GUIDELINES FOR THE ORGANIZATION &

THE MANAGEMENT OF OCA EVENTS

DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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1- General:

COVID-19 continues to cause significant challenges. The transition period following the outbreak will be long and the organizers of sport events will be asked to implement all possible measures for respecting the social distancing and hygiene requirements. The organizing committee must build a relationship with the local authorities based on trust to decide that it is safe to hold the sports event. Our sport will be affected as well and we need to look into ways of conducting competitions in a safer way for the participants, the organizing committee and the spectators. We need to be creative and adapt to new ideas that should be shared among the entire OCA family for everyone’s benefit.

Olympic Council of Asia is following all the recommendations from WHO and fully respects and supports the initiatives of the LOCs and of the National Health advice of each country on this matter.

The IOC has advised that during the evolving COVID-19 outbreak, effective protection of the health and safety of athletes must remain a priority. Under the IOC regulations, event organizers must ensure all athletes are covered by adequate measures to protect their health and that they have access to prompt medical care while participating in the event. Event organizers must put in place preventive measures to stop the transmission of infection and put in place mitigation measures to minimize the risk of infection. Event organizers must ensure that any athlete or participant in an event on their territory who needs immediate medical care is given access to medical facilities.

The following guidelines have been issued by Olympic Council of Asia using the collective feedback of different stakeholders in the sport of Asia and after review by the Olympic Council of Asia Medical Committee. These guidelines are applicable for the events taking place following their approval by the local authorities. Olympic Council of Asia is putting the health and safety of all athletes, coaches, volunteers, officials, spectators and organizing committee staff, first. Within these guidelines you will find points that may be applied to any event taking place immediately after a ban on mass-participation events is lifted, and as long as it is deemed appropriate by the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) and the local authorities.

The guidelines will be updated continuously according to the latest information from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the research/publications that are released on this topic. Any amendments shall be published without delay and shall be immediately applicable. The guidelines will be published at the medical section of the Olympic Council of Asia Website (https://www.ocasia.org).
While the advice given in these guidelines has been developed using the best information available, it is intended purely as guidance to be used at the user’s own risk. No responsibility on Olympic Council of Asia.

2- Requirements Prior to Organize Sport Event during Covid-19 Pandemic:

The following steps/criteria must be fulfilled in order to conduct a Sport Event:

- Submission of a competition Health Plan in compliance with the OCA COVID-19 Event Guidelines and is approved by local Public Health Authorities for approval by the OCA COVID-19 Task Force.

- Close cooperation between Organizing Committee (OC) and Local Public Health Authorities is mandatory and OCA.

- Each organizing committee will appoint an OC COVID-19 Officer and a Covid-19 bubble place for the athletes and the participating delegation (Athletes village or Hotel).

- Provision of evidence that the OC and all attendees are in compliance with OCA COVID-19 Guidelines.

- To have an agency responsible for the costs of testing and contact tracing.

- To have a PCR tests for all participants at the airport upon arrival, the results of the PCR Test must be available to the organizing Committee team within maximum 12 hours.

- The participants cannot depart from the designated bubble place for training or competition until the PCR result is negative, if the PCR test is negative the athletes can start the training and competition.

- If the result of the PCR test is Positive, the participants will be isolated in designated place in accordance to the local regulation.

- all organizing committee staff (officials, administrators, volunteers, driver, hotel staff, athlete's village staff, media…etc.) the local organizing committee must ensure in accordance to the law that they are free from any Covid-19 infection.

- To provide written evidence that host organizers have met government/ local authority restrictions for participating delegations to enter and leave the country.
3- General Information about Covid-19:

A) Symptoms:
According to the World Health Organization (WHO), COVID-19 is the infectious disease caused by the most recently discovered coronavirus. The symptoms of COVID-19 include but are not limited to fever equal or higher than 38°C, cough, loss of smell and/or taste, difficulty in breathing, GI symptoms and general weakness.

After being infected, a person is developing symptoms on average within 5 to 6 days, considering that it might take up to 14 days. Most infected people will either have mild or moderate flu-like symptoms while others will have a severe manifestation form of the disease requiring hospitalization and even intensive care unit admission. Some infected people are asymptomatic while being carriers of the disease and infectious to others.

B) Infection transmission routes:

COVID-19 mainly spreads between people through direct or close contact with infected people through infectious droplets from their mouth or nose during coughing or sneezing or extensive conversations for more than 15 minutes.
Indirect contact may also lead to the spread of the virus through touching contaminated objects or surfaces such as tables, doorknobs and handrails before touching the mouth, nose or eyes. Furthermore, ventilation could be considered as a risk factor for airborne transmission.

c) Hygiene guidelines:

In general, physical distancing is considered the most effective way to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus.
Therefore, all stakeholders involved in the sport events must keep physical distancing of at least 1.5m to other persons, where possible. Contact with any person having symptoms of respiratory illness such as coughing, sneezing or fever must be avoided.
Furthermore, all stakeholders involved in each sport event must respect the following hand hygiene guidelines:

- Washing hands using soap and water for at least 20 seconds is essential.
- Dry your hands using paper towels and dispose of them afterwards.
- In case soap and water are not available, use hand disinfectant.
- Avoid touching the water tap before and after washing your hands, use paper towels to open and close the tap and then dispose of them.
- Touching eyes/nose/mouth with your hands is very dangerous.
- Wearing disposable surgical/medical mask is required all the time.

