



# **OSTRAVA 2021 WORLD PARA ICE HOCKEY**

## **Tournament Safety Protocol**

Version as of 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2021



## **1. General rules and principles**

The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) is proud and enthusiastic about being able to host the World Para Ice Hockey Championships again in Ostrava, Czech Republic. To make Ostrava 2021 World Para Ice Hockey Championships (Event) possible, the LOC, in agreement with Czech Government Administration, health authorities and IPC / WPIH, have decided to design and implement a Tournament Safety Protocol to minimize all possible risks to an acceptable level. The main goal of this Protocol and its rules/procedures is to protect the health of everyone involved in the Event, including but not limited to athletes, officials, LOC/IPC members and volunteers.

All participants must follow all guidelines and regulations from the local public health authorities for the duration of their stay in the Czech Republic. In the event of a conflict between requirements of local public health authorities and the Tournament Safety Protocol, the more stringent requirements will apply.

The Tournament Safety Protocol and its procedures described in this document, are subject to change according to the local and global COVID-19 pandemic situation development. Updates to the document will be circulated as necessary in due time.

The most important and effective measures for personal protection as well as for the protection of others are:

- Wearing a face mask covering the mouth and the nose
- Proper hand hygiene
- Correct coughing etiquette
- Social/physical distancing (distance of at least 1,5 - 2 meters from each other)
- Measurement of body temperature
- Mandatory daily reporting of the absence/presence of symptoms of COVID-19
- No sharing (food, towels, water bottle, etc.)

### **Face covering**

Wearing a face mask is mandatory in all public areas (indoor / outdoor) at all times, except for these situations:

- While consuming food or beverages.
- Unless you are the only occupant of a closed-door room / with your team in the locker room.
- Doing physical activity (warm-up)
- On the ice during practice/game.

The face mask suggested by the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic for the purpose of this Tournament Safety Protocol should be a surgical masks and face covering with minimum protection class KN95 and FFP2 without breathing valve, which is mandatory while travelling. Mask should be changed on a regular basis according to the type of mask. Fabric masks are not allowed in the Czech Republic.



### **Proper hand hygiene**

Proper hand hygiene is required at all times. All participants need to wash their hands for 20 seconds with soap and water after using toilet, after sneezing or coughing and before eating. Use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer is recommended.

### **Correct coughing etiquette**

Coughing etiquette must be respected as followed – always cough or sneeze into a tissue or on the inside of your bent elbow.

### **Social / physical distancing**

All participants are required to maintain social/physical distancing of minimum 1,5-2m at all times (except in specific cases where it is not possible to maintain this policy – e.g. medical treatment, game flow, during games and practices).

### **Measurement of the body temperature**

Measurement of the body temperature will be conducted before entering the Team Hotel and the Venue. In case of high temperature (37,5°C or above) specific measures and additional medical checks will be applied (see appendix B).

### **Tournament Bubble**

As part of the Tournament Safety Protocol, the LOC together with local authorities and IPC/WHIP have designated a secured zone called “Tournament Bubble” that will follow strict regulations. Any intentional interaction with a person outside of the Tournament Bubble (un-accredited or not directly involved in the organisation of the Event) is strictly forbidden. Participants, staff and ITOs will not be allowed to leave the Tournament Bubble once admitted.

The Tournament Bubble regulations are applicable for the duration of your stay in Ostrava and not only for the duration of your participation in the Tournament. Eliminated teams will have the freedom to leave Ostrava before the end of the tournament if they wish to but once anyone leave the Tournament Bubble, they will not be readmitted into the Tournament Hotel nor the Competition Venue as it could contaminate the Tournament Bubble for the remaining competing teams. Sanctions by WPIH may be imposed for future competitions if an eliminated team breaks the safety protocol.

### **Vaccination**

Due to insufficient evidence on the duration of protection and effectiveness of COVID-19 vaccines, all participants of the Event should continue to practice Tournament Safety Protocol and public health measures for prevention and control of SARS-CoV-2 infection and transmission regardless of vaccination status. The same goes for the demonstrably recovered from COVID-19.

### **Tournament Infection Control Officer**

The LOC assigned a Tournament Infection Control Officer (TICO) who will be responsible in coordination of all necessarily arrangements with the Czech local authorities (e.g., Ministry of Health, Regional Hygienic Station, etc.) and who will implement and regulate the Tournament Safety Protocol.



