL players to promote Floorball (players with floorball background)
- Plan the adjacent events, as agreed upon with the LOC
- Use of any International Friendly international matches in Jan – June 2022 as promotional events
- Investigate if there is a possibility to cooperate with LOC / schools and invite pupils to see matches (even though it is holiday season)
- Map opportunities of marketing / sponsorship interest of IFF partners together with the LOC

VIP

- Invite all IFF NA Presidents
- Invite non-member Latin American Floorball community leaders
- Invite the NOC’s of our non-members participating in the event in other sports
- Invite IOC members to the Event
- Brand the VIP area in the venue in cooperation with the LOC
CHALLENGES WE FACE

- Awareness – there are still many who do not know about TWG, especially in North America
- Time difference will create issues for live viewing in strong European market. Need to find the right balance in the schedule between what is best for the participating teams and for television broadcast
- Question of equality, with only men’s teams included for the second time. Need to already have talking points on how this has been / will be addressed with IWGA for future TWGs
- Securing good spectator numbers at the venue will be vital for the overall ‘look’ of the sport
APPENDIX 1 – IFF COMMUNICATION PLAN

GENERAL MEDIA

- In social media, use the hashtags: #RoadtoBHM (most important in qualifications), #TWG2022, #WeAreTheWorldGames and tag The World Games (Instagram and Twitter: @theworldgames, Facebook: @iwga.theworldgames)
- Share communication plan with Anna Jacobson (a.jacobson@theworldgames.org)
- Add TWG to the overall IFF Event Communication Calendar

PRE-WFC 2020 (TWG Qualification event)

- Presenting floorball arenas
- Presenting Birmingham
- Presenting floorball qualification system (+ TWG playing system)
- Presenting TWG 2022 sports
- Presenting TWG 2022 facts
- Promoting other activities taking place during TWG
- Team USA article, about expectations (as the only team qualified)
- WG account Instagram take-overs requested
- Engage with IFF SoMe Ambassador (Case Connor)
- Include World Games questions into Social Media Trivia

DURING WFC 2020

- Photos with TWG banner of qualified teams
- Scheduling TWG interviews with players/coaches
- Plan for TWG teams highlight clips (Polar HD to make?) with TWG logo
- Including TWG in the Social Media posts, videos etc. (whenever a team is qualified)

AFTER WFC 2020 / PRE-TWG

- TWG 2022 IFF event microsite
- Mobile App for TWG
- Prepare a ‘During TWG Communication plan’
- Communicate TWG countdown
- Ask qualified teams to share IFF World Games news
- Ask qualified teams to produce & share TWG news with the IFF
- Ask for TWG “Ambassador players” from each qualified team
  - For interviews
  - For social media promotion
- Presenting each TWG team
o News article
  o Photos
  o Video clip from WFC 2020
• Promoting how to follow TWG

DURING TWG
Communication plan for this period will be made after WFC 2020
APPENDIX 2 – IFF MARKETING PLAN

GENERAL MARKETING
- The marketing efforts are aligned and supporting the communications plan
- Emphasis in on promotion in the qualification event - WFC 2020
- Promotion in other major events held in the period up until TWG, such as the Women’s WFC 2021, Men’s U19 WFC 2021, Women’s U19 WFC 2020 (to be played in 2021) and the Women’s U19 WFC 2022
- On-site promotion prior to and during TWG 2022

PRE-WFC 2020 (TWG Qualification event)
- To be confirmed with WFC 2020 LOC

DURING WFC 2020
- Rink/floor commercials
- 2nd line LED ads
- Jumbotron videos
- Match programme ads
- Referee jersey ads (WFC 2020 / 2021)

AFTER WFC 2020 / PRE-TWG
- Reach out to closest NHL teams to Birmingham (Nashville Predators / St Louis Blues / Carolina Hurricanes / Tampa Bay Lightning)
- Connect with Gretzky Hockey School for cooperation (they include floorball in their camp curriculum)
- Discuss with LOC about what marketing / promo opportunities are available in Birmingham (street advertising, promo events, bus stops ads, etc.)
- Negotiate about field of play TWG ads in national leagues (with qualified national federations) for H1 in 2022
- Initiate discussion with a European travel agency (eg. Kilroy or Excalibur Tours CZE) as official partner and create a supportive marketing plan
- Invite school pupils to see matches (if applicable)
DURING TWG

