



**FIE OUTLINE
OF RISK-MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS
FOR NATIONAL FENCING FEDERATIONS
AND COMPETITION ORGANISERS
IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19 (FORMIR – COVID-19)**

**PREPARED BY
FIE TASK FORCE**

**AND REVIEWED BY
FIE MEDICAL COMMISSION
AND
FIE LEGAL COMMISSION**

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Notes:

- List of the amended pages: 5,15
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1. Introduction

The purpose of this document (**“Outline”**) is to support the worldwide fencing community in anticipation of resuming FIE Official Events by establishing safety measures to protect the health of all participants to the greatest extent possible.

The Outline has been approved by the FIE Executive Committee and must be strictly adhered to by all participants in FIE Official Events. Furthermore, the Outline must be implemented in conjunction with all sanitary requirements as prescribed by national and local authorities in the country hosting the FIE event.

It is in the interest of all participants to apply these protocols and we appeal to your cooperation, individual responsibility and support.

Fencing is an opposition sport in which distance is sometimes reduced. In addition, fencers and other participants have to interact in close proximity with referees, trainers and coaches as required by FIE Rules or by functionality.

Rigorous implementation of all measures included in this Outline is required as a condition to participate, in any capacity, in all FIE Official Events.

Participants at FIE Official Events who experience any COVID-19 symptoms must contact the designated medical liaison immediately. Hiding, concealing and not reporting COVID-19 symptoms at an FIE Official Event will be considered an intentional violation of the Outline, and subject all those involved to immediate sanctions and penalties by the FIE, and also to sanctions as determined by the applicable laws of the host country.

At the conclusion of **each event**, the Host Organizers shall submit two reports to the FIE Executive Office: (a) the report of the Medical Liaison and (b) the report of the FIE-Supervisor. These reports must document the following:

1. Number and type of tests performed;
2. Number of positive cases;
3. Detailed information of the positive cases (date of last negative test (if applicable), date of positive test, contact tracing, and follow up);
4. Detailed implementation of the risk mitigation protocol (setup, breaches, failures, remarks, recommendations, etc.)

2. Summary for organizers of the FIE outline of risk-mitigation requirements in the context of Covid-19

This Summary only aims at outlining the general directions. All procedures are detailed in the full outline which must be carefully read before considering hosting an FIE event.

Entry into the host country: In order to encourage the widest possible participation in its events, the FIE will only consider host countries which accept participants who provide proof of any one of the following options:

- a) Certificates of COVID-19 negative test; or
- b) Certificates of recovery from COVID-19; or
- c) Certificates of vaccination against COVID-19 with any vaccines recognised by the WHO; or
- d) Certificates of vaccination against COVID-19 with any vaccines recognised by the host country of the competition.

Important: In case of mandatory quarantine on arrival in the host country (even though the participants can produce the documents mentioned in points a) or b) or c) or d) above), the host federation must obtain exemptions for the participants concerned.

1. Requirements for Host Organisers before the Competition

1.1. Obligations with National authorities and the FIE

- Review the FORMIR – COVID-19.
- Plan sufficiently ahead to be able to complete all additional administrative procedures linked to COVID-19.
- Get updated requirements as put forward by the national/local public and health authorities in charge of COVID-19.
- When planning competition budget estimate all the expenses required for the implementation of the FORMIR – COVID 19, National and Regional rules and regulations and tests.
- Prepare a programme of the competition, incorporating detailed estimation of the time required to meet all the requirements and restrictions, and submit it to the FIE for approval.
- Get formal Notice of approval for organisation of the event from national, local or sport authorities and submit them to the FIE with the application.
- Prepare a detailed Crisis Management Plan for potential positive and contact cases during the event.
- Send a draft Invitation Letter to FIE for approval, containing:
 - restrictions of any kind (links to official information)
 - exemptions of any kind (links to official information)
 - vaccinations accepted (links to official information)
 - recovery from Covid-19 certificates accepted (links to official information)
 - approved types of Covid-19 tests and labs
 - prices of Covid-19 tests (rapid antigen and PCR)
 - any other conditions and regulations (links to official information)
 - detailed Covid-19 requirements and protocols, including management of positive and contact cases, medication, quarantines and related expenses.
 - date of arrival and of departure of participants.

Once approved by the FIE, the Invitation letter will be published on the FIE website.

- Inform the FIE and invited NFs about evolving administrative procedures and required paperwork.

1.2. Bubble System

The bubble system is the ideal solution, but it proved to be difficult and expensive to achieve and implement. Therefore, a “lighter” solution can also be put in place, according to the following steps.

1.3. Accommodation

- Choose, if possible, only one hotel or only one part of the hotel, within a walking distance from the venue in order to avoid transportation.
- If two or more hotels are used, moving from one hotel to another hotel should be avoided.
- Any gathering in hotel rooms should be avoided.
- Hotels booked must implement sanitary measures: facemasks, distance and sanitization.

1.4. Local Transport

- If hotel is at a walking distance from the venue, participants must refrain from going to other places.
- Transportation from and to airport should not mix different delegations to minimize contamination risks.
- Hand disinfection before and facemasks are obligatory during transportation.
- All transport means must be regularly sanitized.

1.5. Staff

- Assign and train sufficient number of the Covid Marshals and security staff.
- Staff involved must have competence and authority to implement rules.

1.6. Sanitary Preparation

- Temperature taking at the venue or hotel is optional. Each participant is responsible for monitoring his/her temperature daily.
- Prepare a detailed plan and sanitary measures, taking into account a distance of 1.5 meter and therefore the appropriate space.
- Display clear information (posters, flyers, videos, etc.) in the competition venue, about the General Advice on COVID-19.
- Provide sufficient protective equipment (approved facemasks and hand disinfecting liquid, face shields).
- Place sufficient approved disinfecting liquid dispensers in all areas.
- Every person entering or re-entering the venue must use hand sanitizers.
- Provide enough hand washing stations.
- Organise sanitary distance in all areas.
- Bar code on accreditations is no longer required.
- Approved/Authorized facemasks are: either Medical masks (also known as surgical masks) which are composed of minimum 3 layers, or Respirators (also known as filtering facepiece respirators – FFP2/N95) or equivalent facemask (K-95) or masks as detailed by WHO (<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-masks>).

1.7. Administrative Obligations before the competition

- Organise collection of the original Covid-19 Acknowledgement of Risk and Release from Liability (Appendix B) and the COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire for FIE Event (Appendix C) signed by each Participant once they arrive (and not before their arrival as information should be recent= no more than 12 hours).
If applicable, Appendix B and C can be filled out online, upon arrival.
- Request list of Associate Participants before the competition.

1.8. Spectators at FIE competitions

- If outside spectators are allowed, strict separation must be organised between participants, delegations and spectators.
- Associated participants will be strictly treated according to the **FORMiR – COVID-19** (Article 6d).
- There will be no opening and closing ceremonies.

2. Testing for COVID-19

a) Host country and airlines requirements

- It is everyone's responsibility to comply with regulations and tests to travel and enter host countries, **at their expense**.
- Conditions and national regulations will be laid out in the invitation letter.
- It is everyone's responsibility to plan travels in such a way to be able to undergo all the required Covid-19 tests before traveling and in the Host Country.

b) FIE requirements

- Upon arrival: one rapid antigen test, including for vaccinated or Covid-19 recovered participants. The rapid antigen test used must be WHO-approved.
- No isolation is required unless the rapid antigen test is positive.
- Results of tests must be communicated to each participant individually.
- During the stay (every 4 days after arrival day, unless that 4th day is the day of departure of the participant): one rapid antigen test (the rapid antigen test used must be WHO-approved).
- After each test those who test negative will receive a visible mark (e.g., bracelets).
- Participants who receive a negative result of the rapid antigen test will be allowed to enter training and competition.
- In case a rapid antigen test is positive, the test result will be confirmed by a PCR test, if enough time allows it. (See full text in the relevant section below).
- Maximum time to receive result of a rapid antigen test: 30 minutes.
- Maximum time to receive result of a PCR test: 8 hours.
- Participants who test positive to Covid-19 after a PCR test will not be authorised to take part in training or competition and must comply with the local sanitary and quarantine requirements.
- Results of the PCR test cannot be appealed.

c) Departure tests

- Participants needing a Covid-19 test to go back to their home country must inform the organiser test station and make an appointment according to their departure time. These tests are at the expense of participants.
- Results of tests must be printed and provided to the participants in the hotel.