The Tournament Infection Control Officer is a physician associate professor Dr. Rastislav Maďar, MD, PhD. (see <http://www.rastislav-madar.com/#home.html> ), dean of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ostrava, and a member of the COVID-19 advisory group of the Czech Government Administration.

TICO will be the key person for all related COVID-19 issues during the Event for your assigned Team COVID-19 Officer/Coordinator.

Should you have any question regarding safety requirements connected with the COVID-19, please do not hesitate to contact TICO by e-mail: [safety@parahockey.cz](mailto:safety@parahockey.cz).

**All participants of the Ostrava 2021 World Para Ice Hockey Championships should be aware that the successful, enjoyable and safe event depends on the compliance of the Tournament Safety Protocol and the discipline of all participants prior to their arrival to Ostrava and during the tournament.**

**The LOC thanks all the participating teams, officials, IPC/WPIH, staff, volunteers, and all other participating staff for compliance with this Tournament Safety Protocol so as we all can enjoy the Event.**

## **2. Tournament Timeline**

<b>8<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June *</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> June **</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> June ***</b>
Training camp in in home county	Travel to the Czech Republic	Team practice	Championships	Departure to home country
Individual bubble / Self isolation	PCR testing upon arrival	Equipment verification		
	Self-isolation in hotel room untill the negative test result	Classification		

**Note:**

\*Individual bubble is applicable for others group. During this period of six days prior to traveling to the Czech Republic, staff, ITOs, volunteers should plan to work from home, stay within their own bubble and limit contacts with others.

\*\* Arrival date may differ.

\*\*\* Departure date may differ.



### 3. Tournament Testing Procedures Timeline

Before the Event	
<b>8<sup>th</sup> June *</b>	RT-PCR testing upon arrival to the training camp in your country
<b>12/13<sup>th</sup> June *</b>	RT-PCR testing for traveling to the Czech Republic
During the Event	
<b>14<sup>th</sup> June **</b>	RT-PCR testing upon arrival in the Hotel, self-isolation at the hotel room until the negative test result
<b>18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	RT-PCR testing before the beginning of the Event, no self-isolation needed
<b>21<sup>st</sup> June</b>	Antigen testing at the hotel
<b>24<sup>th</sup> June</b>	Antigen testing at the hotel
<b>26<sup>th</sup> June **</b>	RT-PCR testing if required for your departure

**Note:**

\* The dates may differ according to your arrival date (test must be taken six and one day prior to your travels to the Czech Republic).

\*\* The date may differ according to your arrival/departure date.

### 4. Before travelling to the Czech Republic

NPCs are kindly asked to name their Team COVID-19 Coordinator who will be in contact with the Tournament Infection Control Officer (TICO, [safety@parahockey.cz](mailto:safety@parahockey.cz)) to manage all matters related to the Tournament Safety Protocol and any COVID-19 concerns in advance and during the Tournament.

#### 4.1. **Training camp bubble in your home country**

- As a safety measure, the LOC together with IPC/WPIH recommends that all NPCs stay in their own team training bubble at least six days prior to their departure to the Czech Republic. Every NPC's team shall **conduct two RT-PCR tests (oropharyngeal swab)** during their training camp; first one upon arrival to the camp and second the fifth/sixth day of the camp (you will need this test result for your traveling to the Event).
- The first RT-PCR test shall be done on 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2021. The second one no later than 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2021.
- Players, coaches, or staff members with any COVID-19 symptoms must isolate themselves, contact their team physician immediately and follow the given instruction strictly.
- All team members in the training bubble are required to follow proper hand hygiene, practice social/physical distancing and always wear a face mask (excluding consuming food/beverages and on ice when practicing) during the training camp and possibly avoid any contacts with public outside the bubble.



#### 4.2. **Individual bubble**

- ITOs, LOC staff, IPC/WPIH staff and volunteers, are asked to stay in their individual bubble at least six days prior to their traveling to the Event.
- Individual bubble means preferably working from home, avoiding external meeting with people except for immediate family members living under one roof.
- In case of any COVID-19 symptoms you must isolate yourselves, contact your physician. If you are not able to take part in the Event you must give a note to your IPC/LOC supervisor directly.
- All participants need to conduct two RT-PCR tests before traveling and taking part in the Event. One six days prior to their traveling and second one day before traveling at the latest.