In addition to the hand hygiene guidelines, compliance with the rules of personal hygiene and especially good respiratory hygiene practices (cough etiquette) is of utmost importance. Moreover, all stakeholders involved in the sport event must wear face masks (surgical or medical masks) in all closed premises (accommodation, training halls and arenas, means of transportation, etc.) at all times, except for players, team officials and referees during matches or trainings. Everyone should ensure using and wearing a mask or respirator properly and consistently, according to its purpose as described in the instructions. Used and contaminated masks or respirators should be properly removed to prevent the spread of viruses to the hands, face and other
contact surfaces. Only the straps but not the surface of the mask or respirator should be touched when removing it. Washing hands after disposal of a used mask or respirator is strongly recommended. The amount of talking when wearing a mask or respirator should be reduced in order to lower the amount of condensation produced within the mask or respirator and thus extend its effective life. To be effective, masks or respirators should be changed if soiled or wet. As masks or respirators are contaminated once used, they should not be reused.

In addition, the Medical Commission will ensure that all surfaces throughout the premises are periodically cleaned and disinfected. Using disposable eating and drinking equipment is strongly recommended.

Posters of COVID-19 precautionary measures will be displayed at the dedicated places in the arenas, accommodation places and transportation in order to inform about the spread, symptoms and prevention of the virus and raise the stakeholders’ awareness on the importance of hand hygiene, following respiratory etiquette, wearing face masks and maintaining physical distancing of at least 1.5m.

4- Considerations and guidelines before the event:

A) Travel to OCA events:

- The delegation shall limit the number of support personnel accompanying the athletes.
- Every member of the delegation must have a negative PCR test (not more than 48 hrs.) before reaching OCA Events destination.

All travelling Participants should ensure strict compliance with all local guidance and regulations while travelling, to mitigate the risk of contracting the virus.

B) Training camps in the home country:

The following guidelines shall be implemented for training camps being held in the home countries of the participating teams prior to the sport event. Each NOC/National Federation may establish a Task Force Committee to assess the appropriate time to start training safely and be in constant contact with the Medical Commission in compliance with WHO recommendations and national and local requirements/legislations.

In addition, each team shall hire a medically trained hygiene officer (COVID-19 officer) responsible for the compliance with these guidelines as well as with the protective measures as advised by the World Health Organization and other health authorities. The hygiene officer shall be in contact with the OCA Medical Commission. Afterwards each hygiene officer shall be in touch with the COVID-19 officer assigned for each team.
Before regular team training, at least one COVID-19 PCR test is required of everyone involved in training operations – preferably within 5 days (inclusive) of the day before training starts. Only person’s tested negative will be allowed to participate in training camps.

As an additional safety measure, if possible, at least seven days prior to the start of the training camp will be spent in quarantine, where regular testing and recording of body temperature will be continued. During the ongoing training camp, PCR testing once a week is considered appropriate.

5- Covid-19 Taskforce:
A) COVID-19 officers and medical facilities:

The following COVID-19 officers and medical staff shall be appointed by the Medical Commission of the organizing committee in coordination with the local Ministry of Health:

- COVID-19 Chief Games Officer (CGO) **appointed by local organizing committee**
- COVID-19 NOC Medical Coordinator (CMC) **appointed by each NOC**
- COVID-19 officers (one per hotel and minimum 10 in the athlete's village) **appointed by local organizing committee**
- Venues COVID-19 officers (each venue must have minimum three officers) **appointed by local organizing committee**

The following COVID-19 facilities will be available throughout the Games:

- Venues Covid-19 health aid office with all the needed equipment's and facilities
- Hotel Covid-19 health aid office with all the needed equipment's and facilities
- COVID-19 isolation rooms at hotels
- COVID-19 referral hospitals
- Ambulance services
- Laboratories in the athlete's village

B) OC COVID-19 Chief Games Officer (CGO):

Each OC will appoint an OC COVID-19 Chief Games Officer who is a physician who has awareness of the OCA COVID-19 Guidelines and is up to date with the latest evidence on COVID-19 disease. He/she must be distinct from the Games Chief Medical Officer. The Guidelines of the Games and the Games Health Plan must contain OC COVID Chief Game Officer Contact details.

The OC COVID-19 Chief Games officer must liaise with local Public Health Authorities in the planning for the Games, and during the event.