3. Requirements for Host Organisers during the Competition

a. Weapon Control

- Must be separated from the training and competition areas.
- Must be large enough to allow required sanitary distance.
- Sanitary distance must be clearly marked on the floor, and security staff must enforce this distance to be applied.
- Equipment controllers will use protective gloves, facemasks and face shields provided by the organisers.
- Material brought for the control must be placed in the crates provided by the Host Organizers which must be sanitized before each reuse.

b. Venue Cleaning and Sanitation

- Venue must be cleaned, and surfaces disinfected regularly.
- Hand washing stations must be supplied with paper towels.
- Trash pickup must occur regularly.

c. Doping Control

- Arrangements must be made with the national ADOs to organise doping control, making sure that the WADA Guidance Document for Testing is applied.

d. Presentation and Award Ceremonies

- During the presentation of fencers and referees on the piste and medal ceremony, 1.5 meter distance must be kept.
- Medals and gifts to be presented to the fencers on a cushion or a tray and fencers are to take medals by themselves.
- Trays must be disinfected after each ceremony.
- No handshaking or hugging is allowed.
- After the award ceremony, photos can be taken without mask under the following conditions:
 - Mask-off time shall not be longer than 30"
 - Sanitary distance must be of 1.5 meter for those not training in the same group
- During group photos a distance of 1.5 meter must be applied.

4. Breaching of the Covid-19 protocol or refusing to obey the Covid-19 protocol will be sanctioned by the withdrawal of the accreditation and exclusion from the event.

3. Summary for participants of the FIE outline of risk-mitigation requirements in the context of Covid-19

This Summary only aims at outlining the general directions. All procedures are detailed in the full FIE OUTLINE OF RISK-MITIGATION REQUIREMENTS IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19 which must be carefully read.

1. Requirements for Participants Before the Competition

1.1. Travel organisation

- Verify all requirements, conditions and exemptions mentioned in the invitation letter posted on the FIE website.
- Verify requirements from airlines companies.
- Plan more time for traveling than usually. It is everybody's responsibility to plan to travel in such a way to be able to undergo all the required Covid-19 tests before traveling and in the Host Country.
- Make the necessary tests required to enter the host country. **These tests are at the expense of participants.**

1.2. Administrative obligations

- Read and respect the FORMiR – COVID-19 and Safety Plan.
- Read and respect rules communicated by the host organisers.

1.3. Accommodation

- It is recommended to book single rooms for participants. This is to avoid all occupants of a room to have to be placed into quarantine and be eliminated from the competition, due to a positive Covid-19 result.
- Any gathering in hotel rooms should be avoided.
- If hotel is at a walking distance from the venue, participants must refrain from going to other places.

1.4. Equipment

- Equipment (bags, masks, gloves and weapons, etc) must be disinfected by the fencers before the competition.

2. Requirements for Participants During the Competition

2.1. Forms

After arrival in the host country complete and sign the **Covid-19 Acknowledgement of risk and release from liability (Appendix B)** and the **Screening Questionnaire (Appendix C)**. For Annex C, information should not be older than 12 hours.

If applicable, Appendix B and C can be filled out online, upon arrival.

2.2. Testing (see same section above in organiser's summary, page 7)

2.3. Obligatory Sanitary Measures

- Consult a doctor in case of symptom
- Fencing masks, gloves and weapons must be disinfected by the fencers before the competition.

- Sharing equipment with another participant is not allowed.
- Hand disinfection before and facemasks are obligatory during transportation in the host country.
- Sanitary Distance of 1.5 meter
- Coaches are allowed to stay at 1 meter from the fencer but must wear a face shield in addition to the facemask.
- Facemasks are obligatory at any time, except when training, fencing and eating.
- Approved/Authorized facemasks are: either Medical masks (also known as surgical masks) which are composed of minimum 3 layers, or Respirators (also known as filtering facepiece respirators – FFP2/N95) or equivalent facemask (K-95) or masks as detailed by WHO (<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-masks>).
- Referees must wear face mask and face shield/visor when they have to be close to any participants and when they perform video refereeing.
- Referees must use hand-disinfectant before and after each bout.
- Doctor and medical staff of the competition wear facemasks, gloves and a face shield/visor during treatment of injuries.
- During rest periods, all people in the fencing piste area must maintain a distance of 1.5 meter from the fencer(s).
- Participants should bring their own bottle of water and must not share it with anyone.
- Participants should bring their own pen to fill in and sign documents.
- Any additional measure put forward by FIE or local regulations are obligatory

3. Rules and Practices Impacted

- Fencers' handshake at the end of bouts is replaced with a salute.
- Exchanging gifts is suspended until further notice.
- Screaming after a hit is scored is suspended until further notice.
- Rushing to the victorious fencer on the piste or after the fencer leaves the piste is suspended until further notice.
- Congratulatory hugging, kissing or handshakes are suspended until further notice.
- If the Host Authorities/Federation forbid spectators, any person not participating in the event (eliminated fencer after a pool or a table, his/her coach, medical staff, accompanying persons, etc.) must leave the venue and go to the hotel, and cannot stay as a spectator.
- Participants can sit on the tribunes while preparing for the competition, but they must keep the required distance.

4. Presentation and Award Ceremonies (see same section above in organiser's summary page 8)

5. Breaching of the Covid-19 protocol or refusing to obey the Covid-19 protocol will be sanctioned by the withdrawal of the accreditation and exclusion from the event.

4. Definition of Key Terms

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS
Acknowledgement of risk and release from Liability: Document drafted by the FIE Legal Commission which all participants to the event must read and sign before having access to the venue.
Application: The documentation submitted to the FIE by a prospective host federation in applying to host an FIE Official Event.
Associate Participants (including host country associate participants): in the event a FIE Official Event is closed to the public. Spouses, companions, family member and of minors, may, under special circumstances, attend as “Associate Participants,” as long as they comply with the same screening requirements of participants. In such case, each national federation will include them on their official list and identify their relationship to the fencers. Associate participants will not be allowed on the competition floor and will be seated in a partitioned area normally reserved to spectators. Parents of minor fencers will be prioritized over other associate participants.
COVID-19 Symptoms: Fever (≥ 100.1 °F, or ≥ 37.8 °C). Coughing , nasal congestion, sore throat, shortness of breath, diarrhea, loss of taste or smell, vomit/nausea, and fatigue/malaise and any other symptoms described by the World Health Organization as COVID-19 symptom in its official communication (www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus#tab=tab_3)
COVID- 19 Screening Questionnaire: A list of questions to be answered and signed by each participant entering the competition venue.
COVID-19 Test Certificate: An official Test Certificate released by an accredited lab. The document must be drafted either in English, or French or Spanish. No “personal” translation will be accepted.
Disinfectants: Refer to Article 8.(j)
Facility/ies Verification Statement: A written statement submitted by the Host Federation attesting that all facilities designated for an FIE Official Event meet Outline requirements.
FIE Official Event: An international Fencing Competition and/or championship under the aegis of the FIE.
Foreign Visitors Information Summary: A written summary submitted by the host federation of all information pertaining to foreign visitors entering the host country; including, but not limited to, relevant applicable legal provisions regarding quarantine, medical certificates, required epidemiological questionnaires and visa-granting condition and requirements.
Outline: The corpus of these directives.
Host Country: The country in which the FIE Official Event takes place.
Host Organizers: The tournament organizers in the Host Country who have been selected by the Host Federation to plan and manage the FIE Official Event.
Host Federation: The national fencing federation that has been selected by FIE to host an FIE Official Event.
Invitation Document: A document that includes all the requirements that must be fulfilled by the Host Federation as a condition for approval by the FIE of the FIE Official Event. It is the responsibility of the Host Federation to make sure that there are no conflicts between the FIE requirements and existing local, regional, and national rules and regulations in the Host Country. This invitation letter must be first sent to the FIE for approval.
FIE Medical Liaison: In case of World Championships this refers to FIE medical delegate(s) assigned to the championships. In case of other FIE competitions, this refers to the Local