#### 4.3. **Clearance of the Participants**

- All participating teams' players, coaches & staff members, and all other participating groups must show proof of two negative RT-PCR tests; first one six days before your travels, second one a day before your travels at the latest. Certificates with negative COVID-19 test result of each participants from both RT-PCR tests, together with the team summary data in excel sheet must be sent to [safety@parahockey.cz](mailto:safety@parahockey.cz) after each testing.
- The test result certificates must be in English language.
- The LOC will send to Teams' COVID-19 Coordinator and other participants the excel sheet with a layout of all necessary information to be filled in, at the beginning of June.
- Only those participants with two negative RT-PCR test results will be allowed to travel to the Czech Republic and take part in the Event.
- All costs related to the performance of these tests remain the responsibility of the NPCs.

### 5. **Travelling to the Czech Republic**

- All participants must have valid passport and a valid travel document (visitor visa) if required, to enter the Czech Republic.
- When entering the Czech Republic, everyone must show proof of a negative RT-PCR test not older than 72 hours and fill in the electronic Public Health Passenger Locator Form. The Form can be filled in: <https://plf.uzis.cz>.
- Each participant travelling to the Czech Republic shall carry the hard copy of his/her negative RT-PCR test as it may have to be presented upon arrival to the local authorities and the organizer.
- It is the NPCs responsibility to secure COVID-19 protection for their players, coaches, and staff during their travels to the Czech Republic. The same apply to all other participating groups traveling to the Event.
- A face mask must always be worn during any kind of transport. Alcohol-based hand sanitizer must be used frequently.
- Teams/participants flying on scheduled flights should take measures, to avoid contact with the general public.
- The LOC recommends you to have more than 1 face mask with you while travelling for a longer period than 4 hours (flight and bus to the airport together).



## 6. On the day of arrival to the Venue

- The LOC will arrange a separate bus transportation for each team from the airport to the Team Hotel in Ostrava, according to team arrival times.
- A designated team guide will be assigned to each team. Team guides will be on board of the buses and will meet the teams at the airport to help the team in any matter. It is the LOC's responsibility to ensure that the team guides have a proof of a negative test result. Team guides will be RT-PCR tested 24h prior to the arrival of their assigned teams. The team guide will stay with the team for the duration of the Event.
- Teams will be transported from their arrival airports directly to the Team Hotel (Hotel Quality Ostrava City) where they will take their first RT-PCR test.
- Teams traveling to the Czech Republic with their own bus are asked to go directly to the Team Hotel and take the RT-PCR tests on arrival. The team guide will await the team at the Team Hotel.
- The LOC will also arrange the transportation for the event International Technical Officials and IPC/WPIH delegates from the airport to their hotel in Ostrava, according to their itinerary.
- All ITOs and IPC/WPIH delegates will conduct the RT-PCR test immediately upon their arrival (location of the testing to be confirmed).
- All players, coaches & staff members, as well as ITOs, IPC/WPIH delegates must stay in their own rooms in a self-isolation until they receive the test results. Participants are not to leave their hotel room under no circumstances while waiting for the test result (24 hours maximum). Food and other essentials will be delivered directly to the participants' hotel door room.
- Team COVID-19 Coordinators will be notified by the Tournament Infection Control Officer about the test results.
- The ITOs and IPC/WPIH delegates will be notified about the test result via email.
- The single room for participants was a recommendation at the time. The LOC and WPIH will continue to follow the directive of the Czech Government and the City of Ostrava and will inform the teams if the recommendation becomes mandatory.
- In case of COVID-19 positive test result, the TICO will contact the Team COVID-19 Coordinator to establish together with local authorities the following steps which need to be taken for each case individually. Self-isolation will be evaluated. For more details see Appendix B.
- In case of COVID-19 positive test result, an additional RT-PCR test will automatically be arranged.
- Accreditation will be given only to participants with negative RT-PCR test result.