This appointee will ensure that pre-game planning, game protocols, arrival and departure follow up procedures are consistent with the OCA COVID-19 Guidelines and compliant with local health standards.
C) COVID-19 MEDICAL COORDINATOR (CMC)

All NOC's/delegations should appoint an English-speaking COVID-19 Medical Coordinator who will be responsible for ensuring all mitigation measures are followed by the athletes and officials of the delegations. The CMC would be the liaison with the OC COVID-19 Chief Game Officer and the OCA Medical and Doping Control Delegate. The CMC should work in close cooperation with the NOC's medical officer or doctor to daily monitor the health conditions of each NOC delegation members and report it to the OC COVID-19 Chief Game Officer (CGO) and OCA Medical and Doping Control Delegates. The CMC should be knowledgeable in the symptoms and transmission of SARS-CoV-2 as well as the relevant regulations of the host country events and the CMC national regulation in relation to the COVID-19 measurement preventive measures for diseases transmission. The CMC must be the part of the NOC Delegation.

6- Pre-competition Testing:

Only the Participants with evidence of a recent negative COVID-19 PCR test before 48 hrs. will be eligible to attend or take part in the relevant Games.

This applies to all accredited Participants including officials, coaches, athletes, athlete’s entourage, media, technical staff, sponsors, TVHB staff, volunteers and all others personal related to the event. Therefore, these Participants must follow the protocol hereunder:

- Athletes and everyone in the delegation (as well as officials) have to take a (negative) PCR-test not older than 48 hrs. and bring the original to the event. All costs related to this test are to be borne as follows:

  A) NOCs will cover the PCR test before arriving to the game's destination.
  B) Local Game Organizer cover the PCR Test after arrival.
  C) If the NOC require a PCR Test before the departure back home from the Games host organizer country, the NOC will cover the PCR Test cost.

After arrival, all delegation members shall be tested at the Covid-19 PCR center at the Airport.

- OCA Family / Officials / athletes and others shall go into quarantine in their hotel room or in the athlete's village until the results of the PCR is negative.
- Athletes and coaches are allowed to train if the PCR result is negative. Other delegations’ members (not in a bubble before the event) shall remain in quarantine until the PCR results are negative.
• If the PCR tests are positive the person will go into quarantine and isolated and retested of the PCR. If the result again positive then the person will go into quarantine in accordance with OC national regulations.

• All participants shall take PCR-test every 3 days during the event.

→ Should local authorities require another test for visitors on arrival to the host country, then the COVID-19 Chief Game Officer (CGO) shall oversee arrangements with the local health authorities prior of arrival and Competition. The Covid-19 Game Officer must inform the respective delegation before the arrival of such required extra-test. The required Extra Test cost must be cover by the LOC.

(It is the responsibility of the LOC to liaise with their health authorities to ensure the facility for rapid testing and analysis is available in Airport, Athlete village, hotels, and Sport Venues. The LOC is also responsible for any costs related to any rapid test.)

A) How to consider a positive PCR Test?

IMPORTANT

For any positive PCR, the Cycle Threshold (CT) values shall be requested and reviewed.

**If CT value is < 30**

The person goes into quarantine and the close contacts are monitored (as defined in the protocol), this is a true infection.

**If CT value is between 30-35**

The person goes into quarantine and monitored. An antibody test and a new PCR shall be performed.

If the antibody test is positive and the CT value of the second PCR is the same as the 1st PCR, then the person shall remain in quarantine and a new PCR shall be repeated 5 days later.

After 5 days if CT Value is > 35, please see below.

**If CT value is > 35**

The person goes into quarantine.

The PCR is repeated immediately and an antibody test shall be performed too.

If a previous infection is documented or if the antibody positive, the antigen test is negative and the repeated PCR shows same CT value (or higher), then the athlete shall be allowed to resume participation.

Any case of a positive antigen test means this is a true infection.
7- “Bubble” concept:

A “bubble” concept is applied with the aim of minimizing the transmission of COVID-19 infections before, during and after the sport event. All the stakeholders involved in the event should enter the bubble without any external contact within three days before and throughout the event. In addition, all stakeholders must isolate themselves from the date of the PCR test (within 48 hours before the arrival date) until arrival to the hosting country.

These stakeholders include but are not limited to:

NOCs/AFs and IFs officials, technical delegates, event delegates, OCA office staff, OCA Media, International Media, Press, photographers.

Participating NOC teams, Athletes, Officials, referees, Technical staff, partners, Sponsors

Organizing Committee

Drivers

Team Guides

Volunteers

Hotel staff

Catering staff and waiters

Doctors, medical staff, Doping Control Officers, chaperones

Training halls’ and Venues staff

The “Bubble” is defined as the event venues and the hotels of Participants. The team delegations are not in quarantine during the Competition/Tournament. However, they must always remain
within the “Bubble” during the event, except if they are granted permission by the OC COVID-19 Officer to leave the bubble temporarily to meet needs of first necessity.