Organizing Committee (LOC) medical staff as required by FIE rules.
Notice of Approval: This notice signifies that the Host Federation has received authorization by its National Authorities to conduct the planned FIE Official Event.
National Authority: The government and/or the health agency of the Host Country which is entitled to authorize the planned FIE competition including, if applicable, its state, regional and local political subdivisions.
National Fencing Federation: any national federation member of the FIE
<p>Nucleic acid amplification tests (NAAT) for COVID-19 virus: Nucleic Acid Amplification Testing (NAAT), such as with real-time reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR), is the recommended assay type for confirmation of SARS-CoV-2 infection.</p> <p>Routine confirmation of cases of COVID-19 is based on detection of unique sequences of virus RNA by NAAT such as real-time reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) with confirmation by nucleic acid sequencing when necessary. The viral genes targeted so far include the N, E, S and RdRP genes.</p> <p>COVID-19 can provisionally be diagnosed on the basis of symptoms and confirmed using reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) or other nucleic acid testing of infected secretions. Along with laboratory testing, chest CT scans may be helpful to diagnose COVID-19 in individuals with a high clinical suspicion of infection.</p>
Participants (including host country participants): Fencers, referees, coaches, trainers, armorers, scorekeepers, timekeepers, medical personnel, representative and guests of FIE and of national federations, tournament organizers, staff and volunteers, weapon controllers, media representatives, security personnel, food handler and other individuals assisting with the running of the competition.
Personal Protection Equipment a/k/a PPEs: Facemasks, gloves, visors, and sanitation items.
Prospective Host Federation: A National Federation that has submitted an Application to the FIE to host an FIE Official Event.
PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) Covid-19 test: See definition of Nucleic acid amplification tests (NAAT) for COVID-19 virus above. FIE will require the host country to guarantee a maximum of 8 hours to return the result.
Rapid antigen Covid-19 test: detects coronavirus proteins from the outer shell of the virus (antigens) extracted from samples taken either in the nose, the mouth or the throat; either by swab or by saliva. It is a so called lateral flow test that is very economical (typical cost < 5€) and requires little training to collect samples and get to a valid result. It is for these features that the test can be used at a large scale without too many difficulties. Since this is a screening test it needs a certain viral load to show a reaction. As any screening test it is best used with a confirmation test whenever a doubt arises.
<p>Sanitary Distance: The minimum sanitary distance established by the World Health Organization, as of August 25, 2020, is at least of 1 meter (3 feet) to be maintained between people.</p> <p>As of August 2021, the FIE has established that the distance at FIE official competitions must be of 1.5 meter. This distance may be reviewed periodically.</p>
Spectators: People admitted to designated areas of the venue to watch the sport competition.

5. FIE Covid-19 Risk Mitigation Strategy

The International Fencing Federation (FIE) is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the world governing body of fencing. The FIE establishes the rules to which international competitions must be organized and oversees their implementation. It must now accomplish this goal within the framework of the Covid-19 reality. To that end,

- The FIE has established a list of general criteria for approving FIE Official Events in the time of Covid-19 (see appendix A)
- The FIE has established this Outline, which details its sanitary requirements, and corresponding screening measures to be observed and complied with.

More specifically, the FIE, just like most businesses do, has chosen to manage the Covid-19 risk by mitigating the risk of COVID 19 contagion as much as possible among Participants.

This Outline remains a work-in-progress and will be amended from time to time to reflect the evolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and the progress made by the medical community with regards to the testing and treatment of Covid-19. For the most recent version of this Outline please visit our website at: <https://fie.org/fie/documents/other-documents>

To mitigate COVID-19 risk effectively, especially with limited resources, it is important to understand and to prioritize the modes of contagion of the Covid-19 coronavirus, and to align them with situations, processes and procedures that are peculiar to fencing and to FIE Official Events. This will prioritize and match mitigation strategies commensurate with the level of risk involved. See the two tables below detailing direct and indirect modes of Covid-19 contagion.

Safety Plan (SP) for participants before traveling to an FIE competition:

Purpose & Conditions of SP: FIE fencing competitions should be conducted in the safest possible way in order to minimize the risks and to protect participants as much as possible. To that end, the SP is aimed at ensuring that the participants comply with the following conditions:

- 1. 10 days prior to competitions**, participants should use their best efforts to minimize exposure to Covid-19 by:
 - a) Adhering strictly to facemask requirements, hands washing/disinfection and social distancing
 - b) Avoiding the sharing of meals with individuals outside the family unit
 - c) Avoiding crowds and crowded places with the exception of the competition venue where strict Covid-19 protocols are enforced
- 2. Upon arrival in the host country and through the duration of the FIE competition**, participants should act as if they were in a bubble and use their best efforts to minimize exposure to Covid-19. They must:
 - a) Abide by the safety protocols included in FIE Outline of Risk-Mitigation Requirements for National Fencing Federations and Competition Organizers in the context of COVID-19;
 - b) Abide by the rules communicated by the host country organiser:

- c) Adhere strictly to facemask requirements, hands washing/disinfection and social distancing;
- d) Avoid to share meals;
- e) Avoid crowds and crowded places with the exception of the competition venue where strict Covid-19 protocols are enforced;
- f) For the duration of the competition, it is recommended to National Federations to use their best efforts to place members of their delegation in single rooms. This to avoid all occupants of a room to have to be placed into separate quarantines and be excluded from the competition, in case one of them tests positive to Covid-19 after arrival into the Host Country.

(a) Direct Mode of Covid-19 Contagion

DIRECT MODE OF COVID -19 CONTAGION
Between people who are in close contact (face to face) with a probable or confirmed case of Covid 19 within 1 meter and for at least 15 minutes.
Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes, and talks; and, by implication, singing and shouting .
Touching one’s eyes, mouth, nose without having first washed/ sanitized one’s hands.

(b) Indirect Mode of Covid-19 Contagion

INDIRECT MODE OF COVID -19 CONTAGION
From touching fixed surfaces or objects or objects that are shared with others, AND touching one’s eyes, mouth, or nose without first washing/sanitizing one’s hands.
According to the CDC, <i>“this is not thought to be the main way the virus spreads.”</i> Regardless, this issue is not settled yet from a medical perspective; and until it is, it is FIE’s position that it is best to err on the side of caution.

6. Planning and Organizing an FIE Official Event

(a) Application to Host an FIE Official Event

APPLICATION TO HOST AN FIE OFFICIAL EVENT

- Entry into the host country: In order to encourage the widest possible participation in its events, the FIE will only consider host countries which accept participants who provide proof of any one of the following options:

- a) Certificates of COVID-19 negative test; or
- b) Certificates of recovery from COVID-19; or
- c) Certificates of vaccination against COVID-19 with any vaccines recognised by the WHO; or
- d) Certificates of vaccination against COVID-19 with any vaccines recognised by the host country of the competition.

Important: In case of mandatory quarantine on arrival in the host country (even though the participants can produce the documents mentioned in points a) or b) or c) or d) above), the host federation must obtain exemptions for the participants concerned.

- Before considering to apply for the organization of an FIE Official Event, National Fencing Federations must make sure that they will meet all the requirements and recommendations of the national and/or local authorities and the FIE, related to COVID-19 for all the facilities (Fencing venue, hotels, internal transport, dedicated medical staff, etc).
- National Fencing Federations must submit to the FIE detailed information of requirements and recommendations for foreign visitors (quarantine, medical certificates, epidemiological questionnaires to be filled in, visa granting conditions, etc) applicable at the time of the Application so the FIE can consider this with the application.
- Furthermore, they are obliged to notify the FIE with immediate effect of any changes on any requirements and recommendations of the national and/or local authorities related to COVID-19 for all the facilities and/or foreign or domestic Participants.

