

24th September 2021

UPDATED COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR IFF CENTRAL BOARD

Covid-19 Vaccination & Testing Proposals for WFC 2020 & WFC 2021

Following in this document are the two Covid-19 Vaccination and testing proposals for the WFC events. At this stage it is not possible to provide the updated LOC Covid-19 Implementation plans as they will now require some significant changes as to how to manage the media, in particular.

At the moment, the most important information from the proposals that needs confirmation is for the teams and IFF Officials.

Members of the team delegations will either need to be fully vaccinated or, if not, they will need to present a negative PCR test upon arrival and then take PCR tests every 72hrs during their time in the event. The quoted prices of PCR tests in both Sweden (200e) and Finland (110-160e) are very high so this could be a significant cost for teams.

All IFF Officials must be vaccinated (this includes CB Members) in order to be accredited for the events. No vaccination, no accreditation. For this group there is no option of testing.

The situation with the media is the most unclear issue. In both countries it will now be allowed for any media to be accredited with no restrictions – no need for vaccination or testing (unless this is required by the local authorities at the time). However, inside the venue we must find some way to control the access of the media and to restrict their contact with the teams. There must be some minimum requirement of protection – at present our Covid-19 regulations say that this is testing within 48hrs of contact.

Currently there is a clear contradiction in requiring the teams to vaccinate or PCR test to give the highest level of safety to them, but then on the other hand we will require them to have contact with media who may have no vaccination or testing at all. It is very unclear as to how this will be solved while not contravening the local regulations.

Updated IFF Covid-19 Event Protocols (separate document)

In the updated (v.3) IFF Covid-19 Event protocols the major changes are:

- Replacing of '2m safety distance' to be 'safe distance'
- #6 - Vaccinations
- #7 - Testing & participation requirements
- #10 & 11 – Simplification of Accommodation & transport requirements
- Appendix 4 – Simplification of Hotel & Transportation Requirements
- Appendix 6 – Changes to Competition protocols such as the number of players on the final list and the movement of players between the final and emergency list due to covid testing



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COVID-19 VACCINATION & TESTING PROPOSAL

WFC 2020 HELSINKI

SPECTATORS

Local Covid-19 regulations will apply to spectators. This may include the need to show some proof of vaccination, testing, or recovery, as well as wearing masks, or it may be that there are no restrictions at all. Will only be confirmed at the time of the event.

TEAMS

All accredited members of a team delegation should be fully vaccinated with a vaccination approved by Finnish authorities (<https://thl.fi/en/web/infectious-diseases-and-vaccinations/what-s-new/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-updates/travel-and-the-coronavirus-pandemic/which-vaccines-are-accepted-at-the-points-of-entry-into-the-country->)

Any team delegation member who is not fully vaccinated with an approved vaccination will need to show proof of a negative PCR test upon arrival at the event and every 72hrs thereafter. This requirement for testing ends once their participation in the event is finished.

IFF OFFICIALS

All IFF Officials (IFF staff, Referees, Jury, Referee Management, Central Board members) must be fully vaccinated to be accredited for the event.

LOC STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

All LOC staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated to be accredited for the event.

MEDIA

Local Covid-19 regulations will apply to media. Recommendation will be that all accredited media are fully vaccinated.

OTHER EVENT PARTICIPANTS

This group would include other service providers within the venue – for example catering, security, and venue staff. Vaccination and testing rules for this group will need to be according to their own company regulations, however, we recommend that all are fully vaccinated.

ALL GROUPS

Within the venue, all accredited participants (as listed above) will be required to wear facemasks within the venue and follow the Covid-19 event protocols.

VACCINATION / TESTING CHECKS

There will need to be a checking system at the point of entry for all accredited participants. It is possible that an icon be put on the accreditation for all those who are fully vaccinated, allowing them direct entry to the venue. Those who do not have the icon will need to show some digital or printed proof of a negative test result according to the set rules.

COVID-19 VACCINATION & TESTING PROPOSAL

WFC 2021 UPPSALA

SPECTATORS

Local Covid-19 regulations will apply to spectators. This may include the need to show some proof of vaccination, testing, or recovery, as well as wearing masks, or it may be that there are no restrictions at all. Will only be confirmed at the time of the event.

TEAMS

All accredited members of a team delegation should be fully vaccinated with a vaccination approved by Swedish authorities. Only vaccines [approved according to ordinance \(EU\) 726/2004](#), or are [WHO approved for use in emergencies](#), will be accepted.

