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# FIS Covid-19 World Cup Risk Management and Testing Protocol

## Introduction

The FIS Covid-19 World Cup Risk Management and Testing Protocol defines the procedures, requirements, roles and responsibilities for the persons who are an integral part of carrying out FIS World Cup events to take measures to the best extent possible to minimise any risk of Covid-19. This protocol is a lively document and might be subject to updating as scientific knowledge and best practices are developing.

National Health Regulations are paramount. The FIS Protocol has been established to support the measures defined in the respective nations in order to provide guidance for implementing consistent standards and procedures in all countries staging FIS World Cup events.

The respective FIS World Cup Event Health Regulations for each Organiser/Event established in accordance with the respective national health regulations will be published on the FIS website with the overall event and programme information for the participants to check in advance of travelling.

There are four population groups who are subject to compulsory adherence to this protocol who are closely interacting in the staging of FIS World Cup Events:

1. Athletes, Team Support Staff, Equipment Service
2. FIS Officials
3. Accredited Groups: Broadcasters, Rights Holders, Sponsors and Partners, Event Management, Timing & Data Service, Suppliers, Event Service Teams, etc.
4. Local Organising Committee: Officials, Personnel, Workforce, Volunteers

Targeted intelligent test protocols will be defined for each population group.

## **Responsibility and Discipline of all Persons**

In order to ensure the FIS World Cup and an event is not placed at risk from a Covid-19 outbreak and consequences, it is the responsibility of every person to adhere to this policy, follow all procedures and instructions and behave in a disciplined manner at all times.

A breach of discipline protocol will lead to withdrawal of accreditation, such as going to locations with others present that are not subject to the protocol, i.e. bars, hotspots during the Event.

## **Testing prior to arrival at Event / Venue, Whereabouts & Health Questionnaire**

Every person who wishes to access a FIS Event must have and present a negative Covid-19 RT-PCR Test (saliva/swab test) result carried out prior to arrival or have a valid antibody positive serological blood test before arrival at the Event for the first time, have its Whereabouts for the last 14 days recorded and complete a Health Questionnaire (see annex 1), unless the person/group can prove having a similar own prevention set-up plan/programme that had been checked by FIS and fulfils similar requirements (incl PCR testing) in place.

A standard questionnaire will be permanently available on the FIS website (or available through the FIS Passport application) for easy updating to present at every event. There may also be national questionnaire requirements at the Event with other or additional questions.

## **Testing on arrival and during the Event (training and competition days)**

It is expected that all population groups and persons make their own arrangements to have an up-to-date RT-PCR test result on arrival at the Event, to facilitate their access and accreditation.

For the following persons arriving at the Event without a valid test result, they will not be permitted access and must conduct such a test and obtain the result before the Organiser issues accreditation or allows access to the venue:

1. Persons who have been in “Red Countries” (as defined by the current valid list of countries in the hosting nation) within the previous 14 days
2. Persons who answer “Yes” to any of the questions in the FIS “Health Questionnaire”
3. RT-PCR testing will otherwise be subject to the regulations of the national health authorities which are decisive.

For persons returning to countries where a negative RT-PCR is mandatory for entry the testing shall be easily accessible.

## **Local Contact Tracing applications**

In case of the availability of a national CONTACT tracing app, the Organiser will inform and assist the person to download the local tracking app on to the person’s mobile device and to activate it.

## **Results Recording and Whereabouts Monitoring/Tracking**

Testing dates, results as well as Whereabouts will be self-recorded by the person in the “Covid-19 FIS Passport”.

The data will be stored in the FIS centralised platform that conforms to GDPR personal data privacy regulations. It will be used by the FIS Covid-19 Expert to monitor and determine any further actions which may arise in the event of a positive case.

The data will be available to provide to the next and future Organisers under GDPR regulations to facilitate approvals from their national health authorities to carry out the event by presenting evidence of the measures undertaken to ensure the FIS World Cup has implemented best practice measures that there will be no Covid-19 transmitted.

### **Test Execution**

RT-PCR testing may be conducted on three types of specimen: mouth/nose swab or saliva. The mouth/nose swab is currently the most widespread method of collection. This test must be collected from a trained health care professional and analysed by a Covid-19 swab certified laboratory.

Saliva will be collected from the mouth by the athlete/person themselves spitting into a small collection bottle, and shipped to a Covid-19 saliva certified laboratory.

### Serological (blood) testing

Serological testing for antibodies (Roche or Abbott) determines if a person has antibodies and is therefore most probably immune for a period of time. Therefore, it is recommended that a positive antibodies test will remove the requirement to undergo PCR testing for 8 weeks within the FIS Immunity Passport. (blood samples of athletes collected during a doping control and who have given consent to, will be analysed for antibodies on FIS costs and will receive their result from FIS).

If members of the remaining three population groups: (FIS Officials, Accredited Groups and LOCs), can likewise show a valid antibody positive serological blood test, these members shall also be declared immune for a period of time. A follow-up serological test shall take place every 8 weeks.