(b) Preparation to organize an FIE Official Event

PREPARATION TO ORGANIZE AN FIE OFFICIAL EVENT

The **Host Federation/ Organizers** must take the following actions:

- Plan sufficiently ahead to be able to complete all additional administrative procedures linked to COVID-19.
- Get updated requirements as put forward by the national/local public and health authorities in charge of COVID-19.
- When planning competition budget estimate all the expenses required for the implementation of the FORMIR – COVID 19, National and Regional rules and regulations and tests.
- Prepare a programme of the competition, incorporating detailed estimation of the time required to meet all the requirements and restrictions, and submit it to the FIE for approval.
- Get formal Notice of approval for organisation of the event from national, local or sport authorities and submit them to the FIE with the application.
- Prepare a detailed Crisis Management Plan for potential positive and contact cases during the event.
- Send a draft Invitation Letter to FIE for approval, containing:

- restrictions of any kind (links to official information)
- exemptions of any kind (links to official information)
- vaccinations accepted (links to official information)
- recovery from Covid-19 certificates accepted (links to official information)
- approved types of Covid-19 tests and labs
- prices of Covid-19 tests (rapid antigen and PCR)
- any other conditions and regulations (links to official information)
- detailed Covid-19 requirements and protocols, including management of positive and contact cases, medication, quarantines and related expenses.
- date of arrival and of departure of participants.

Once approved by the FIE, the Invitation letter will be published on the FIE website.

- Inform the FIE and invited NFs about evolving administrative procedures and required paperwork.
- Any other restrictions that must take place during the event must be clearly communicated to all participants and the FIE in advance. In case additional restrictions/requirements have not been communicated to the FIE with the invitation letter, the FIE reserves the right to cancel the event.
- Prepare and assign dedicated staff to control and enforce implementation of all the requirements and limitations. Staff involved must have competence and authority to implement rules.
- Display clear information (posters, flyers, videos etc. provided by the FIE) in the competition venue, about the above **General Advice about protecting yourself and others from the spread COVID-19**, in order to inform Participants, Spectators about ways in which they can prevent themselves from getting infected with COVID-19 and passing the virus to others.

Host Organizers must have an Accreditation System allowing everyone involved in the competition: athletes, coaches, referees, associate participants, and organizing staff, to be controlled before and during the competition. The accreditation system will also be able to generate lists of attending participants each day. Any contingency protocol must have accurate information about the persons present in the competition.

The accreditations will be provided to those participants who received a negative Covid-19 test result in the Host Country and who have submitted the signed Acknowledgement of risk and release from Liability (Appendix B) and the Covid-19 screening questionnaire for an FIE event (Appendix C).

No access to the venue will be authorized without the accreditation.

- Organise collection of the **Covid-19 Acknowledgement of risk and release from liability (Appendix B) and Covid 19 Screening Questionnaire for FIE Event (Appendix C)** signed by each Participant once they arrive (and not before their arrival as information should be recent no more than 12 hours).
If applicable, Appendix B and C can be filled out online, upon arrival.
- Request list of Associate Participants before the competition.
- Training of staff must ensure that there are procedures in place for most unexpected situations. For example:
 - Individuals who answer YES to any of the screening questions;
 - Individuals who answer NO to all screening questions but who display symptoms related to COVID 19;
 - Non-compliant individuals who refuse to follow the **Outline** and the instructions of the screening personnel.
- Non-compliant individuals should be escorted immediately out of the venue.
- Team staff and volunteer leaders should ensure that their teams and volunteers are

briefed on the protocols for a suspect patient, on infection prevention and control measures and on where to find more information.

- Prepare a **Crisis Management Plan** in the event a participant tests positive and contact cases during the FIE Official Event. The plan must contemplate:
 - The immediate suspension of the event; and
 - The engagement of an organization familiar with the standards for disinfection of COVID-19-infected premises and arrange the immediate disinfection of said premises to the satisfaction and approval by the **National Authority** of jurisdiction, before the competition can resume.

(c) Sanitary and Medical Preparation for FIE Official Events

SANITARY AND MEDICAL PREPARATION
Facemasks
<p>Approved/Authorized facemasks are: either Medical masks (also known as surgical masks) which are composed of minimum 3 layers, or Respirators (also known as filtering facepiece respirators – FFP2/N95) or equivalent facemask (K-95) or masks as detailed by WHO (https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-masks).</p> <p>It is the recommendation of the Medical Commission not to require, at this time, the use of facemask while fencing. Indeed, any protection a facemask could give the fencer against inhaling aerosol particulates from an opponent not wearing a facemask could be countered by oxygen deprivation and increase CO₂ in the blood stream while under stress, which could lead in some individuals to serious and immediate consequences. Regardless, fencers and coaches may choose to wear them even if not required under this Outline.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If regulations in the Host Country or of the Host Organizers mandate the wearing of a facemask by fencers while bouting or warming up, the FIE may: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Either decide not to hold the competition in the proposed Host Country or ➢ Request a recommendation from the FIE Medical Commission on additional recovery time (and therefore a possible <i>ad hoc</i> change of the current rule). • If the Host Country recommends, but does not require, wearing facemasks (other than the exception immediately above) a sufficient number of facemasks should be made available by the Host Federation to all Participants and Spectators for purchase. • Face shields/visors to be used by referees, coaches, screening staff and medical personnel should be made available by the Host Federation.
Gloves
<p>If the use of disposable gloves is required by the host country regulations, it should be provided by the organisers and it should not be the case for fencers' armed hand while fencing. Users must be instructed on safe ways how to put on and how to take off disposable gloves after each use. Much more effective than disposable gloves, is to constantly practice hands hygiene by washing hands often with soap and water or using hands sanitizers for which the Host Organizer is responsible to make available to all Participants during the event.</p>
Covid-19 testing
<p>The Host Organizers must have arrangements in place with an authorized local COVID-19 rapid antigen and PCR testing facility for the testing of all participants upon arrival. The rapid antigen test used must be WHO-approved.</p> <p>The host country must guarantee in writing that the results of the rapid antigen tests will be available in maximum 30 minutes and that the results of the PCR tests will be available within maximum 8 hours.</p> <p>To ensure that sufficient rapid antigen and PCR testing kits are available for post-screening testing, the Host Organizers may consider purchasing them in advance.</p>

The FIE will have the right to cancel the event if rapid antigen tests and/or PCR testing kits are unavailable or if results of tests cannot be delivered in the maximum times set above.
Sanitization
Sufficient approved alcohol-based gel/liquid dispensers and/or treated tissues for hand sanitizing must be placed in all areas as specified below and to be provided for every team during the accreditation process.
Disinfection
Host Organizer must secure sufficient approved disinfectant cleaner for disinfection of the working and specific areas in the venue and/or secure a contract with an enterprise for the disinfection of the venue.
Temperature taking at the venue or hotel is optional. Each participant is responsible for monitoring his/her temperature daily.

(d) Planning for Spectators at FIE Official Events

SPECTATORS AT FIE OFFICIAL EVENTS
The Host Federation will obtain and share the latest applicable legal provisions and/or recommendations regarding Spectators and the corresponding conditions that must be met to allow their presence at sporting events.
Associate Participants
The Host Federation may limit, restrict, or prohibit the attendance by Spectators , especially if testing is required for all Participants . In that event, spouses, companions, family members and parents of minors will be allowed to attend as Associate Participants , even if the event will be closed to the general public, as long as they comply with the same screening requirement for Participants . In such case each National Fencing Federation will include them on their list and identify their relationship to the fencers. Associate Participants will not be allowed on the competition floor and will be seated in partitioned area normally reserved for spectators. If the attendance of Spectators is prohibited by a National Authority , then the Host Federation and the Host Organizers will seek permission to have spouse, companions, family members and parents of minors attend the event as Associate Participants . Parents of minor fencers will be prioritized over other Associate Participants .
➤ National Fencing Federations as well as Host Organizers and FIE should not be held financially responsible for Associate Participants who must prolong their stay in the host country to comply with travel restrictions and/or quarantines imposed by the Host Country and/or their home country.
➤ All recommendations of the National Authority pertaining to Spectators must be strictly applied.
➤ Seats for Spectators must be designated with widely spaced spectators for a 1.5 meter sanitary distancing. Numbered seats must allow for contact tracing.
➤ All Spectators must wear facemasks at all times in the venue and respect sanitary distance.
➤ Facemask for sale must be made available at a kiosk near the entrance for Spectators who arrive without at them.
➤ Security staff must enforce the required Sanitary Distance all the time
➤ If external spectators are allowed, strict separation must be organised between participants, delegations and spectators.

7. Screening Measures for FIE Official Events

(a) Pre-Arrival Testing for Covid-19

PRE-ARRIVAL TESTING

Asymptomatic individuals infected with COVID-19 present the greatest threat to mass gathering and sport events.