## 7. **Tournament Bubble**

- Accreditation will be delivered directly to respective team guides at the Team Hotel once players, coaches and team staff have received confirmation of their negative RT-PCR test.
- ITOs and IPC/WPIH delegates will be able to collect their accreditation at the Hotel Help Desk once they have received confirmation of their negative RT-PCR test.
- By receiving the accreditation, the teams and participants end their self-isolation quarantine and are admitted into the Tournament Bubble. Participants will have access to designated areas with the Hotel and Competition Venue and will be allowed to begin their on-ice training.
- Movement of accredited stakeholders is strictly limited to designated areas in the Competition and Practice Venue as well as the Event Hotel.
- Participants are to only access their authorized zones while in the hotel. Accredited stakeholders of the Event bubble will not have access to the hotel amenities such as the hotel bar, gym nor spa. Participants must remain in their respective hotel rooms or their dedicated team eating area and/or dedicated team /meeting room.
- Participants are to only access their authorized zones while in the Competition or Practice Venue. Accredited stakeholders of the Tournament Bubble will have dedicated entrances to reduce the risk on contamination.
- Access to the teams designated areas in the Hotel, or in the Competition and Practice Venue is possible with the valid accreditation card only. The accreditation card must always be worn visibly (except when on the ice).
- The LOC will arrange for local transportation from the Team Hotel to the Competition Venue and back to the Team Hotel according to the practice and game schedule. There will always be one team per bus at a time.
- The Help Desk will be located in the lobby of the Team Hotel and in the Competition Venue to assist teams with any requirements.
- Ingress and Egress management will be implemented to avoid team crossing each other when entering or exiting the facility.
- ITOs and IPC/WPIH delegates will not need any transportation as their hotel is situated directly across the street from the Competition Venue.
- Everyone is required to stay in the Tournament Bubble – Team Hotel/Hotel and Competition Venue during their stay in Ostrava.
- Teams are encouraged to stick to essential meeting only during the Event.
- Most officials meetings will be held online unless physical distancing can be ensured in the meeting room.
- Visiting shops, restaurants or pubs is strictly prohibited as all participants must stay in Tournament Bubble.
- Any intentional interaction with a person not accredited or not directly involved in the organisation of the Event is strictly forbidden at all times.
- Measurement of the body temperature will be conducted before entering the Competition Venue (Ostravar Arena). In case of high temperature specific measures and additional medical checks will be applied (see annex B).
- Completing the medical questionnaire will be necessary on daily basis for all participants. The LOC will confirm the process in the beginning of June.





### **7.1. Testing during the Tournament Bubble**

- In addition to the RT-PCR tests taken upon arrival, all participants will undergo a second round of RT-PCR test on 18 June.
- All participants will also need to comply with two (2) additional antigen test during the tournament– one on 21 June, and second on 24 June.
- The testing will take place in the Team Hotel/Arena according to the teams' game/practice schedule. The Team COVID-19 Coordinator will be informed of the testing time schedule in advance.
- Participants do not have to stay in self-isolation in their rooms while waiting for these test results and can practice according to their practice schedule.
- In case of COVID-19 positive result to the antigen test, the TICO will contact the Team COVID-19 Coordinator to establish together with local authorities the following steps which need to be taken for each case individually. Self-isolation will be evaluated. For more details see Appendix 2.
- In case of COVID-19 positive result to the antigen, an additional RT-PCR test will automatically be arranged.
- All cost related to the performance of these mandatory tests remain the responsibility of the LOC.

### **7.2. Development of symptoms or positive test result**

- Typical COVID-19 symptoms are:
  - Sore throat
  - Cough (mostly dry)
  - Shortness of breath
  - Chest pain
  - High temperature (above 37,5°C)
  - Sudden loss of sense of smell and/or sense of taste
  - Headache
  - General weakness, feeling unwell
  - Aching muscles
- If an accredited participant displays any of the symptoms or returns a positive COVID-19 test, then the person and close contacts must self-isolate in their hotel room/s.
- If any individual develops symptoms, irrespective of any previous test outcome, then they must self-isolate and contact directly via their Team COVID-19 Coordinator the Tournament Infection Control Officer.
- Should any individual develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 they must self-isolate in their room for 14 days from the day the symptoms started or date the positive test was taken. Czech Republic regulations allow a first retest five days after the positive RT-PCR test.
- As a result of any isolation period the LOC will liaise with the hotel and support the team/participant with requirements. Athletes, team officials and officials must ensure they have appropriate medical insurance to cover routine medical health



care, including COVID-19 care if reciprocal home country arrangement do not apply.