- Executing floorball promotion within the possibilities discussed with LOC (see below)
- Get floorball "legends" (Kohonen / Hofbauer) to participate in promotional events (interviews/session breaks)

PROMO EVENTS CONFIRMED BY TWG

Dedicated Space in the Sports Garden

- Try-out Floorball in a “mini rink”
  - Three or four times a day for about 30 minutes
  - “Beat the Goalie”
  - Speed Shooting Competition
  - "Celebrity Games" – BOC vs IFF
  - ParaFloorball

Shared Space/Short Sessions on Stage

- “Info Sessions” on The World Games Plaza stage
  - Promotional video
  - Player interviews
  - Player “Trick sessions”
  - Activation zone in conjunction with stage time

Field of Play – Competition Break Session

- Short demonstration games, with for example ParaFloorball/Special Olympics, Celebrities or local schools etc.
- Speed shooting and skill competitions for the players and the audience
- Player “meet and greet” after competition (“Stick around afterwards and have a go”)
Strategy Implementation working group (SWG) meeting M3

Time: 13:00 CET 23.06.2021

Place: Teams

Participants: Stephen King, Chair
              Teo Turay
              Helén Wiklund-Wårell
              Kaarina Vuori
              John Liljelund, secretary

Guests: Colin Steward, Quantum Consulting
        Krzysztof Kropielnicki, Quantum Consulting

Meeting report

1) Opening and SWG objectives

Mr. King opened the meeting and welcomed the members to the 3rd IFF Strategy Implementation working group (SWG) meeting at 13:00 CET.

The meeting is to discuss the formation of the four Strategy Implementation Subgroups for the Initial period 2021-2024, based on the proposal made by the SWG members and discuss the metrics to be included into the IFF Event Study to be made for the WFC’s 2020 – 2024, in order to measure the development of our main events.

The IFF Strategy Implementation Plan is attached to the Agenda.

Mr. Liljelund to inform that the IFF Athletes Commission discussed the formation of the Strategy Subgroups in their meeting in June and it was discussed that the ATC would like to have possibilities to still look over how they could be part of the Implementation process.

2) Formation of the Strategy Implementation Subgroups

The SWG to discuss the proposal made by its member for the four Strategy Implementation Subgroups based on the nominations received from the National Associations and directly form Floorball fans.

The updated list with all nominations is included with the agenda. The SWG proposes to the CB to elect the following Subgroups and with the following chairs (which are still to be confirmed in Subgroup 1).

The SWG discussed the solution for how to build the groups, whether to include all candidates and keep the groups inclusive and build a core group inside the group.
initial idea was to build the subgroups with 5-7 persons. The SWG decided to build the
groups based on an exclusive approach to include all persons, but with one per country.

Subgroup 1 – Awareness and Visibility
Mr. Ogolla, Kenya
Mr. Roman Urbář, Czech Rep Marketing and Communication Director
Mr. Stefan Jonasson, Sweden Head of marketing
Mr. Jann Falett, Chair Switzerland Head of Marketing and Events
Ms. Katarína Klapitová, Slovakia Captain of Slovak National Team
Mr. Timo Lyytinen, Finland Board member
Mr. Fajar Hidayat, Indonesia Coaching and refereeing education staff
Ms. Heidi Printzen, Denmark Board member
Rochel Joy Balares, Philippines Media and Marketing
Mr. Giorgio Rambaldi, Italy President

Helén Wiklund-Wårell, Sweden SWG representative
Pakkamol Siriwat, Thailand IFF CB
Merita Bruun, IFF Office
Tero Kalsta, IFF Office

For the Subgroup 2, which had a very large number of nominees, it was proposed by
Ms. Vuori to divide the group in two different smaller groups, for one Organisational
development and Coaching and Refereeing Development based on the Desired
Outcomes.

Subgroup 2 – Development, Service Level and Expansion
Organisational Development
Mr. Anders Jonsson, Sweden Head of Development
Mr. Steen Houman, Denmark IFF CB and President Floorball Denmark
Mr. Michael Zoss, Switzerland Secretary General of Swiss Federation
Mr. Filip Suman, Chair Czech Rep IFF vice president, Czech Erasmus+ project
Mr. Nicolas Sanez, Belgium Floorball Belgium president
Ms. Dorothee Vogelesang, Netherlands Dutch Secretary General and Vice President
Jean-Emmanuel Chapartegui, France IT project director
Mr. Robert Bakaze, Uganda Head of development
Mr. Kouenda Adama, Burkina Faso Burkina Faso Federation president.
Mr. Paul Maina Mwangi, Kenya Kenya Floorball Federation president.