It is also strictly prohibited for any Participant to let someone else inside the Bubble (e.g. friends, family).

8- Precautions for transportation:

A) International travel procedures:
International travel usually refers to air, land and sea. Every stakeholder involved in the sport event must comply with the applicable instructions of the airlines. Temperature screening should be carried out at the departure airport as well as at the arrival airport. Upon arrival to the host country, a separate terminal at airport will be available for all stakeholders involved in the event. All Team Delegations must comply with any SARS-CoV-2-RNA testing at the airport that may be required by relevant local authorities and/or in the hotel by the local organization committee as per the OCA COVID-19 Guidelines. When possible, the return flight should take place immediately after the competition.

B) Local travel procedures:
Local travel refers to bus, van, trains and cars for the transportation of stakeholders between airport and hotel, and hotel, arena and training hall. Each category of stakeholder should have its own dedicated vehicle for the duration of stay and event. The drivers and passengers should always wear a face mask and respect all hygiene guidelines; the drivers must also wear gloves.
- For bigger vehicles such as buses, the drivers and stakeholders must maintain a distance of 1.5m at all times (chessboard seating arrangement). If the buses have entrances in the center or rear, these doors should be used, so that passengers can enter and exit, and keep sufficient distance to the driver.
- Every stakeholder must go through body temperature screening before boarding. Persons who develop fever or symptoms indicative of COVID-19 are not allowed to enter the bus. All vehicles should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before and after every trip during the Events.
With respect to all transportation:
- Persons must wear a mask.
- An empty seat should be kept between persons.
- All transport access restrictions must apply at every Event Shuttle stop.
- Hand sanitizer should be provided at bus entrance/exit.

9- **Precautions for accommodation:**

It is recommended that OCA secures complete athlete villages and hotel floors for athletes and officials and restricting access to non-OCA hotel guests.

The OC-COVID Officer must contact the hotel in advance to ensure that all arrangements are in place and that the hotel understands what is required.

The following precautions for accommodation should apply:
- Temperature screening at the entrance of the hotel
- Hand disinfectants should be widely available throughout the hotel, including the meeting rooms and dining rooms. These rooms should be large enough to ensure physical distancing.
- Disposable masks shall be given to all accredited persons for the duration of the event (e.g. 2 masks/day). The Organizing Committee will provide these masks free of charge for the Participants.
- Towels, linens and bath robes are replaced daily and kept outside the rooms.
- Sauna and steam rooms are restricted

In case of symptoms indicative of COVID-19, the responsible COVID-19 officer must be informed immediately and the stakeholder concerned must be isolated in the isolation room.
- Cleaning and disinfection of rooms on a regular basis.
- Disinfection of the swimming pool and gym facilities after each use.
- Disinfection of luggage (arrival and departure).
- Stakeholders should use toilets and showers in their own room and not share them
- The policy on sharing hotel rooms will follow the existing OCA principles, but is ultimately the responsibility of the respective Team and Organizer
Hotel Check-in / Check out

To minimize hotel lobby congestion hotels should consider the following strategies:
- implement express check-in/check-out procedures,
- Stagger arrivals and accept only one team delegation at a time.
- Ensure that rooms are available immediately upon arrival of the athletes.

10- Precautions for Dining Area / Restaurant:

The Official Dining Room must have an access control to check meal vouchers and limited guest access to ensure physical distancing. An option could be for hotel staff to seat guests and thereby control numbers.
Ideally, team delegations should have separate, dedicated dining areas to avoid any mixing with general public. Designated dining schedules and separate areas for athletes, coaches and officials offer another alternative.
These general matters should be pre-planned with the assistance of the OC-appointed COVID-19 representative. Details should be included in the OC Event Health Plan, and are subject to approval by OCA.

In the dining room itself the following issues are highlighted:

- Contact with hotel staff in the dining area should be minimized
- There should be no self-service buffet meals – the hotel staff should serve all meals.
- Drinks should be served at the table or by staff at a drink station
- Hotel staff should distribute all cutlery and plates
- Chairs at tables must ensure physical distancing is maintained
- Team designated tables must be used and respected by all delegations
- Face masks should be worn when entering and leaving the dining room
- Face masks are not to be placed on tables and must be kept on persons possession.
- Time spent in the dining room should be kept to a minimum
- Tables will be cleaned by hotel staff immediately after they are vacated
- Delegations should only use the toilets in their room and when flushing, ensure that the toilet cover is closed.
11- Accreditation:

Every person prior to receiving accreditation must proceed through a Covid-19 Test. The OC must arrange a separate seated waiting area prior to the Accreditation Room for the Medical Checkpoint. This area must respect space requirements for physical distancing.

Accreditation will be issued only to those persons who have completed the health questionnaire and at the time of accreditation have NO signs or symptoms of COVID-19 infection.

