

# **World Series – Lignano Sabbiadoro COVID-19 Measures**

**March 2021**

**Important notice – please ensure you read and fully understand the information within this document before entering the event.**

**Please be aware that as the Coronavirus situation changes this COVID-19 plan will be reviewed and therefore maybe subject to change up until the event.  
The LOC will communicate any changes.**

**For any questions on the contents of this COVID-19 event management plan please contact: [worldseriesitalia@gmail.com](mailto:worldseriesitalia@gmail.com)**

The COVID-19 pandemic and the measures taken to stop its spread have had a significant impact on the organization of sports events. The Italian Para Swimming Federation, together with a LOC, aim to organize and deliver a safe World Series event for all those athletes who wish to compete and all those involved in enabling that to happen. The purpose of this protocol is to ensure that the risk of spreading the virus is reduced as much as possible. Alongside clear directions on personal hygiene and the use of personal protective equipment, this protocol includes directions on managing the spread of infection within the competition venue. Therefore, the measures taken by the LOC aim to ensure a safe event environment even if the potential for the virus can only be limited to spread but none can prevent it altogether.

**It is important to highlight that no liability will be accepted either by the Italian Para Swimming Federation and the LOC for any positive case should arise during the event. Any additional cost incurred in such a situation will be borne by the person(s) concerned.**

We will keep you up to date with information concerning COVID-19 situation in case some governmental measures will be applied meanwhile and all the requirements relating to COVID-19 regulations prevailing at the time will be adhered to.

All those involved in the World Series of Lignano Sabbiadoro will be required to agree to a COVID-19 Code of Behaviour and a Declaration of Participation by signing in two forms that will be circulated to athletes following the close of entries. All athletes, coaches, event staff and volunteers will be required to adhere to the guidelines set out for this event.

### **Main measures**

- **Face Masks** are mandatory at all times inside the Village unless in the water, eating a meal or drinking or in your own room.
- **Social distancing** of at least 2.0m is permitted at all times even when wearing a face mask.
- **Symptom and temperature check** is required each day for all athletes, coaches, staff members and volunteers staying in the Village. Details of how and where this will take place will be detailed at the Village.
- **Testing** - all involved in the event will be required to bring a negative proof of a COVID-19 test (in English) made no more than 48 hours before their arrival in order to participate in the event and must agree to maintain isolation from the time the test was taken until their travel to Italy. This will be at their own cost.
- **Personal hygiene** is vitally important and includes:
  - Thorough hand washing with soap and water
  - Wash hands as regularly as possible
  - Use approved hand foam or sanitizer frequently when contacting a surface and not having access to hand washing
  - Avoid touching your face with your hands
- **Mobility Aids** e.g. wheelchairs/crutches must be cleaned with anti-viral wipes.

## **Protocols for individual prior to leaving home**

- Prior to leaving home, all individuals attending the event must assess whether they have (or exhibit any symptoms of) COVID-19 (high temperature or fever, a new continuous cough, new, unexplained shortness of breath or loss of taste or smell).
- As defined by the Italian Public Health, a temperature of 37.5 degrees Celsius or above must be used as the threshold for a suspected case.
- All individuals must also confirm that no-one in the same household has reported or exhibited any of the symptoms outlined on the symptom checklist form within the last 14 days. Individuals should not leave their home if anyone in their household has positive symptoms.
- Individuals will be required to read, sign and return a Declaration of Participation and a Code of Behaviour for the Italian WPS World Series event. These two documents will be circulated to athletes on confirmation of entry to the event. Should athletes not wish to opt in to the event, full refunds will be given.
- International swimmers must also adhere to the following guidelines:

## **Venue Access and Management**

- Any individual staying in the Village who reports a temperature or symptoms must be reported to the COVID-19 Medical Officer on site and remain in his/her room without interacting with anyone else and act on the medical advice given.
- If an individual inside the venue reports a temperature or symptoms, they must be isolated within the designated area and await advice from the COVID-19 Medical Officer and COVID-19 Venue Operations Officer (in accordance with the Italian Public Health guidance) and when appropriate, the individual must return home (leaving the Venue in the agreed manner).
- If any individual has a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, this information will be shared with the doctor on site to support the identification of all close contacts (as defined by the Italian Public Health) with the individual in question. Anyone deemed as a close contact will need to isolate for 10 days in line with guidance from the Italian Public Health
- All personnel entering venue will be registered as entering the village and the time recorded.
- All personnel exiting venue will be registered as leaving the village and the time recorded.