Coaching & Refereeing Development
Mr. Carlos Lopez, Chair Spain IFF CB
Mr. Miguel Peru, France National Technical Director
Ms. Louise Khng, Singapore Formal Head coach for Nat Women Team
Mr. Kelik Wibawa, Indonesia National Team head coach
Mr. Juno Lee, Korea IFF Athletes Commission, Events & Competition
Manager World Archery Excellence Centre
Mr. Linken Kao, Malaysia Secretary General of Floorball Kenya.
Mr. Kevin Akosombo, Kenya Referee Women’s National league/International
Mr. Antti Savolainen, Finland SWG representative, IFF CB
Kaarina Vuori, Finland
Subgroup 3 - Governance, Sport Culture and Leadership

Mr. Michal Buchel, Switzerland CEO of International SAMBO Federation (FIAS)
Mr. Julian Rueger, Germany National Team player
Ms. Lin Binbin, Singapore Treasurer and Chair for Referee committee
Mr. Tomáš Frank, Czech Rep Secretary General
Ms. Sofie Andersson, Sweden Head of elite development and national teams
Mr. Víctor de Bruin, Chair Netherlands Dutch Federation, former IFF Jury member.
Jacob Bjørnsholm Madsen, Denmark Vice president Floorball Denmark
Ms. Tuuliikki Kangasluoma, Finland Ex board member of the Finnish Federation
Mr. Peter Zingg, Switzerland Board member, Regional league president
Mr. Juffikar Setiadi, Indonesia Vice Secretary General of Floorball Indonesia, National Team manager

Stephen King, Australia SWG Representative
Tamuz Hidir, Ukraine IFF CB
John Liljelund, IFF Office

Subgroup 4 – Sport presentation and Appearance

Ms. Wendy Kuan, Singapore General Manager
Mr. Peter Klapita, Slovakia Coach and manager of FBK AS Trenčín,
Mr. Jan Jirovský, Czech Rep Education and development director/RACC
Ms. Inez Rehn, Chair Sweden Head of equal activity
Mr. Carsten Provstgaard, Denmark Secretary general of Floorball Denmark
Mr. Juha Kivilehto, Finland Player of the Finnish national team
Mr. Jörg Beer, Switzerland Vice President
Mr. Yongky Priyanto, Indonesia Head of Coaching and refereeing education
Mr. Sami Turtianinen, Finland Floorball Material producer FatPipe

Teo Turay, Slovakia SWG Representative
Martin Klabere, Sweden IFF CB
Sarah Mitchell, IFF Office
Stefan Kratz, IFF Office

3) Presentation by Quantum Consultancy about the metrics for the IFF Event Studies

Mr. Liljelund introduced the guests from Quantum Consultancy Mr. Colin Steward and Mr. Krzysztof Kropielnicki, who have previously been working with the IFF Event Studies made Sportcal for the WFC’s 2016-2019. Mr. Steward and Mr. Kropielnicki made a presentation of the activities of the Quantum Consultancy and then moved through the topics of the WFC Strategic Framework Review, based on the IFF Strategy. To establish evaluation parameters Quantum has made interviews with the IFF employees, the LOC’s of the WFC in Uppsala and Helsinki. The Quantum study will have to be aligned with the old Sportcal study and find the metrics for future evaluations.

The SWG discussed the proposed metrics for the IFF Events Study to measure the development of our main events, based on the presentation made by Quantum Consulting, based on the questions that what asked by the Quantum representatives.
4) **Other topics**

No other topics to be discussed

5) **Next Steps**

The SWG discussed the next steps in the process and how and when the Subgroups will start their work in August. The IFF will send out a general email to the nominated persons after the IFF CB meeting on Wednesday the 30th of June. The respective Subgroups SWG rep can discuss with the subgroup chair on how to start the work. After this they can then inform about their own processes in beginning of August.

6) **Timetable and next meetings**

The next SWG meeting will be held in August.