In the event of any medical concern, the OC COVID-19 Officer and OCA Medical Delegate will confer. If there is confirmation of a possible COVID-19 infection the individual will be brought to the Isolation Room for the next steps advised by the Public Health authorities. For each new or additional accreditation, the OCA office shall be contacted for authorization.

12- Precautions at the Venues
A) General Provisions:

Any stakeholder having any symptoms indicative of COVID-19 is not allowed to enter the venues (training and competition). Athletes, team officials, referees, technical delegates and other stakeholders involved directly in the games who develop symptoms must leave the training hall and arena immediately, be isolated in the isolation room, be tested and inform the team doctor and the team’s COVID-19 officer.

No meals will be served in the VIP area of the arena.

The VIP area will be accessible only with a negative PCR test carried out within 72 hours before.

Training venues are disinfected before and after each training session while the venues, including any marketing materials, are disinfected before and after each competition day.

In particular, the LOC must ensure that the venue provides the following:

- Signage indicating physical distancing recommendations on self-protection, hand washing and coughing etiquette, posted in the venue entrance and throughout the facility.
- Venue entrance and exit doors and pedestrian flow into and throughout the facility, clearly indicated where necessary with floor markings to show physical distancing requirements.
- All official accredited zones (athletes’ area, media, working spaces, field of play), must accommodate physical distancing requirements and provide masks, disinfecting wipes and alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
- All confined spaces should have adequate fresh air ventilation.
- A venue medical facility should be provided to accommodate routine medical services, offering secure, confidential assessment of athletes and officials. In the unlikely event of an athlete or official suddenly presenting with symptoms suggestive of COVID-19 infection, this medical facility could double as an isolation room.
- The presence of public spectators will be agreed by the OC and OCA and in accordance with the prevailing standards set by the local health authority.

B) Zoning:

A concept of zoning is recommended to reduce the interaction between the different Participants to a competition; A strict bubble concept will be applied. Therefore, each venue will contain a bubble zone which is exclusively reserved for stakeholders entering the bubble without any external contact within three days before and throughout the event.

Zoning access must be clearly identified on individual accreditation and access must be enforced. Some essential workers (e.g. medical or anti-doping) may require “all zones” access. These decisions should be agreed in advance by the LOC, Competition Manager, the OC COVID-19 Officer and the OCA Medical Delegate.

C) Changing rooms:

Teams and referees have their own changing rooms, medical treatment rooms and toilets. The changing room should be large enough to allow for sufficient space between each player to ensure physical distancing is respected. Time spent in changing rooms must be restricted to the minimum necessary (approx. 30-40 min. for individual athletes). Athletes are recommended to put on the athlete’s uniform at the hotel before going to the venue or training hall. Athletes shall take a shower at their hotel rooms.

Teams must bring their own towels and personal items. Eating in the changing room is not allowed. The staff at the training halls and arenas should ensure that the changing rooms, medical treatment rooms and toilets are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected after each training session and after each match. The door knobs, chairs, tables and floors must be cleaned and disinfected regularly. Changing rooms need to be ventilated regularly, and need to have waste bins with lid.
13- Precautions for competitions:

A) General precautions:
All stakeholders in the venues must be fully briefed on COVID-19 measures and always follow the hygiene guidelines. All zones in the venues must be thoroughly cleaned. Hand disinfectants must be available in every venue.
When entering and leaving the venues, Athletes must comply with the minimum distancing rule (during warm-up, playing time, half-time, and after the match).

B) Precautions before the competitions:
Handshaking between the two teams, referees, timekeeper and scorekeeper during the pre-match procedure is prohibited. Child escorts and assemblies (e.g. team photos, opening ceremony with extra VIPs) are not allowed.

C) Precautions during the competitions:
During the competitions, the mask must be worn by everyone, except the players, team officials and referees on the field of play. On the team bench, sanitizing solutions should be available for the athletes and team officials. Team benches should be expanded to respect the distancing rule. Sharing foods, drinks or towels must be avoided.

D) Precautions after the competitions:
Athletes and team officials must leave the arena immediately after the interview in the Mixed Zone (staggered departure or two different exits, if possible). They must wash hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand disinfectant before leaving the arena.
Athletes shall take a shower in their hotel room after returning from the venues. In case of award ceremonies, every team shall be honored separately (once a team is honored, the athletes are leaving the field of play), shaking hands between the Organizing Committee and the winners is prohibited, and the winners shall receive their medals to be put on by themselves. All stakeholders involved in award ceremonies, are obliged to wear face masks while physical distance shall be maintained.
Venue staff should start cleaning the arena after the teams leave the field of play.