Any team delegation member who is not fully vaccinated with an approved vaccination will need to show proof of a negative PCR test upon arrival at the event and every 72hrs thereafter. This requirement for testing ends once their participation in the event is finished.

IFF OFFICIALS

To be accredited for the event, all IFF Officials (IFF staff, Referees, Jury, Referee Management, Central Board members) must be fully vaccinated with a vaccination approved by Swedish authorities. Any IFF official not fully vaccinated will not be eligible to be accredited.

LOC STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

All LOC staff, volunteers, and media should be fully vaccinated to be accredited for the event.

Any LOC staff, volunteer, or accredited who is not fully vaccinated with an approved vaccination will need to show proof of a negative PCR test (taken within 72hrs) or an Antigen test (taken with 48hrs) upon arrival at the event. They will then be required to take an antigen test every 48hrs thereafter. This requirement for testing ends once their participation in the event is finished.

MEDIA

Local Covid-19 regulations will apply to media. Recommendation will be that all accredited media are fully vaccinated.

OTHER EVENT PARTICIPANTS

This group would include other service providers within the venue – for example catering, security, and venue staff employed by external providers. Vaccination and testing rules for this group will need to be according to their own company regulations, however, we recommend that all are fully vaccinated.

ALL GROUPS

Within the venue, all accredited participants (as listed above) will be required to wear facemasks within the venue and follow the Covid-19 event protocols.

VACCINATION / TESTING CHECKS

There will need to be a checking system at the point of entry for all accredited participants. It is possible that an icon be put on the accreditation for all those who are fully vaccinated, allowing them direct entry to the venue. Those who do not have the icon will need to show some digital or printed proof of a negative test result according to the set rules or undertake an antigen test on site prior to being granted entry.



COVID-19 PROTOCOLS FOR IFF EVENTS

IFF PLAY IT SAFE

RETURN TO FLOORBALL

Version3
(September 2021)

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1. Introduction

Throughout 2021 the introduction of Covid-19 vaccines and the ever-increasing number of fully vaccinated people as meant some big changes for daily life in general, and also for sport. For the IFF it has meant that the situation improved to a point where we were able to hold two major events – Men’s & Women’s U19 WFCs in August/September 2021. Not all qualified countries were able to participate but it was a big first step.

The vaccination numbers vary from country to country but there appears to be a general consensus that reaching 80% of the total adult population being fully vaccinated provides the greatest opportunity for society to return to ‘normal’. A growing number of variant strains of Covid-19 have seen the case numbers in some countries rise dramatically but the effect of vaccination can be seen in the lower number of cases being hospitalised and the lower death rate. All positive signs that we are finding a way to live with the virus.

This revised document continues to set 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. It is a living document that must be adapted to ever-changing conditions in event host countries as well as participating countries.

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. The widespread uptake of vaccinations has some visible effects, but many countries are still restricted in activities and movement, and 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 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 generally 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 COVID-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 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 – specifically the LOC’s Covid-19 Event 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;
- Testing procedures before, during, and after the event;
- Vaccination requirements; and
- 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 safe distances between yourself and others except actual participants in the team such as players and coaches;
- Avoiding touching eyes, nose and mouth;
- Wearing a face mask when in public indoor spaces;
- 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 requested to have a 10-day period of relative isolation, as well as meet the requirements for participation regarding testing, vaccination, or recovery. (See Section 7)

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, 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, all IFF referees, staff, appointed Jury, referee observers, and other representatives (“IFF Officials”) are requested to restrict social contacts for a 10-day period. They must also meet the requirements for participation regarding testing, vaccination, or recovery. (See Section 7)

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 requested 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.

They will need to meet the local requirements for eligibility as set in the Covid-19 Event Implementation Plan.

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, which is recognised by the host country, 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 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 required to complete a vaccination programme prior to participating in an event. Any IFF Official who has not completed a full vaccination programme, which is accepted by the host country, will not be eligible to participate at an IFF event. For the purpose of these protocols IFF Officials includes:

- IFF Staff
- IFF Referees
- IFF Referee Management
- IFF Jury
- IFF Volunteers
- IFF Central Board Members attending IFF events in an official capacity
- IFF Committee Members attending IFF events in an official capacity

**This period may differ depending on the recommendations for a specific vaccine.*

7. COVID-19 testing & participation requirements

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

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, 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 in the host country
3. If vaccination has not been taken/completed, then a negative PCR test taken within 72hrs of arrival at the event will be required in addition to further testing during the event as specified by the event host;

For a detailed chart outlining all PCR testing requirements for IFF Events, please see Appendix 2.