### Costs for Testing

Costs for own and on-site RT-PCR testing arranged by the Organiser and national health authorities are carried by the person or responsible group (i.e. Teams, FIS, Organiser for workforce, Stakeholders as groups and/or individual persons i.e. journalists, etc.)

Note: FIS can arrange the organisation of RT-PCR testing for Organisers through its centrally managed set-up facilitated by SkiData with advance notice. The arrangements and costs involved will be handled bilaterally between the Organiser and SkiData. For world-wide at home testing contacts can also be provided.

### **Covid-19 Positive Sample**

A positive result will automatically be reported to the national authorities and national procedures for isolation will be applied in accordance with the national regulations:

### Event Task Force action

- The FIS Event Task Force which consists of one senior management representative from FIS, the LOC and NSA and the LOC Health Coordinator representing the national health authorities to instruct the person of their obligations. In accordance with the national authorities' procedures, this will require immediate isolation and self-quarantine and declaration of contact persons during e.g. the past 72 hours (as defined locally). All persons in current contact with the positive test carrier must undertake a PCR test and isolate/self-quarantine until their result is received.

- Communication of the positive test and consequences, notably in the case of an athlete, e.g. non-eligibility to compete for a defined number of day/s will be communicated in accordance with the FIS Covid-19 Communications Policy (annex 2).

### Support of FIS

FIS expertise is permanently available to the Local Organising Committee, as well as all other groups and persons in regard specifically to the FIS World Cup Risk Management Covid-19 Testing Protocol through the FIS Covid-19 Expert, Rasmus Damsgaard. For other Covid-19 medical and health-related matters the members of the FIS Medical Committee Covid-19 Project Group are at disposal. For non-specific matters other persons will manage the question including the FIS Competition Management, Secretary General and a network of expertise in a wide range of areas.

### Annex 1 - Health Questionnaire

	NO	YES
Have you had any cold symptoms (cough, runny nose, sore throat, difficult breathing, loss of taste or smell) during the last 14 days?		
Have you had any of the following symptoms during the last 14 days: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fever</li> <li>- Chest pain</li> <li>- Headache</li> <li>- Nausea/vomiting</li> <li>- Diarrhea</li> </ul>		
Have you been in contact with someone with a proven infection with Covid-19?		
Have you been in quarantine during the last 14 days?		
Have you tested positive to the PCR (Polymerase chain reaction) test during the last 14 days?		

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

If there is evidence of an acute infection you will be provided with a mask, the medical personnel are equipped and isolation will be required. The local public health authority will be notified, and their protocols will be followed. An accreditation will not be issued until you have been cleared by the local public health authority. Athletes and accredited persons should be reassured that declaring travel from high risk area will not preclude participation, but that they should expect to be more closely monitored.

*The personal information provided is treated strictly confidentially by the Local Organising Committee and FIS. It will only be used for the purpose of assessing whether the applicant can be granted or maintain accreditation in view of the COVID-19 outbreak. Local and global public health requirements will determine the length of time the data is retained.*

## **Annex 2 - FIS Covid-19 Communications Policy**

### FIS World Cup Communications flow for a Covid-19 positive test

Should an individual directly involved with any FIS World Cup competition test positive for Covid-19, the following procedures will be implemented to assure the communication flow.

This applies to all stakeholders: team support personnel, equipment technicians, broadcasters and rights holders, event service support, etc.

Upon receipt of a positive test, the team/individual shall immediately inform the FIS contact person on site (Race/Contest Director). The Race Director will inform the FIS Event Task Force (one representative: FIS, LOC, NSA and the LOC Health Coordinator, FIS C-19 Expert) of the situation, who will assess the next steps necessary.

No external communication may be made by the team/individual until the FIS Event Task Force has assessed the circumstances.

Once the assessment is made, official information firstly to the designated contact for the positive case to inform about the communication flow. The first external information will be made through the FIS Official Communication system. It will not contain names of individuals involved, or details. It is meant strictly to inform that a person has tested positive and any necessary next steps involved.

Should timing be appropriate and all parties agree, the information can also be communicated by the FIS Race Director at the Team Captains Meeting to facilitate additional communication to the key stakeholder group, namely the athletes. Following any announcement at a TCM, the FIS Official Communication will still be sent and if cleared information about the person involved if this is cleared.

At this time, the teams/individuals may also put out information to the media with more detail about the positive case, if desired.

Following the Official Communication, FIS will only answer media inquiries that pertain directly the competition and any impact on the calendar. All health and team-related questions will be referred to the team/individual/group involved.

*Please note these guidelines refer only to the external communication of a positive test. Informing the local authorities should follow the government guidelines in place at the time and in the region.*

### Communication flow due of change to the calendar due to Covid-19

Should there be a change to the calendar due to Covid-19 (cancellation, change of date, change of venue, etc.) this will be communicated via the FIS Official Communication system for the given discipline once the change has been confirmed by the FIS Race Director.

Local Organising Committees, National Ski Associations and any other involved stakeholders should not make any public statements about any calendar changes until the FIS Official Communication has been sent.