Participants must be aware that some host countries/airlines companies may require all participants to provide proof of a Negative COVID-19 PCR Test (and/or any other test required by the Authorities) taken before their arrival date.

It is everyone's responsibility to comply with regulations and tests to travel and enter host countries, **at their expense**.

Conditions and national regulations will be laid out in the invitation letter.

It is everyone's responsibility to plan travels in such a way to be able to undergo all the required Covid-19 tests before traveling and in the Host Country.

(b) Testing for Covid-19 in the host country

1. In case national regulations require **several** PCR tests and/or Rapid-tests to be performed in the host country, before training and competition, the host organiser must inform the FIE which will make a final decision on holding the competition in the host country.
2. FIE requirements
 - Host Country participants and associate participants are subject to the same requirements and rules as all the Participants.
 - Upon arrival: one rapid antigen test, including for vaccinated or Covid-19 recovered participants. The rapid antigen test used must be WHO-approved.
 - No isolation is required unless the rapid antigen test is positive.
 - Results of tests must be communicated to each participant individually.
 - During the stay (every 4 days after arrival day, unless that 4th day is the day of departure of the participant): one rapid antigen test (the rapid antigen test used must be WHO-approved).
 - After each test those who test negative will receive a visible mark (e.g., bracelets).
 - Participants who receive a negative result of the rapid antigen test will be allowed to enter training and competition.
 - In case a rapid antigen test is positive, the test result will be confirmed by a PCR test, if enough time allows it. Getting results of PCR tests takes 8 hours. Therefore, all participants must plan to arrive in the host country a sufficient time in advance. Late arrivals of participants will not allow PCR tests results to be obtained on time for training and competition. In such cases, participants will not be authorized to take part in the competition and will be eliminated.
 - Participants who test positive to Covid-19 after a PCR test:
 - will not be authorised to take part in training or competition
 - must strictly comply with the provisions of the Safety Plan
 - must stay isolated in their room until they are communicated the results of the PCR test
 - must comply with the local sanitary and quarantine requirements.
 - Maximum time to receive result of a rapid antigen test: 30 minutes.
 - Maximum time to receive result of a PCR test: 8 hours.

- Results of the PCR test cannot be appealed.
3. Departure tests
- Participants needing a Covid-19 test to go back to their home country must inform the organiser’s test station and make an appointment according to their departure time. **These tests are at the expense of participants.**
 - Results of tests must be printed and provided to the participants in the hotel.

(c) Tests and screening procedures at Competition

MEDICAL TEST
Each Participant must complete and sign the Screening Questionnaire (Appendix C).
Any person answering yes to any of the questions on the screening questionnaire or mentioning a temperature $\geq 37.8^{\circ}\text{C}/ 100.1\text{ F}$ and/or any Covid-19 Symptoms will be escorted to a Medical Room, and the Medical Liaison will determine whether to authorize admission to the competition and venue, or referral to a doctor or a medical facility is necessary. The Medical Room must have a properly sized waiting room area with Sanitary Distance between chairs.
Covid-19 testing area should be set up either at the airport or in the hotel zone. If there is no existing appropriate location, a temporary place must be established (Tent etc.).
Covid-19 testing area must be properly sized to allow keeping of Sanitary Distance .
Required Sanitary Distance must be clearly marked on the floor, and security staff must enforce this distance to be applied.
Medical team carrying out tests must wear masks, visors, and disposable gloves.
In case participants are tested more than once, visual bracelets, wristbands, stickers, or stamps to be applied to those who pass the Covid-19 tests.
It is recommended to limit the number of entrances to the venue. It is mandatory to strictly separate entrances for Participants from entrances for Spectators (if spectators are allowed).
Everybody, except fencers warming up or competing, entering the venue must wear facemasks. Those who do not have them must get them before entering the venue.
Non-compliant Participants will be escorted out of the venue immediately and referred to the official sanitary authorities.
Anyone suspected to have been exposed to Covid-19 contagion, in the Host Country must comply with the sanitary requirements of the Host Country.

(d) Covid-19 Tracing

TRACING COVID-19 DATA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The personal, medical and contact information collected on participants will not be disclosed to third-party with the sole exception of national health authorities responsible for tracing individuals who <i>may</i> have been exposed to COVID-19 if one or more participants become ill with Covid-19 within two weeks after the end of the competition. It is understood that this tracing information will be kept only for up to 15 days after the end of the competition, after which it will be permanently deleted from all databases of the Host Organizers, except where otherwise required by local law. Host Organizers are obliged to comply with all applicable local and international data protection regulation in connection with COVID-19 tracing.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An appropriate procedure must be made for the collection of contact information for Spectators upon entry.

8. Sanitary Measures at Competition

(a) General Outline.

All Participants at fencing competitions must strictly follow this FIE Outline and comply with this General Outline and all other norms and regulations specified as well as all other recommendations and rules introduced by National and/or local Authority in the Host Country. It is therefore important that all Participants keep themselves updated with the latest information from the trusted sources.

GENERAL OUTLINE
The Host Organizers must ensure that the facilities comply with WHO and the National and/or local Authority's recommendations during the COVID-19 pandemic.
The Host Organizers must take steps to avoid the creation of bottleneck areas in the venue. At all areas of confluence (e.g., screening, registration, weapon check, etc.) required Sanitary Distance must be clearly marked on the floor, and security staff must enforce this distance to be applied. All movable chairs in venue when situated next to each other must be placed at Sanitary Distance clearly marked on the floor.
All Participants and Spectators must maintain Sanitary Distance of 1.5 meter.
All Participants and Spectators must wear facemasks, except fencers and coaches when fencing or warming up.
Exceptions for Sanitary Distancing are made for fencers during a bout and warm-up and for those individuals (i.e., referees, trainers, medical staff and coaches) who must approach fencers inside of a Sanitary Distance as required by the Fencing Rules and/or their official duties at competition. In such case, referees, trainers, medical staff, and coaches shall wear a face shield/visor in addition to a facemask; with the exception of coaches when giving fencers a warm-up lesson.
Disposable gloves must be worn if required by local regulations. Otherwise, the wearing of disposable gloves is not recommended because when worn by individuals without proper training, they tend to give a sense of false security and may actually increase their chances of contamination.
Members of the same household must also maintain Sanitary Distance while at the venue
Do not touch eyes, mouth or nose without first having washed/sanitized the hands. This is the most important preventive measure to avoid contagion.
Wash your hands often with soap and water. If soap and water are not available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
All Participants must follow good respiratory hygiene. This means covering mouth and nose with the bent elbow or tissue when coughing or sneezing. Then dispose of the used tissue immediately and wash the hands.
Scarves and bandanas cannot be used as facemask at venue of competition.
Doctors and medical team members must remain vigilant to any Covid-19 symptoms and any signs of acute respiratory infection, even if there is no apparent or tested temperature ≥ 37.8 °C.
If you feel ill while at venue, notify the FIE Medical Liaison immediately; if you feel ill before coming to the venue, do not come to the venue. Inform your chief of delegation, who, in turn will contact the Medical Liaison .
All Participants should bring their own water bottle and must not share it with anyone.
If you are a fencer, bring enough face towels (maybe one or two per day) to wipe off sweat from your face. Do not use your hands or wipe the sweat with the sleeve of your uniforms. Do

not put you face towels on chairs next you.

Anyone participating in the event (athlete, volunteer, official, food handler etc.) should proactively and regularly check their health status (including taking their own temperature and watching for any symptoms). Abnormal fatigue, loss of taste and smell, chest pain not typical for heart disease, fleeting fever and/or dry cough, muscle pain can suggest infection. It is strongly recommended to consult the doctor if any of these symptoms are noticed.

Routinely clean and disinfect frequently touched objects/surfaces.

(b) Fencing Rules & Practices impacted by the Sanitary Distance Requirement.

All the FIE Rules and Handbooks for organization of FIE fencing competitions are fully applicable. Only specific requirements included in this document and relevant WHO and national authorities' documents must be additionally applied.