## **Competition Planning and Risk Assessment**

- This concept for the organization and implementation of the World Series 2021 is based on compliance with the currently applicable distance and hygiene regulations. Above all, maintaining a safety distance of at least 2.00 metres between all participants at all times during the event and wearing of face coverings except when in the water has the highest priority. The only exception of this rule is for guides and assistants who need to support athletes.
- The commitment of all those involved is voluntary and confirmed through the Declaration of Participation and Code of Behaviour. For athletes, employees and volunteers under the age of 18, a declaration of consent from a legal guardian must also be submitted.
- The access to the competition venue will be coordinated with the help of a time and competition schedule.
- Athletes must only attend the venue at the times allocated and leave immediately after your event(s) are completed.
- For athletes under 18, one accompanying parent or guardian will be allowed to stay in the Village after having accredited and brought a negative proof of the Covid-19 test.
- Spectators will not be allowed at the competition. Only people essential to the safe and effective running of the meet will be accredited and have access to the venue.

- The use of changing rooms will be limited with no showering at the venue. Toilets including sinks will be available in sufficient numbers.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the venue including competition areas, at entrances and exits as well as zone transitions. All user groups are asked to bring personal hand sanitizing gel to the event.
- It is mandatory for all those involved in the meet to wear a face covering, unless medical exemption is provided and this has been submitted to [worldseriesitalia@gmail.com](mailto:worldseriesitalia@gmail.com) prior to the event.
- After finishing competition (or training and classification) and swim down activities, athletes must leave the competition and preparation area immediately and return to the event hotel.
- The maximum number of individuals in any area will be shown at the entrance to that area and must be adhered to. Volunteers / staff will be on site to ensure maximum numbers are not exceeded. Please adhere to all advice and guidance given.

### **Accommodation**

#### **The following measures will be in place for the event:**

- Identify to the Village that an isolation room may be required to be available at short notice.
- Arrange for hand-sanitization points (with suitable products/equipment) to be installed at suitable locations in the Village for the duration of the stay.
- Arrange for all rooms to be 'thoroughly cleaned' prior to arrival, during the stay at agreed times or occupants undertake self-clean, and on departure.
- Arrange for all the staff members to have individual rooms and where possible, avoid mixing with other hotel guests/people outside of the Event (i.e. not using communal bar areas or refreshment spaces where possible). If this cannot be avoided then a face covering should be worn.
- Meals will be taken in the restaurants of the Village and further details about how this will be managed will be confirmed in due course.
- Ventilation and air flow in bedrooms and meeting rooms should be maximized which may include the opening of doors and windows as appropriate.
- Arrange for food preparation and delivery to observe infection prevention and control measures, for example by staggering mealtimes and no use of communal buffet style food services.

### **Changing room and shower area**

- The changing rooms will be available to swimmers but social distancing must be maintained at all times in this area
- Athletes will be asked to wipe down cubicles before and after use to support the ongoing venue cleaning regime. Disinfectant, paper towels, sanitizers and bins to dispose of paper towels will be supplied and available in this area
- Showering at the venue is not permitted
- Ice baths are not permitted

### **Warm-up and swim-down area**

- The small pool will be used for warm up and swim down.
- The competition staff, volunteers and officials will keep a 2 metre distance to the athletes.

- The warm-up and swim-down area will be managed appropriately to ensure that social distancing can be maintained and this will be implemented with the help of the schedule and stewarding.
- Only the use of an athlete's own equipment and aids is permitted and athletes are asked not to share equipment with other competitors.
- Numbers of athletes per lane and lane resting positions will be tightly controlled to avoid close contacts forming during warm up or swim down.

### **Sanitary and medical area**

- The sanitary and medical area will be set up in compliance with a Medical Risk Assessment plan which will be carried out by event doctors.
- Regular surface disinfection, especially after possible treatments, is ensured by the medical staff.
- Further details on the medical plan for the event will be provided.