14- Spectators:
Final decision on Spectators will be taken by organizers after discussion with the healthcare authorities. However, the health authorities might decide, any time based on the level of spread of infection in the community, to hold the event behind closed doors (no spectators).
Once decision is taken for spectators’ attendance at an event at any capacity, it would be allowed with all health measures considered, including:
* Masks to be worn by all staff and participants at all times (except when exercising).
* Arrange spectators’ seats allocations limited to 20% indoors and 30% outdoors of capacity of the venue including staff/participants/officials/volunteers, and support staff.
* Allocate seating to ensure 1.5m physical distance between spectators in front, behind, and diagonally.
* Thermal screening for employees, participants, and public, and entry only allowed for those of 37.8 degrees or less and also those who present a vaccination certificate approved by healthcare Authorities.
* Ensure tickets are electronic and avoid paper tickets.
* Tickets to be sold online prior to attendance to reduce queuing at entrances.
* Queues to comply with the minimum of 1.5m physical distancing precautions – mark floor to ensure compliance and provide staff or volunteers to ensure public compliance.

15- Medical Precautions:

A) Medical Station:
The Medical Station and First Aid Room will follow the principles set in the present OCA COVID-19 Guidelines.
All procedures must comply with the local Public Health Authority regulations.

B) Doping Control Station:
The Doping Control Station Room will follow the principles set in the present OCA COVID-19 Guidelines.
The doping control procedures will be defined in compliance with WADA COVID-19 Guidelines. WADA has updated its COVID-19 testing guidance for Anti-Doping Organizations, outlining anti-doping procedures (testing) during COVID-19. It can be found on WADA’s website.
All doping control officers and volunteers must respect all anti-COVID-19 precautions and wear masks and gloves.
16- Media, Press Centre, and Press Conference Room

Media accreditation shall be prepared in advance.
- The media representatives must complete the same health screening process as other accredited groups.
- Masks/mouth-nose face protection must always be worn in the Press Centre, Press Conference Room, Photo Positions and Mixed Zone.
- Accredited media representatives must be limited in numbers, taking into account physical distancing and the available space.
- The Media/Press Centre and Press Conference Room must be prepared with at least 1.5 Meters between the seats and neighboring rows of seats.

No Press Conference should be organized in principle. But if a Press Conference is organized then the following rules shall be applied:
- A maximum number of Participants must be limited by the size of the Press Conference space, under the guidance of the OC COVID-19 Officer. A maximum of 2 representatives will be seated at the head table respecting the regulations of physical distancing.
- No drinks or snacks will be provided for speakers.
- No microphones will be provided for media representatives
- Each athlete should have his/her own microphone
- The first line of media should be at least 4 m distant from the head table, whilst the allocation of the seats for the media should respect the rules of physical distancing.
- The table, the chairs and the microphones should be disinfected after the first team representatives leave the room.

• Mixed Zone

A clear delineation must be drawn on the floor between the backdrop and press barrier, so that athletes always stay at least 1.5 meters away from media representatives. Different microphones must be used, one for the journalist and one for the athlete. The Athlete’s microphone shall be cleaned and sanitized after each interview. The same principle must apply to one-on-one interviews. Clear signage indicating the obligation to wear mask/mouth-nose face protection must be placed at the entrance of the Mixed Zone.

This area should be supervised by the OCA Press Delegate who is familiar with the OCA COVID-19 Guidelines, to ensure that all procedures are respected.
Photographers:
The Host OC should allocate marked-out photo places in compliance with physical distancing measures. A maximum number of photographers should be set for each area, allowing for physical distancing measures.

TV Production:
The TV partners of the Host OC are responsible for the TV production and their staff. It is the TV Production’s responsibility to ensure that the Code of Conduct regulations are respected, as well as all local COVID-19 guidelines. All TV production staff will need to follow the same guidelines as for other media, including temperature checks at entrance, completion of COVID-19 information form. All TV personnel operating inside the venue must wear a mask at all times. TV personnel operating in the zone must ensure that they always remain at least 1.5m away from all players and officials, except where this is unavoidable and accidental during the games.

17- Ceremonies:

A) Opening/Closing Ceremonies:
Limited Opening and Closing ceremonies can be held if all COVID-19 infection control requirements and procedures are respected. Such options must be agreed upon between the hosting OC Member and the OCA Office on a case by case basis.

B) Award Ceremony:
- Award ceremonies shall respect the physical distancing of 1.5 meters.
- Athletes must wear a mask.
- No hand shaking or hugs are permitted between any ceremonies Participants (e.g. medalists, award presenters).
- Medals are presented on a plate by the OCA Representative or another delegate. The athlete must put the medal around his/her neck by himself/herself.
- Flower presentations are not recommended.
- A reduced number of people shall participate in Award Ceremonies.
- Athletes shall stay on their individual podium platform until the ceremony is over.
- All arrangements for award ceremonies and podium set-up must be discussed and approved by the OCA Delegates. The OCA Medical & Doping Control Delegate along with the host OC COVID-19 Officer should approve the ceremonies from a health and safety perspective.
18- Volunteers:
Volunteers must undergo the same medical screening and accreditation procedure as Teams, Officials and Media. The OC shall arrange a separate distribution for the volunteers’ accreditation cards and shall not use the official accreditation station during the main arrival days for Competition Participants. The required documents (e.g. medical health questionnaire, waiver, etc.) must be completed by each volunteer.
At the venue, volunteers must always wear a mask / face-nose protection and must be briefed on all hygienic measures by the OC.
All volunteers who come into direct contact with athletes or officials must undergo the same COVID-19 testing before the event. Their resulting status must be checked by the OC COVID-19 Officer.