- Each case will be evaluated by Tournament Infection Control Officer together with local Czech authorities. If the RT-PCR test is necessary to be taken, the LOC will organize the testing.

### **7.3. The Competition Venue - OSTRAVAR ARENA**

- Dedicated Team entrance to the Competition Venue will be assigned.
- Each team will be provided with dedicated dressing room for the duration of the Event and only team essential personnel and cleaning staff will be allowed in the team designated areas.
- Regular cleaning of the dressing room areas will be provided after each practice & game.
- All Team staff members must wear a face mask on the bench area during games and practices.
- Participants may not share any equipment or towels.
- All players must have a marked water bottle which may not be shared.
- All players must submit to doping control as usual, if they are selected to provide a sample. All players must wear a face mask at the doping control station and practice physical distancing in the doping control waiting room.
- Defined secured flows at the Event venue must be strictly followed.

## **8. Compliance & Sanction**

- By registering for the Event, all participants agree and commit to strictly follow these stated rules and procedures.
- Any participant who breaks the Tournament Safety Protocol will have his or her accreditation privilege revoked and will be expelled from the tournament bubble (Team Hotel and Competition Venue)
- Sanctions are applicable to all participants (athletes, coaches and team staff. LOC staff, IPC/WPIH delegates, ITOs and volunteers).
- Eliminated teams will have the freedom to leave Ostrava before the end of the tournament if they wish to but once someone leave the Tournament Bubble, they will not be readmitted into the Tournament Hotel nor the Competition Venue as it could contaminate the Tournament Bubble for the remaining competing teams. Sanctions by WPIH may be imposed for future competitions if an eliminated team breaks the safety protocol.



## 9. Travel back home

- If your home country requires RT-PCR test for your arrival home, the LOC will arrange the testing in the Team Hotel on 26 June according to the team schedule or otherwise agreed.
- Teams or other Event accredited participants requiring a negative RT-PCR test for traveling back to their home country shall confirm the need for such testing by sending an email to [safety@parahockey.cz](mailto:safety@parahockey.cz) by Friday 18 June at the latest.
- All tested team members/participants will receive the test result certificate in English language.
- All costs related to the performance of these additional tests remain the responsibility of the LOC.
- The LOC will arrange for transportation from the Hotel to the airport according to the flight details provided by the Teams/Individual.
- In case of COVID-19 positive test result, the TICO will contact the Team COVID-19 Coordinator to establish together with local authorities the following steps which need to be taken for each case individually. Self-isolation will be evaluated for 14 days.
- In this case, the LOC will help the team with all necessary arrangements. The costs regarding such case will fall upon the NPC.

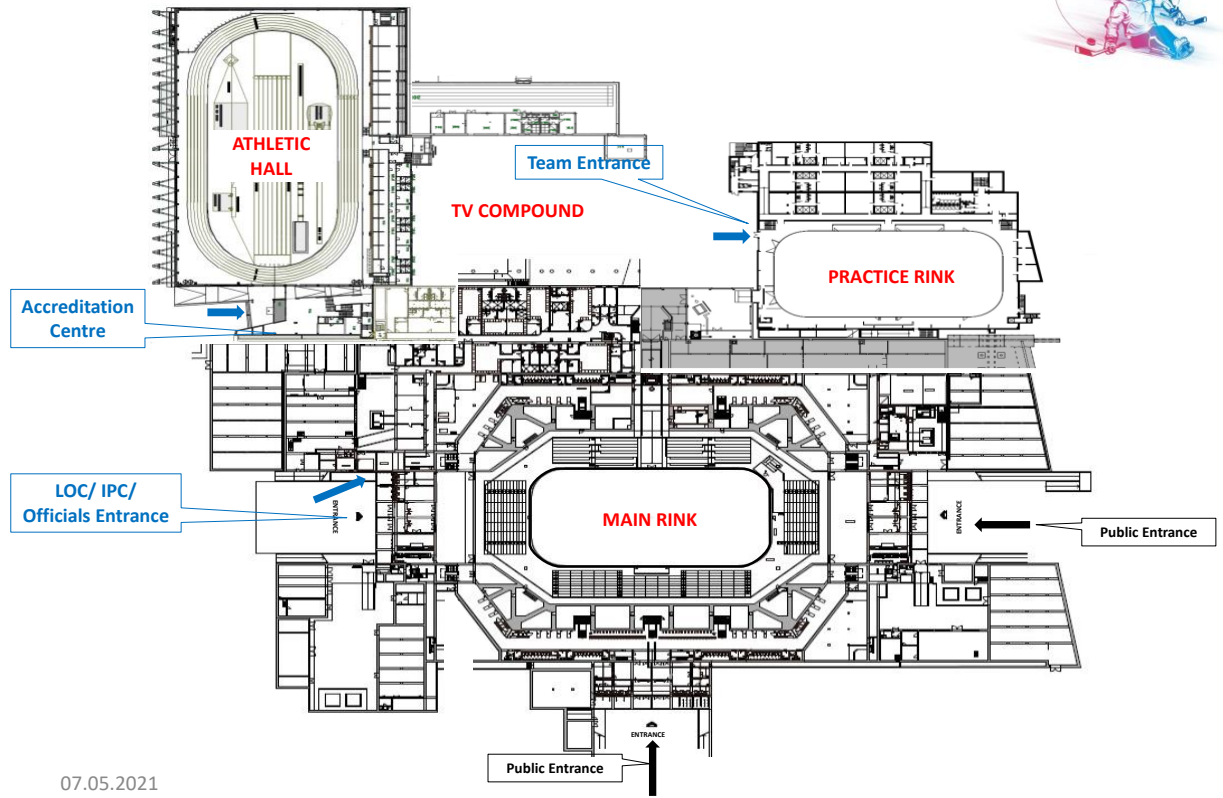
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND CONSIDERATION.**