### **Anti-Doping Control Room**

- A separate room for anti-doping has been identified just off of the competition pool at the venue. This will be cleansed appropriately before and after any use.

### **Physiotherapy area and land warm up**

- Space will be allocated for land warm up and physiotherapy at the venue, this will be confirmed closer to the event
- Face coverings will be required at all times within this area.

### **Seating**

- Athletes will be seated in the tribune, no athletes will be permitted on the poolside. Clear signage will be displayed to signpost athletes to the seating area.
- Any seats that cannot be used are blocked to ensure the minimum distance and hygiene measures are in place.
- The seating area will be managed by volunteers at all times athletes are in the venue to ensure social distancing is maintained.

### **Medical requirements and risk assessment**

- A Medical Risk Assessment will be carried out and will be approved by the Italian Para Swimming Federation. More details will be added to this plan when athlete entries are confirmed.
- Only cleared individuals may access the venue each day if they have satisfactorily passed the temperature and symptom screening protocol.
- No cleared individual who is required to self-isolate under Public Health Guidance will be allowed to enter the venue.
- The medical team will consist of at least 1 Doctor on site at all times that athletes are in the venue and supported by a paramedic team and ambulance

## **Travel Recommendations**

### **Travel by Car**

- If athletes, coaches, volunteers or event staff are travelling separately by car to the venue, then they must not car-share other than when unavoidable (e.g. an individual who does not have a car or if a car is off the road). In these exceptional cases, no more than two individuals may travel together, and the same people should share transport each time.
- If sharing a car with another Essential Staff member outside of the household then:
  - A face mask covering nose and mouth must be worn
  - Windows should be opened for ventilation
  - Travel side by side or behind the other person and face away from each other at all times.
  - Limit the time spent at garages, petrol stations and motorway services. Try to keep your distance from other people and if possible pay using contactless card.
  - Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds or sanitize your hands often and always when exiting or re-entering your vehicle.
  - All frequently touched surfaces must be wiped down with disinfectant wipes. Make sure you clean door handles and other areas that people may touch.

### **Public Transport**

- Travel to the Venue by all User Groups on public transport is strongly discouraged, however, if it is absolutely unavoidable, a face mask must be worn, and hand gel provided to the individual for use as required throughout the journey.
- If using public transport is absolutely unavoidable then Essential Staff:
  - Must maintain social distance wherever possible whilst travelling.
  - Must ensure that they maintain social distancing before and after they travel including at busy entrances, exits, under canopies, platforms or outside of stations.
  - Individuals should travel either behind or diagonally across from other people. Face to face seating should be avoided whenever possible.
  - Should touch as few surfaces as possible whilst travelling.
  - Must dispose of waste safely, including items such as used disposable face coverings.
  - Should be prepared to queue or take a different entrance or exit at stations.
  - Should wait for other passengers to get on/off first before you board/leave the transport to maintain social distancing.
  - Should avoid consuming food and drink on public transport where possible.
  - Should change clothes after taking public transport where possible.
  - Athletes travelling from overseas and who are collected from the airport by private transportation companies should follow all guidance at all times including the wearing of face masks and social distancing.

## **Air Travel**

- The general government guidance on travelling by air can be found at the link below

<https://www.enac.gov.it/en>

- If undertaking domestic travel by air, the following must be adhered to:

Social distance must be maintained wherever possible.

- The COVID-19 Club Medical Officer (or nominated other) must be responsible for determining the next steps should a staff member exhibit a COVID-19 symptom before, during or after travel. This should be in accordance with guidance from the Italian Public Health.
- In accordance with government policy, all the Staff must wear a face mask in enclosed areas of airports and during any air travel.
- Where possible check in should be completed online to reduce face-to-face contact at the airport.
- Checking in baggage to the aircraft hold and minimizing any hand baggage is strongly recommended. This will speed up boarding and disembarking and will minimize the risk of transmission.
- All Swimmers and Staff should avoid walking around the airport and mixing with people from outside of the team environment that they do not normally meet.
- The highest levels of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette must be maintained at all times. All Swimmers and Staff must travel with hand sanitizer.
- Where possible, avoid touching any surfaces in the airport. If contact with a surface is made, the individual must undertake proper hand hygiene immediately following each contact