19- Management of Suspected and Confirmed Covid-19 Cases During the Event:
The LOC must define an action plan in collaboration with the local public health authority for submission to OCA 6 months prior to the Games.
The OC COVID-19 Chief Game Officer (CGO) must have direct contact with public health authorities to facilitate access to medical care and testing as required.
Where a specific NOC Delegation has ONE confirmed positive COVID-19 case in an accredited athlete or official, that delegation is permitted to continue in the Game. The infected individual will be isolated and managed in accordance with local health regulations.
However, if there is more than one confirmed positive COVID-19 case with any single team delegation of NOC it may be assumed that there has been transmission of the virus and that team and any officials within that team must be immediately isolated and jointly decided between LOC and OCA for withdraw for the respective competition.
Subsequent contact tracing to include all the others NOC delegation will be at the discretion of the LOC COVID-19 Chief Game Officer (CGO).
The LOC and OCA will work on a common communication strategy for the situation of a positive COVID-19 case. Discretion and respect for the individual privacy must remain a priority. However, the risk to remaining Competition Participants must also be taken into account.
Instructions for athletes, sport staff or any staff involved in the Game placed under isolation:

- Stay at hotel or athlete's village dedicated isolation facility except to get medical care: You should restrict activities outside your location, except for seeking urgent medical care. Do not go to public areas. Do not use public transportation.
- Separate yourself from other people: you should stay in a well-ventilated room separate from other people. Limit unnecessary movement outside the room and in case needed, use a face mask when people come close to you e.g. caring family member.
- If you cannot wear a surgical mask, the people who are close to you should wear one.
- Cover your coughs and sneezes: Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your flexed elbow when you cough or sneeze. Throw away used tissues in a closed bin and immediately wash your hands with soap and water or disinfect with alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Clean your hands: Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, clean your hands with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol, covering all surfaces of your hands and rubbing them together until they feel dry.
- Soap and water should be used preferentially if hands are visibly dirty. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid sharing household items: You should not share your used dishes, drinking glasses, cups, eating utensils, towels, bedding, or other items with other people. It’s recommended to use disposable items as much as possible.
- Monitor your symptoms: Seek prompt medical attention if you develop any symptoms such as fever, cough, loss of taste and smell, sore throat, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing.
- Do not allow visitors: Do not invite or allow visitors and try to speak to the person over the phone.
- Assistance for person on isolation:
  * Assistance with communication with the respective NOC family members outside the isolation facility.
  * If possible, access to the internet, news and entertainment.
  * If an athlete, provide treadmill instrument to maintain mild to moderate exercise while in isolation
  * Psychosocial support; and Special considerations for older individuals and individuals with co-morbid conditions, due to their increased risk for severe COVID-19 disease.

Discontinuing isolation:
The decision to discontinue isolation precautions will be undertaken by the COVID-19 Chief Game Officer on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with other healthcare providers if needed. However, typically isolation can be discontinued after 10 days from the onset of symptoms and at least 5 days
since the disappearance of symptoms, with PCR test reactive or negative on day 8 or 9 from the
date of the positive test.

20- Communication to Participants:

It is important that these Guidelines are communicated to all accredited persons and spectators who
may attend an OCA Event. It could be communicated clearly to all Participants and spectators in
advance through the NOC social media, websites.

It is strongly recommended that information regarding COVID-19 status in the specific area and
country of the Competition is included in the Competition Information Package and distributed 14
days before the event.

At the same time it should be the responsibility of the Organizing Committee to remind all intending
Participants of COVID-19 health matters.

Delegated OC COVID-19 Officer, COVID-19 Chief Game Officer to prepare and respond to any
relevant questions at any time before, during and after the Event.