RULES AND PRACTICES IMPACTED
Fencers' handshake at end of bout: Replaced with a salute; Relevant Article t.122. Applicable for team competitions
Referee's checks: will only test/check the weapon (weight and travel gauge) before starting the bout and post action weapon test to annul a touch during the bout. Relevant Articles: t.64, t.65, t 67 & t.68 Equipment check (mask, plastron, uniform etc.) Must be checked at the weapon control <u>Relevant Articles m.37 - 41</u>
Referees must wear a face shield/visor in addition to facemask, when performing a weapon test either before or during a bout. No relevant rule
Referees' Paperwork: If possible, pool sheet, Direct Elimination slips, and Incident reports will be processed electronically. No relevant rule
Video consulting: the main referee and the video referee should analyse the video one by one (separately), and the ensuing discussion will be done at a distance of 1.5 meter . Relevant Article t.61.3
Referees must strictly limit number of accompanying persons with each fencer or team. Relevant Article t.47.2 & t.137 Security guards must be allocated to control this issue. No relevant Article. Effective barriers around piste areas MUST be installed Already a rule
Referees must inform all the fencers about relevant limitations/restrictions: Shaking hands, fist bump, hugging, shouting after touch and so forth; Exchange of masks, gloves, cables not allowed, etc. No relevant Article
Referees must use hand-disinfectant before and after each bout. No relevant Article
In case of injury only doctor as well as medical staff of the competition and their team members can approach the injured fencer and they must wear facemasks, gloves and a face shield/visor .
Team Events: The two team fencers will step on the piste and "salute" each other with their weapons from each side of their on-guard line on the piste, before and after the match. Article t.122

The practice of exchanging gift and/or pins between teams and among participants is suspended until further notice. No relevant Article
No Screaming: The practice of fencers screaming after the hit is scored (whether on or off the piste) or at any time is suspended until further notice. No relevant Article.
No Rushing: The practice of rushing the victorious fencer on the piste or after the fencer leaves piste is suspended until further notice.
Congratulatory hugging, kissing or handshakes are suspended until further notice.
Facemasks: Fencers are exempted from wearing a face mask during the rest periods. During rest periods, all people in the fencing piste area will have to maintain a distance of 1.5 meter from the fencer(s). Coaches are allowed to stay at 1 meter from the fencer but will have to wear a face shield/visor in addition to the facemask.

(c) Sanitary Distance Layout in Fencing Areas

SANITARY DISTANCE LAYOUT IN FENCING AREAS
Distance between pistes and their position, as well as the position of the scoring tables and apparatus must always accommodate required Sanitary Distance of 1.5 meter between all Participants.
Referee's areas must be wide enough and positioned so that the referees can always maintain the required Sanitary Distance of 1.5 meter.
Participants in pool fencing should be seated, unless fencing or warming up. The distance between the seats must be of 1.5 meter.
During the bouts, fencers should be allowed only contact with their coaches, but they must keep Sanitary Distance of 1.5 meter.
In team competitions, the team area must be big enough to maintain a 1.5 meter distance.
In team competitions fencers must keep recommended 1.5 meter distance at all stages of the competition (presentation, support, celebration etc.).

(d) Sanitary Distance Layout for DT

SANITARY DISTANCE LAYOUT FOR DT
Each official and member of the DT must have an allocated chair at the Sanitary Distance of 1.5 meter.
All consultations in the DT area must be at the Sanitary Distance of 1.5 meter or separated by a plexiglass shield.
It is recommended to install light plexiglass shield on the front side of the DT desk. Alternatively, barrier must be applied to keep 1.5 meter Sanitary Distance wherever someone needs to interact with the DT.

(e) Sanitary Distance Layout for Weapons Control

SANITARY DISTANCE LAYOUT WEAPON CONTROL
Area for the weapon and equipment control must be separated from the training and competition areas.
Area for the weapon and equipment control must big enough to allow fencers to keep 1.5 meter Sanitary Distance . Weapon controllers and participants must wear a facemask.
It is recommended for weapon controllers to wear a protective visor. Weapon controllers will use protective gloves provided by the organisers.

In the waiting area, required **Sanitary Distance** must be clearly marked on the floor, and security staff must enforce this distance to be applied.

It is recommended to install light plexiglass shield between the controllers and fencers. Alternatively, barrier must be applied to keep 1.5 meter **Sanitary Distance** wherever fencers interact with controllers.

To separate teams during the weapon control and minimise the number of fencers in the area, specific timing should be given to each team.

Complete fencing equipment (jackets, pants, plastron, stockings) and gloves must be presented clean.

Material brought for the control must be placed in the crates provided by the Host Organizers which must be sanitized before each reuse.

Cables, masks, weapons, electric jackets, rigid protectors, and weapon bags must be disinfected with disinfectant spray by the Participant.

(f) Sanitary Distance Layout for Referee Room

SANITARY DISTANCE LAYOUT REFEREE ROOM

The referee room must be large enough to allow the referees to maintain sufficient **Sanitary Distance** of 1.5 meter whenever they are in the room.

(g) Sanitary Distance Layout for Call Room

SANITARY DISTANCE LAYOUT FOR CALL ROOM

The Call Room must be large enough to allow simultaneous presence of the required number of people which must be able to keep 1.5 meter **Sanitary Distance**.

Chairs must be positioned to meet the required **Sanitary Distance** marked on the floor

It is recommended to install light plexiglass shield between the controllers and fencers. Alternatively, barrier must be applied to keep 1.5 meter **Sanitary Distance** wherever fencers interact with controllers or face masks and visors for all people working in the call room.

After one hour of use, the Call Room must be cleared from all people for 15 minutes in order for the area to be sanitized and ventilated (if available). Time required for proper sanitization of the room and equipment used must be allocated in the schedule of the competition.

Do not use bags to carry weapons and masks to the piste. Fencers must bring their equipment in their hands.

If for any reason the above requirements cannot be fully met, use of the Call Room and Referees Room should be avoided and control should be done on the piste.

(h) Sanitary Distance Layout for Medical Room

SANITARY DISTANCE LAYOUT FOR MEDICAL ROOM.

See Section 7 (c) above

(i) Sanitary Distance Layout for Other Competitions Services Areas

OTHER COMPETITION SERVICES

All other services required for the fencing competition (doping control, live streaming, data updating, technical, food courts, etc.) must have allocated space large enough to allow sufficient **Sanitary Distance** of 1.5 meter to be maintained.

(j) Disinfectants- General Outline

DISINFECTION GENERAL OUTLINE
Disinfectant for Electronics: Any alcohol-based wipes or sprays containing at least 70% alcohol or follow manufacturer's instructions for cleaning and disinfecting.
Disinfectant for Hands: any alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
Disinfectant for hard surfaces: The Host Organizer must select disinfectants that are identified or listed for use against COVID-19 by their National Health Authority. Furthermore, to ensure the safety of all participants at the event, the Host Organizer will make certain that chemical reactions between multiple disinfectants and other cleaning agent used in the same space are reviewed.
Disinfecting Fencing Masks: Fencers should read the instructions on the label of any cleaning/disinfecting product before applying it to the mask.
Disinfecting Fencing Clothing: Fencer's outfits cannot be washed at 60°C, so it is recommended to wash them using the disinfectant for linen (e.g., Sanytol type).
Disinfecting Fencing Pistes: It is important not to use chemicals that may damage the metal piste

(k) Placement of Hand Sanitizers

PLACEMENT OF HAND SANITIZERS
Sanitizing or washing station is to be foreseen at the entrance of the venue. Every person entering or re-entering the venue must wash their hands or use hand sanitizers.
Easily accessible alcohol-based gel/liquid dispensers and/or hand-sanitizing tissues to be placed in: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Entrance areas• Referees Room• DT area• Weapon Control Area• Call Room• Each piste• Dressing rooms• Toilets• Public areas
Bathrooms and dressing rooms must have soap dispensers and it is recommended everybody to wash their hands as often as possible.

(l) Equipment Disinfection

FENCERS AND COACHES EQUIPMENT DISINFECTION
Fencers are responsible for disinfecting their masks, uniforms, weapons and fencing equipment.
Fencing masks must be disinfected at least daily. Fencers must use PERSONAL mask. Mask sharing is NOT allowed.
Fencing gloves are one of the elements most likely to carry the virus and they must be often disinfected, at least once a day. Fencers must wear PERSONAL glove. Glove sharing is NOT allowed.