7.1. Participating Team Delegations & IFF Officials

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 below, 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;
- Any participants who have a positive result from this test shall isolate immediately and shall not travel

Participants shall obtain at least two (2) copies of all documents, which shall be in the English language. If the official documents are not able to be secured in English, the National Federation of the participant must confirm the authenticity of the documents in an accompanying document in English.

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 (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 PCR test result taken no later than 72hrs prior to their arrival at the event (meaning at an official venue or accommodation) 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 PCR test result taken no later than 72hrs prior to their arrival at the event (meaning at an official venue or accommodation) to receive accreditation.

Arrival in country of the Host

- All participants shall be prepared to present proof of vaccination, recovery from Covid, 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, proof of recovery, or results of the mandatory test to the LOC or IFF C-19 Protocols Officer, upon arrival at the dedicated hotel.
- Participants who fail to present one of these documents to the LOC or 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.

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, or proof of recovery, 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.

7.3. 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 costs of these tests will be the responsibility of the participants, unless otherwise agreed upon by the IFF and LOC.

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.

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 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.

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.

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 teams must share the dining space, safe distances should be kept between the teams and face masks should be worn, except for while eating.

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

Participants should limit their time in public spaces. Visitors to the hotel 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.

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 elevators/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, have proof of recovery, or provide a negative result to an Anti-gen or COVID-19 PCR test taken within 48 hours of contact with the team, or according to the local regulations.

The bus driver must wear a mask and maintain a safe distance 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, have proof of recovery, or provide a negative result to an Anti-gen or COVID-19 PCR test taken within 48 hours of contact with the officials, or according to the local regulations. 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/exit 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-authorized 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 participation criteria regarding vaccines, proof of recovery, 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 jacuzzies 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, proof of recovery, 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, proof of recovery, 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 up to 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, unless they meet the same vaccination and testing criteria as the team members.

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 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 safe distance 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 safe distances 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 reporter and camera crew must stay a safe distance 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.

Players are exempted from wearing face masks for interviews that are conducted during or directly after matches, for example in the mixed zone or during flash interviews in period breaks.

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 a safe distance from the team personnel. Players and coaches should also wear a face mask.

The number of participants at the press conferences must be limited to allow safe distancing according to the room space.

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. Any interviews of participants in Zone 1 must have IFF approval, maintain social distancing and be subject to conditions.

Bench and time-out cameras will be permitted, but only with prior 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 safe distance 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 safe distance. 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 3 representatives from each team in specified seating
- Limited official representation from IFF/LOC
- Masks to be worn, at all times by all participants

16.2. Other Meetings

Meeting attendees should have specified seating throughout the meeting and the number of attendees should allow for safe distancing based on the 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, proof of recovery, 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, proof of recovery, or PCR test results of the arriving event participants;
- Collecting and reviewing the required proof of vaccination, proof of recovery, 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, show proof of recovery from Covid-19, 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.

Stakeholder Group	Contact Group			Max. number (if applicable)	Vaccination / PCR / Anti-gen before window
	Contact Group 1	Contact Group 2	Contact Group 3		
Teams					
Team Delegation / Players	x			23	Vaccination or PCR max 72 h before arrival at event
Team Delegation / Team Delegation members	x			10	Vaccination or PCR max 72 h before arrival at event
VIPs/Guests			x	n.a.	according to country/travel regulations
IFF					
IFF Jury / Referee Management / Referees	x			26	Full vaccination
IFF Representatives / Central Board / Committee Members			x	n.a.	Full vaccination
IFF Staff	x			15	Full vaccination
IFF VIPs			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
LOC					
LOC & Nat.Federation Staff / Zone 1 & Court		x		as few as possible	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
LOC & Nat. Federation Staff / Other			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
COVID-19 Compliance Official	x			1	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Medical Doctor		x		1	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Match Secretariat personnel		x		4	max 48h before first game
Statisticians		x		3	max 48h before first game
Public Announcer		x		1	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
DJ (Recommended not on court area, same as Public Announcer otherwise)			x	1	according to country regulations
MC (Recommended not on court area, same as Public Announcer otherwise)			x	1	according to country regulations
Sport Presentation staff (Recommended not on court area, same as Public Announcer otherwise))			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
Venue personnel					
Venue personnel			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
Cleaning staff			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
Volunteers					
Rink staff		x		As few as possible	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Anti-doping chaperones		x		~4	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Team guides	x			16	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Other Volunteers			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
Media volunteers			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
Media & Broadcast					
Host Broadcaster / Floor manager		x		1	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Host Broadcaster / TV Graphics operators		x		1	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Host Broadcaster / Content crews		x		~5	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Host Broadcaster / staff			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
Accredited rights holders		x		n.a.	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Accredited non-rights holders			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
Photographers		x	*	n.a.	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Suppliers					
First Aid personnel		x		~12	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Doping Control agency personnel		x		2	max 48h before first game
Sanitation staff			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
LED board operator			x	2	according to country regulations
Drivers		x		~12	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Security					
Security staff / Zone 1 & Court		x		~12	max 48h before first contact with contact group 1
Security staff / Other			x	n.a.	according to country regulations
Police			x	n.a.	according to country regulations

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.