21- Regulatory Provisions:

Any of the following shall be considered a Violation giving rise to emergency measures:
* Any failure to comply with requirements from the OCA COVID-19 Guidelines; and/or
* Any failure to comply with instructions given by the OC COVID-19 Chief Game Officer

Any Violation must be reported without delay to the LOC COVID-19 Chief Game Officer who will
refer the case to the Management Committee of the Game, which is composed by LOC and OCA,
if he/she is comfortably satisfied that a Violation has occurred. The Management Committee of the
Game is defined according to the OCA Rules.
The Management Committee of the Game shall then hear the Participant against who a Violation
is alleged (if time allows), and eventually the team of (the) Participant(s) if emergency measures
are envisaged against it, and impose emergency measures if it is comfortably satisfied that the
Participant has committed a Violation.
The emergency measures imposed by the Management Committee of the Game shall be selected
from the list below, depending on the totality of the circumstances, including the seriousness of the
Violation, the threat it poses to the health of other Participants and whether this is the first or a
repeated Violation of the Participant or within the team of the Participant:
- a reprimand; and/or
- temporary exclusion of the participant from the event for a definite period of time or until he/she has returned a negative PCR test or Antigen test; and/or
- exclusion of the participant from the event; and/or
- Exclusion of the team of the participant from the Event (only for serious and/or repeated Violations within the team).

Any obstruction of the identification of a Violation, including delaying a report to the LOC COVID-19 Chief Game Officer or attempting to conceal a Violation shall be considered as aggravating circumstances increasing the severity of the emergency measures to be taken. These emergency measures are not subject to appeal.

Any member of the Management Committee who is from the same nationality as the Participant against who a Violation is alleged will be excluded from the decision process.

In addition to the emergency measures above imposed by the Management Committee of the Game, a Violation might lead to disciplinary proceedings and sanctions pursuant to OCA Rules. For the sake of clarity, the sanctioning process as defined under the OCA COVID-19 Guidelines.

Furthermore, as described in the Guidelines, the ineligibility of Participants and teams who have returned positive tests is automatic and is not subject to a decision from the Management Committee of the Event.
22- **Declaration of Responsibility:**
Each accredited person and participant must complete and sign the following Declaration of Responsibility prior to participation in the Event.

I declare,

1. That I have full knowledge and awareness that the practice of the sport both in trainings and in competitions implies a risk of infection of COVID-19 and which I am aware of and accept.
2. That I do not present symptoms of the SARS-CoV-2 Coronavirus (fever greater than or equal to 37.8 degrees, cough, general malaise, feeling of shortness of breath, loss of taste, headache, fatigue, neck pain, muscle pain, vomiting, diarrhea) or any other typical symptoms of the infections.
3. That I have not been tested positive or had close contact with any person(s) with possible or confirmed symptoms of COVID-19 in the last 14 days prior to the date of signing this document.
4. That I have read the safety protocols, the information of hygiene prevention and the safety measures of COVID-19 established by the organizer of the Event and I agree to comply with them in all manners.
5. That I am responsible for my behavior according to the Guidelines during the entire Event including the preparation period and the travel to the Event.
6. That I am aware of and accept that non-compliance with the rules of COVID-19 (especially the non-declaration of having tested positive or not having declared the fact of having had a close relationship with people with symptoms) implies a very serious infraction of the disciplinary code that can lead to a sanction of exclusion from the competition and the loss of the sports license for a period to be decided by OCA.
7. That I promise to inform the Organizer and the respective OCA official(s) or the delegation’s COVID-19 Medical Coordinator (CMC) about any symptoms that are compatible with COVID-19 or about the fact of having tested positive or the existence of any presumed or confirmed case of COVID-19 in the family or close environment and I promise to keep the CMC promptly informed about their evolution. This information will be treated confidentially and for the sole purpose of being able to adopt the necessary measures to prevent the contagion and spread of the virus.
8. That I am aware of and accept that the organizer of the Event has registered all the Participants in order to be able to have traceability in case of a positive test result or positive symptoms among any of the Participants or team(s) who have had close contact during the Event.

**Participant Family Name:**

**National Olympic Committee:**

**Participant Given Name:**

**Sport Discipline:**

**Function:**

**Date:**
By completing this document, the signature grants the consent for OCA/Organizer to process with all data only with strict medical and preventive point of view.

At the same time, and by signing this document, I declare to know the specific protection and hygiene measures established in the Protocol of the Event.

To be in compliance with the aforementioned rules is an individual responsibility of each of the Participants and of the NOC/ Federation or entity that organizes the Event, without there being any responsibility on the part of OCA in case of infection(s) that occurs in relation with the Event.

Any failure to comply with requirements from the OCA COVID-19 Guidelines, and/or any failure to comply with instructions given by the OC COVID-19 Officer is a Violation giving rise to emergency measures ranging from a reprimand to exclusion of the Participant and/or of his team from the Event.

In addition, Violations might be subject to disciplinary proceedings and sanctions pursuant to OCA Rules.
23- Information about Vaccination:

THE COVID-19 VACCINATION

IS SAFE THROUGH STRICT CONTROL & TESTING

STIMULATES THE IMMUNE SYSTEM TO PRODUCE ANTIBODIES

KEEPS THE IMMUNE SYSTEM PRIMED FOR FUTURE EXPOSURE

PREVENTS DISEASE AND REDUCES THE SPREAD OF INFECTION

OCA Sport Medicine Committee