## Appendix A

OSTRAVAR ARENA

GENERAL LAYOUT



07.05.2021



## Appendix B

### Development of symptoms or positive test

The primary symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- A new continuous cough (mostly dry).
- A high temperature (above 37,5°C).
- A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell.
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Chest pain
- General weakness, feeling unwell
- Aching muscles

If an accredited person displays any of the symptoms or returns a positive COVID-19 test, then the individual and close contacts must self-isolate in their hotel room/s.

**If any individual develops symptoms, irrespective of any previous test outcome, then they must self-isolate and contact the Tournament Infection Control Officer.** Should any individual develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 they must self-isolate in their room for 14 days from the day the symptoms started or date the positive test was taken.

As a result of any isolation periods The LOC will liaise with the hotel and support the team with requirements. As previously stated, athletes and team officials must ensure they have appropriate medical insurance to cover routine medical healthcare, including COVID-19 care if reciprocal home country arrangement do not apply..

For clarity, all scenarios that may require a period of self-isolation are stated below.

Scenario	Symptoms?	COVID-19 test result	Identified as close contact?	Action	Notes
1	Yes	Positive	No	Isolate for 14 days from start of symptoms or day of test whichever comes first	Czech Republic allows a first retest 5 days after the positive RT-PCR Test. Can end isolation if the retest result is negative.
2	No	Positive	No	Isolate for 14 days from day of test	Czech Republic allows a first retest 5 days after the positive RT-PCR Test. Can end isolation if the retest result is negative.
3	Yes	Negative	No	Isolate until negative test result is returned.	



4	No	N/A	Yes	Isolate until negative test result is returned	
5	No	Negative	No	No Action	

Key Terms

*Close Contact*

A close contact to an individual is defined as including anyone who has been:

- anyone who lives in the same household as someone with COVID-19 symptoms or who has tested positive for COVID-19
  - anyone who has had any of the following types of contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 with a PCR test:
    - face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
    - been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
    - intimate contact
    - been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)
    - travelled in the same vehicle or aircraft
- Instruction to self-isolate by the event COVID officer means those instructed must go to their hotel rooms and not leave until instructed to do so. Self-isolation may be required upon arrive, following a positive COVID-19 test, having been traced as a close contact or by developing COVID-19 symptoms. During self-isolation periods any requirements, such as food, will be delivered to the room.

*Self-Isolation*

- Instruction to self-isolate by the event COVID officer means those instructed must go to their hotel rooms and not leave until instructed to do so. Self-isolation may be required upon arrive, following a positive COVID-19 test, having been traced as a close contact or by developing COVID-19 symptoms. During self-isolation periods any requirements, such as food, will be delivered to the room.