Appendix 4: HOTEL and TRANSPORTATION REQUIREMENTS

IFF Events COVID-19 Protocol implementation

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 proof of vaccination, proof of recovery, or 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 show proof of vaccination, recovery, or 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 safe 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

Type of vehicles and standard capacity	Maximum passengers*
Car (5 seats)	3
Minivan (7 seats)	4
Van (12 seats)	7
Minibus (24 seats)	16
Bus (50 seats)	35

*excluding the driver

Capacity requirements above may be reduced/increased according to local regulations.

2.3. Vehicle sanitation

Vehicles must be fully sanitised, and sanitisation spray put in the air conditioner channels at least once a day.

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.

3.2. Entrance and exit

During the event, Team delegation members and IFF Officials may be required to present their accreditation when entering the hotel. In case of a non-exclusive official hotel a dedicated entrance and exit should try to be arranged for all Competition guests.

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.

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.

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.

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, safe distances should be maintained.

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

3.7. Laundry

For laundry services, one dedicated person from the Team Delegation shall collect the laundry bags and distribute them once cleaned.

3.8. 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.

3.9. Fitness and/or leisure facilities

The hotel gym (where existing) shall be available only by appointment booked through the Team Guide. Full sanitation 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.

Access to sauna may be allowed subject to approval of the IFF C-19 Protocols Officer and adequate sanitisation after each use.

3.10. Hotel restaurants and bars

Team Delegation members and IFF Officials shall limit their access to public restaurants and bars within the hotel.

3.11. 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.

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;
- Ensure safe distance in the seating 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 safe distance between photographers;
- Photographers are required to meet vaccination criteria, proof of recovery, 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, proof of recovery, 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 (safe distance should be guaranteed);
- Double set of barriers to make sure the safe distance with players is physically respected in the mixed zone;
- In the Mixed zone, assign positions in the mixed zone to make sure a safe distance is respected between media outlets;
- 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 and allowing for a safe distance between attendees
- A request / approval process for access will be managed by the IFF / LOC
- 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, there must be a safe distance between moderator, player and coach
- The media must be a safe distance 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 a safe distance 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

- The media working room must be of a sufficient size to provide safe distance between each media group
- Media and staff must always wear masks

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

Appendix 6: COVID-ADAPTED MATCH PROCEDURES

IFF Events COVID-19 Protocol implementation

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 allowing for safe distance between photographers.

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.

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 sanitiser 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 sanitiser 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 (eg. 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. 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

19. 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:

- Player & team official replacements due to positive Covid-19 cases will be allowed at any time up to 2hrs 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
- Any player unable to take part in a match due to Covid-19 related issues, such as waiting for test results which then return a negative result, may be returned to the final team list line-up for the following match and the substitute player will return to the emergency list

20. 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

Appendix 7: OTHER REFERENCES

[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.

COVID-19 EVENT STATUS

Latest update: 23rd September

Women's WFC 2021					SWEDEN: 27th November - 5th December		RANKING	
TEAMS	ENTRY**	CONDITIONS of return	PARTICIPATE	Updated	SWE (1)			
SUI	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	10.09			2	
FIN	YES - no restrictions	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	14.09			3	
CZE	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	15.09			4	
SVK	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	14.09			5	
POL	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	17.09			6	
LAT	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	17.09			7	
GER	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	17.09			8	
NOR	YES - no restrictions	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	15.09			9	
DEN	YES - no restrictions	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	14.09			10	
EST	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	16.09			11	
SGP	Y* with PCR 48hrs for <u>residents</u> of Singapore	PCR test 72hrs before arrival. Home quarantine for 14 days if fully vaccinated, otherwise at designated facility	YES	13.09			14	
THA	No*. Need exemption & PCR 48hrs	PCR test 72hrs before arrival. 14-day quarantine at a specified facility	YES	10.09			15	Replacement
USA	No*. Need exemption & PCR 48hrs	PCR test 72hrs prior	YES	10.09			16	
RUS	No*. Need exemption & PCR 48hrs	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	17.09			17	
ITA	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	22.09			21	Replacement
NOT PARTICIPATING								
	Australia		NO	13.08				
	Japan		NO	18.09				
	New Zealand / Hungary (replacements)		NO					