(m) Venue Sanitation

VENUE SANITATION
The Host Organizers must provide disinfectant cleaner (e.g., bleach) and organise

<p>disinfecting of all working surfaces (Tables, chairs, storage areas, test equipment, etc.) at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entrance areas • Referees Room • DT area • Weapon Control Area • Call Room • Each piste
<p>The Host Organizers must provide disinfectant cleaner (e.g., bleach) and organize disinfecting of all specific areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dressing rooms • Toilets • Public areas
<p>Complete venue must be cleaned regularly.</p>
<p>Venue cleaning staff must clean and disinfect door handles, toilets and toilet brackets, bathrooms and shower taps and brackets etc. regularly.</p>
<p>Toilets and dressing rooms must be supplied with paper towels only.</p>
<p>Dust bins and containers with lids for disposal of used towels and tissues must be provided in the venue.</p>
<p>Trash pickup must occur regularly to avoid waste outside of the receptacle.</p>
<p>Water fountains should not be used for drinking but only used for filling up PERSONAL water bottles.</p>

9. Doping Control

DOPING CONTROL
<p>COVID-19 pandemic has continued to change and evolve around the world. World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) continues to monitor the situation very closely based on expert information from the World Health Organization and from other reliable sources.</p>
<p>WADA urges all Anti-Doping Organizations (ADOs) to follow the advice of governments and health authorities to ensure proper protection of athletes and Sample Collection Personnel (SCP).</p>
<p>WADA have issued ADO Guidance Document for Testing (https://www.wada-ama.org/en/resources/doping-control-process/guidance-for-testing-during-covid-19-pandemic).</p>
<p>Host Organizers must make arrangements with the national ADOs to organize doping control and to make sure that the WADA document is applied</p>

10. Presentation and Award Ceremonies

PRESENTATION AND AWARD CEREMONIES
<p>During the presentation of the fencers and referees on the piste and medal ceremony, 1.5 meter Sanitary Distance must be kept .</p>
<p>Medal ceremonies must be organized, so the minimum 1.5 meter Sanitary Distance is kept.</p>
<p>Medals and gifts to be presented to the fencers on a cushion or a tray and fencers are to take medals by themselves.</p>
<p>Trays must be disinfected after each ceremony.</p>
<p>No handshaking or hugging is allowed</p>

After the award ceremony, photos can be taken without mask under the following conditions:

- Mask off time shall not be longer than 30”
- Sanitary distance must be of 1.5 meter for those not training in the same group

During group photos a distance of 1.5 meter must be applied.

11. Accommodation and Local Transportation

ACCOMMODATION AND LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

Accommodation:

- Choose, if possible, only one hotel or only one part of the hotel, within a walking distance from the venue in order to avoid transportation.
- If two or more hotels are used, moving from one hotel to another hotel should be avoided.
- Any gathering in hotel rooms should be avoided.
- Hotels booked must implement sanitary measures: facemasks, distance and sanitization.

Local Transport:

- If hotel is at a walking distance from the venue, participants must refrain from going to other places.
- Transportation from and to airport should not mix different delegations to minimize contamination risks.
- Facemasks and hand disinfection are obligatory during transportation.
- All transport means must be regularly sanitized.
- Only official transportation should be used.

Each delegation must have its own non-contact temperature scanner. Fencers without a delegation must bring their own temperature device.

12. Additional Risk Assessment and Management Resources – Useful Links

- WHO Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) technical guidance: Points of entry and mass gatherings

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/points-of-entry-and-mass-gatherings>

- Q&As on COVID-19 and related health topics

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/question-and-answers-hub>

- WHO Considerations for sports federations/sports event organizers when planning mass gatherings in the context of COVID-19

https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/331764/WHO-2019-nCoV-Mass_Gatherings_Sports-2020.1-eng.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y

- WHO Key planning recommendations for Mass Gatherings in the context of the current COVID-19 outbreak

<https://www.who.int/Nationalations-detail/key-planning-recommendations-for-mass-gatherings-in-the-context-of-the-current-covid-19-outbreak>

- WHO National health for mass gatherings: key considerations
<https://www.who.int/Nationalations-detail/National-health-for-mass-gatherings-key-considerations>
- WHO Technical Guidance on COVID-19
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance>
- How to use WHO risk assessment and mitigation checklist for Mass Gatherings in the context of COVID-19
<https://www.who.int/Nationalations-detail/how-to-use-who-risk-assessment-and-mitigation-checklist-for-mass-gatherings-in-the-context-of-covid-19>
- Decision Tree
https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/who-2019-ncov-mg-decision-tree.pdf?sfvrsn=35435b5a_2
- Access the tool for Risk Assessment
https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/who-covid-generic-2020-03-20-en-2020-1.xlsx?sfvrsk=801a2787_4
- WHO document Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) advice for the public
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>

APPENDIX A

LIST OF GENERAL CRITERIA RECOMMENDED BY THE FIE MEDICAL COMMISSION FOR APPROVING AN FIE OFFICIAL EVENT IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

1. The FIE Official Event must comply with and implement all Covid-19 safety protocols and procedures approved by the FIE, as well as those mandated by the host country including, if applicable, its state, regional, and local political subdivisions.
 - (a) The preparedness of the Host Organizers of any FIE Official Event shall be measured against the standards set forth in the World Health Organization's *Guidance for the use of the WHO Mass Gatherings Sports Addendum Risk Assessment tools in the context of COVID-19*, as agreed by the FIE Medical Commission.
 - (b) The sanitizing measures to be applied at the venue of an FIE Official Event, shall be in compliance with risk evaluation of Covid-19 contagion as outlined by well-known health protection agencies such as the Center for Disease Control. See: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html>. ___ YES

This criterion is phrased so that it does not have to be amended each time a protocol is changed and takes into account findings of peer-reviewed research as adopted by agencies such as the WHO and the CDC. A copy of the WHO standards is attached.

2. If the viability of an FIE Official Event is in question because of a *Force Majeure event or a result of restrictions due to COVID-19*, the host-country federation must inform the FIE forthwith whether it wishes to host or not said FIE Official Event. ___ YES
3. If the viability of an FIE Official Event is in question because of a *Force Majeure event or a result of restrictions due to COVID-19* and the Host Federation intends to proceed with the FIE Official Event anyway, the Host Federation must determine upfront if said FIE Official Event can, indeed, take place in the Host Country and communicate such finding forthwith to the FIE. In such case, a Notice of Approval shall be presented to the FIE ___ YES

This determination must be made upfront by the Host Federation. In some countries the separation of powers between Federal, State and local authorities can have unexpected consequences. This "local" verification must take place before the FIE's final sanctioning of the event.

4. For an FIE Official Event to take place, there cannot be <non-essential and/or "no travel"> advisories or restrictions in place, impacting the FIE Official Event. ___ YES

This determination shall be made by the Host Federation in compliance with the relevant legal provisions of the Host Country applicable at the time the Application and should be communicated to the FIE as part of criterium 2, above.

- 5. For an FIE Official Event to take place, there cannot be quarantine restrictions imposed on international travelers upon arrival into the host country for participants who have tested negative for Covid-19 as a condition of entry into Host Country. ___ YES**

This determination shall be made by the Host Federation in compliance with the relevant legal provisions of the Host Country applicable at the time the Application and should be communicated to the FIE as part of criterium 4, above.

- 6. With respect to FIE Official Events involving minors, each federation must agree to be responsible for the support and supervision of their respective minors whose stay is prolonged for medical or public health reasons. ___ YES**
- 7. For an FIE Official Event to take place, all conditions must be in place at least 60 days (“Cut-Off Date”) before the scheduled FIE International Competition Event. The FIE ComEx, the Host Federation, and participating federations may agree to unanimously change Cut-off Date to less than 60 days. ___ YES**
- 8. Intervening adverse events , such as the imposition of new travel restrictions, quarantines or other events which would restrict the running of the competition or the ability of athletes from National Fencing Federations from participating will permit the FIE to unilaterally change the Cut-Off Date to less than 60 days. ___ YES**

Two reasons for this:

- There should be enough time for athletes to train and prepare for the competition and for their respective federations to plan accordingly for an FIE Official Event.
- The Host Federation should have enough time to prepare and properly organize the FIE Official Event.