*Arrivals from outside of Europe are not allowed - rule is in effect until 31st October. Singapore are exempt from this ban, others may be allowed entry under special exemption - "participants or necessary support staff in international professional athletic events"

**Swedish rules are based on country of residence NOT citizenship, or the EU country from which you enter from

Men's WFC 2020		FINLAND: 3rd - 11th December		Go/No-go: 17th Sep (Teams) / 24th Sep		FIN (1)	
TEAMS	ENTRY*	CONDITIONS of return	PARTICIPATE	Updated			
SWE	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions	YES	16.09		2	
SUI	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	10.09		3	
CZE	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	15.09		4	
GER	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	17.09		5	
NOR	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	16.09		6	
DEN	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	14.09		7	
LAT	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	17.09		8	
SVK	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	14.09		9	
EST	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	16.09		10	replacement
CAN	Y with full vaccination*	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	17.09		11	
POL	Y with Covid certificate	No restrictions with full vaccination	YES	17.09		12	
THA	Y with full vaccination*	PCR test 72hrs before arrival. 14-day quarantine at a specified facility	YES	10.09		14	
USA	Y with full vaccination*	PCR test 72hrs prior	YES	14.09		15	
SGP	Y with full vaccination*	PCR test 72hrs before arrival. Home quarantine for 14 days if fully vaccinated, otherwise at designated facility	YES	13.09		16	
PHI	Y with full vaccination*	PCR test 72hrs before arrival. 10-day quarantine at a specified facility paid for by the govt and then 4-day home quarantine	YES	18.09		35	replacement

*If arriving from a country outside of EU you must have full vaccination. If no vaccination then you must meet one of the exemption criteria (Special groups - representatives of sports) as well as PCR test 72hrs OR a certificate of a first dose of a vaccine, that was given at least 14 days before arrival, and then you must take part in a COVID-19 test within 3-5 days, or no earlier than 72 hours and no later than 120 hours after arriving in Finland.

NOT PARTICIPATING			
	Australia	NO	13.08
	Japan	NO	18.09
	Korea / NZL / Malaysia (replacements)	NO	13.09

Helsinki, Finland
23rd September 2021

To: **Mr Olivier Niggli, WADA Director General**
c/o Ms Marjorie Chinnarassen

Dear Mr Niggli,

The International Floorball Federation (IFF) takes the opportunity provided by WADA to nominate **Ms. Agata Plechan (POL)** for the **WADA Athlete Committee**.

Ms Plechan is the current chair of the IFF Athletes' Commission and sits on the IFF Central Board. There is great importance in WADA hearing the voices and experiences of all athletes, from big or small federations, Olympic and non-Olympic sports. Ms Plechan can bring a lot of understanding and experience from a non-Olympic sport to the WADA Athlete Committee.

Ms. Plechan holds a Masters Degree in Development and International Relations from the University of Aalborg, and as well as holding leading executive positions within our sport, she is still an active athlete. She has represented her country at both U19 and adult level since 2005 and she first captained the Polish Women's Floorball in 2009. In November, she will participate in her 7th World Championships. In Denmark, where she has lived for many years, she was selected as the Women's Player of the year in 2018 and has been chosen in the annual All-Star Team in 2016, 2018 & 2019.

Within the IFF, Ms Plechan acts as the athlete anti-doping ambassador, assisting in AD education and participating in IFF's Say No To Doping! campaigns. She is highly respected at all levels of Floorball activity and is a wonderful role-model for all athletes.

Being part of the Athletes' Commission since 2017, as well as captain of her national and club teams she has been a vocal and highly visible supporter of clean sport and equality. She has attended international forums as the IFF Athletes' Commission representative, including WADA's first Global Athlete Forum in Calgary (2018) and the International Athletes Forum in Lausanne (2019). Now as Chair of the Athletes' Commission and with a seat on the IFF Central Board she is in an even stronger position to support and promote the voices of athletes on anti-doping issues.

The IFF has no doubt that Ms Plechan can bring added value to the WADA Athlete Committee and can, based on her broad experience, act as a bridge between cultures and sports. We hope that you will strongly consider her nomination when making the final decision for the new committee members. If further information is needed, please feel free to contact the IFF Head Office.

With sincere regards,
International Floorball Federation



Tomas Eriksson, President



John Liljelund, Secretary General