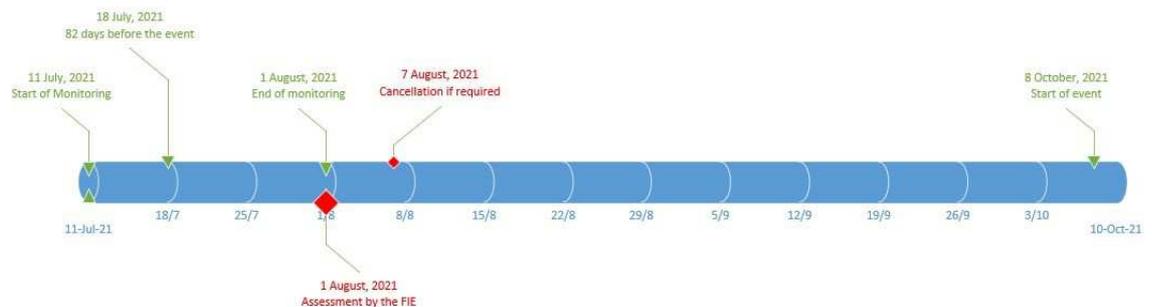
- 9. The FIE, the Host Federation and the Host Organizers may cancel or postpone a previously approved FIE Official Event if Covid-19 because of a *Force Majeure event or a result of restrictions due to COVID-19* arising after FIE approval of said FIE Official Event. ___ YES**

- 10. Each federation shall discuss with its delegation of participants the matter of Covid-19 hospitalization costs and unforeseen Covid-related expenses (such as, prolonged stay in-country after testing positive for Covid-19 prior to departure) and communicate to the FIE if said costs will be absorbed by the Federation or whether they will remain the responsibility of each participant. It is highly recommended that participants whose Covid-19 costs are not covered by their Federation purchase their own health/travel insurance.**

- 11. The FIE may deny an Application or cancel or postpone/relocate a previously approved FIE Fencing event after the following assessment:**

82 days before the event :

- 1) FIE monitors the Covid data (daily new cases*) of the past 7 days in the country
- 2) FIE monitors the Covid data (daily new cases*) of the next 14 days in the country
- 3) **68 days** before the event, FIE assesses the data of:
 - 1) and 2) above
 - if reliable data is available, the FIE may consider the number of hospitals beds*** (ICU and others) available on that specific day (day 68 before the event). The criteria used is 25% of total beds are available in the country.
- 4) Determination
 - a) if the number of new daily cases per 100.000 of population is inferior to 75**, and/or decreasing, the event can move forward
 - b) if the number of new daily cases per 100.000 of population is superior to 75**, and/or increasing, the event cannot move forward
- 5) Decision: In case of b), FIE cancels the holding 62 days before the event. If circumstances and options allow it, FIE may consider postponement/relocation of the event.



- 6) If within the 60 days before an event is to be held, the Covid data dramatically change and/or dramatically increase during a period of 7 days, the FIE may decide to cancel the holding of the event due to force majeure.

Formula to be used:

(Average number of daily new cases over 21 days x 100.000) / (total population)

Notes:

* Data source: Worldometer, <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

**75 is the number recommended by the FIE Medical Commission

***Date source: IHME, <https://covid19.healthdata.org>

Failure to meet any one of these criteria will result in the cancellation or postponement of the FIE Official Event.

APPENDIX B

COVID-19 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK AND RELEASE FROM LIABILITY

Name of the Tournament: _____

Date: _____

Preamble

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and experts believe that it is primarily spread through person-to-person contact. The International Fencing Federation, the national fencing federation of the country in which the event is being held and the organising committee of _____ [name of the event] (hereinafter: the "Organisers") have introduced preventive measures aimed at reducing the spread of COVID-19. Nevertheless, the Organisers cannot guarantee that you will not be infected with COVID-19. Participation may also increase your risk of contracting COVID-19.

* * *

I wish to participate in the tournament (hereinafter: the "Tournament") as a [Competitor] [Referee] [Armourer] [Member of the DT] [Supervisor] [Coach] [Trainer] [Other: please specify _____] (underline as appropriate), and to enter any area in which the Tournament is taking place. As compensation for being permitted to participate in the Tournament, I hereby agree to all the terms of this Release from Liability.

By signing this agreement, I acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and I voluntarily assume the risk of being exposed to or infected with COVID-19 as a result of my participation in the Tournament. I further acknowledge and voluntarily accept the risk that such exposure or infection may result in bodily harm, illness, permanent disability or death. I understand that the risk of being exposed to or infected with COVID-19 during the Tournament may result from the actions, omissions or negligence of myself and others, including, but not limited to, employees, volunteers and participants in the Tournament.

I voluntarily agree to assume all of the above risks and take full responsibility for any injury (including, but not limited to, physical injury, disability and death), illness, damage, loss, claim, liability or expense of any kind that I may suffer or incur as a result of my participation in the Tournament. I hereby undertake to refrain from suing the FIE and its designated individuals, including, but not limited to, members of the Directoire Technique, Refereeing, Referees, Armourers, supervisor, Video & Wireless Technicians, Announcers, Event Managers, etc. and the Organisers and the employees, agents and representatives thereof, whom I release from all liability. I understand and agree that this release includes all claims based on the actions, omissions and negligence of the FIE and its designated individuals, including, but not limited to, members of the Directoire Technique, Refereeing, Referees, Armourers, supervisor, Video & Wireless Technicians, Announcers, Event Managers, etc. and the Organisers and the employees, agents and representatives thereof, regardless of whether the COVID-19 infection occurred before, during or after my participation in the Tournament.

The release from liability shall be accepted subject to the substantive and/or mandatory laws of the country in which the event is taking place. I agree that, should any part of this agreement be

deemed to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining parts shall remain fully in force. This document shall be governed by the law of the Country of Switzerland and any legal action brought hereunder shall be brought in the courts of Switzerland, which shall have exclusive jurisdiction of any such legal action.

Full legal name _____ Date of birth _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____ Emergency contact _____

Participant's signature _____ Date _____

SUPPLEMENTARY AGREEMENT FROM A PARENT OR GUARDIAN (must be completed for participants under the age of 18)

I am the parent or guardian of the minor named above. I understand the nature of the above Release from Liability and I consent to the minor for whom I am responsible participating in the Tournament. I hereby undertake, on behalf of the minor, to refrain from suing the Organisers and the employees, agents and representatives thereof, whom I release from all liability. I understand and agree, on behalf of the minor, that this release includes all claims based on the actions, omissions and negligence of the Organisers and the employees, agents and representatives thereof, regardless of whether the COVID-19 infection occurred before, during or after the minor's participation in the Tournament.

Full legal name _____

Signature of parent or guardian _____ Date _____

APPENDIX C

COVID-19 SCREENING QUESTIONNAIRE FOR FIE EVENT

PARTICIPANT'S NAME: _____

DOB: _____ MOBILE PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____ COUNTRY: _____

EVENT: _____ VENUE : _____

DATE: _____

Section 1

Temperature $\geq 100.1/37.8$	YES NO - Actual Temperature:
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Section 2. Do you have any of the following symptoms:

Recent/New Onset Coughing (unrelated to allergy or pulmonary disease)	YES	NO
Recent/New Nasal Congestion (unrelated to allergies or sinus infection)	YES	NO
Recent/New Onset Sore Throat	YES	NO
Recent/New Onset Shortness of breath (unrelated to chronic disease)	YES	NO
Recent/New Onset Diarrhea	YES	NO
Recent/New Onset Abdominal Pain	YES	NO
Recent/New Onset Nausea/Vomiting	YES	NO
Recent/New Onset Fatigue/Malaise	YES	NO
Recent/New Onset of Loss of Taste/Smell	YES	NO

Section 3. Exposure

Are you living with someone who is quarantined?	YES	NO
To the best of your knowledge, have you been exposed to or in contact with someone being tested positive for COVID-19 or who has symptoms compatible with COVID-19?	YES	NO
For information purpose : If you have previously tested positive for Covid-19 and overcame the infection or if you have been fully vaccinated, please take with you the relevant documentation.		

Participant's Signature: _____

Date: _____