



MEDICAL CLEARANCE PROTOCOL



As of 10th of January 2022

(changes are marked with two lines on the right side)

This document presents the medical clearance protocol designed for the purpose of the World Athletics Indoor Championships 2022. These rules have been developed based on the characteristics of the event and its specific risk. By implementing this protocol, we aim at reducing the risk of SARS-CoV-2 transmission as much as possible. It is important to remember that a certain degree of risk will always remain, as transmission risk can be minimized but cannot be fully eliminated. For these rules to be effective it is fundamental that participants comply to them and respect general public health recommendations for the entire duration of their stay in the hosting country. Health and safety can only be ensured if all contribute to their care.

The sanitary procedures described in this document, are subject to change according to the local and global COVID-19 pandemic situation.

1. General rules and principles

All individuals taking part to World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 2022 must comply with this Protocol which is based on the [World Athletics Covid-19 Protection Procedures](#) that can be found on the World Athletics website. Any breach of these procedures may result in voiding the accreditation and cancelling the participation to the events.

To be able to host sport events during the actual pandemic situation, World Athletics, in agreement with the organizers and the local government, have decided to design and implement this set of procedures.

- Wearing an FFP-2 mask covering the mouth and the nose is mandatory in all public areas at all time, except for these two situations:
 - While consuming food or beverages.
 - For athletes only: in training areas, in the warm-up area before taking part to the competition and once on the field of play (mask will have to be worn during transfers between these areas and the hotel).
- The use of disposable FFP-2 type masks is mandatory, other types of masks will not be accepted in official hotels and competition venues. Masks should be disposed on a regular basis according to its characteristics.

Any interaction, which constitute a significant risk of virus transmission, with an individual who is not accredited or directly involved in the organization of the event is prohibited at all times.

2. COVID-19 Liaison Officer (CLO)

Each Member Federation participating in World Athletics Indoor Championships Belgrade 2022 must appoint one Team Covid-19 Liaison Officer (CLO) that will travel to Belgrade with their team and be available throughout the competition for all COVID-19 related matters. Member Federations must communicate their CLO details (including mobile phone number operating in

Serbia and email address) on the Event Entry System. All Member Federations will receive a document explaining the role and duties of the CLO.

The CLO responsibilities are:

- Ensure all National Team members are fully informed of the contents of and comply with the World Athletics Health and Safety (COVID-19) Protocols.
- Complete the documents requested by the Serbian Government for immigration and from World Athletics for the purpose of participating in the competition.
- Ensure all Member Federation Team members implement the requirements prior to the departure.
- Support the LOC and World Athletics Medical Teams, in the case of a positive case, to identify people who have been in close contact and to assist contacting them.
- Be the main contact person for all COVID-19 related matters and be responsible for failure to comply with World Athletics Health and Safety (COVID-19) protocol.
- Remain on site if an athlete(s) (especially if under 18 years) is (are) tested positive and must undergo isolation and/or medical treatment (including hospitalisation).

3. Medical Clearance Protocol

All Team members taking part to the World Athletics Indoor Championships will have to comply with the Medical Clearance Protocol.

The Medical Clearance Protocol contains three stages, that apply to each member of the Team based on their vaccination status. Failure to comply with the stages of the Medical Clearance Protocol will prevent the person from accreditation and access to any official venue and/or taking part to any competition-related activity.

3.1 STAGE 1 – Before Travelling (all participants)

Before the event a separate e-mail will be sent to each participant's personal e-mail address to collect the following information:

- Online COVID-19 symptoms self-report form
- Online medical information release agreement
- Upload the result of a negative SARS-CoV-2 naso/oropharyngeal Real Time Polymerase Chain Reaction, (RT-PCR) swab test in English, **performed in the 48 hours prior to arrival (this is the date and hour of issue of the certificate that counts)**. If there is a delay in entering the Republic of Serbia, which cannot be attributed to the passenger's fault, but is a consequence of an external event that could not have been foreseen, avoided or eliminated – delay of the flight, the departure of buses, trains, etc, then the test cannot

be older than 72 hours when entering the Republic of Serbia. The cost of this test is under the individual's responsibility.

- If available, upload the vaccination certificate and provide information on date of vaccination and type.
- Inform on the need for a RT-PCR test to travel back to home country.

Participants are strongly encouraged to check with their own Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the travelling airline company, if the rules for entering Serbia have changed or if specific conditions apply when travelling from and back to their country (<https://www.mfa.gov.rs/en/citizens/travel-serbia/covid-19-entry-requirements>).

Results from blood serological or antigenic tests will **NOT** be accepted as a part of the Medical Clearance Protocol. The RT-PCR test result must be uploaded to this specific platform in pdf format.

If there is any issue, participants will be contacted by the World Athletics Health & Science Team on the personal email address provided.

3.2 STAGE 2 – Entering Serbia (all participants)

Everyone must comply with travel regulations in force at the time of the journey and must have enough masks and hand sanitizers for the entire journey duration. Under standard condition a surgical mask should be changed every 4 to 5 hours to keep its protective effect optimal. The purchase of personal protective equipment for travelling purpose is under the responsibility of each subject.

All travellers are strongly encouraged to be vaccinated against COVID-19, to reduce the spread of the virus and the need for medical care in case of infection.

To collect the event's accreditation badge, all participants need to have completed the World Athletics Championship Health and Safety online process STAGE 1 and fulfilled the requirements set in the specific categories defined in STAGE 2.

Based on their vaccination status and upon checking the vaccination certificate, international participants will follow different Medical Clearance Protocols:

3.2.1 Vaccinated participants

If you are vaccinated with any of the following vaccine, there is no need to take a test upon arrival:

- Pfizer BioNTech,
- Oxford Astrazeneca,
- Covishield AstraZeneca,
- Moderna,
- a single dose of Johnson & Johnson (Janssen).

Vaccinated participants, after arrival, will be transferred to their respective accommodation to check-in and collect their accreditation badge at the Team Accreditation Centre

Passengers with a COVID-19 vaccination (list above) certificate must demonstrate that they were fully vaccinated at least 14 days before arrival.

Individuals vaccinated with other type of vaccines (not listed above) will have to undergo the same protocol as the non-vaccinated participants.

3.2.2 Non-vaccinated participants

Non-vaccinated individuals after arrival will be transferred to a Main Testing Center, where they will be tested with naso/oropharyngeal swab LAMP test to detect SARS-CoV-2. It is **strongly recommended to avoid drinking, eating, smoking or brushing teeth for at least 30 minutes before taking the test, as this might cause inconclusive results thus requiring a repetition.**

After having been tested, participants will be transferred to their respective accommodation and will be able to collect their accreditation badges at the Team Accreditation Centre.

Participants will be informed about the test's results only in case of positivity or inconclusive results, in which case the sample will need to be recollected and the test repeated.

In case of positive result, the subject will need to remain in her/his bedroom, avoiding any contact with other participants. LOC and World Athletics Medical teams will immediately contact the person and her/his CLO, organise a second confirmatory test with RT-PCR and inform of the next steps. The test results will be available in approximately 8 hours.

The cost of the test to detect SARS-CoV-2 genetic material (RT-PCR) onsite will be covered by the LOC. This also includes costs related to confirmatory RT-PCR test (if needed).

A specific team to collect samples for confirmatory RT-PCR test will be available 24h. During day hours the team will be located at the Main Testing Center.

3.3 STAGE 3 - Re-testing for non-vaccinated subjects (non-vaccinated only)

All non-vaccinated subjects will be re-tested with LAMP to detect SARS-CoV-2 genetic material every 48 hours.

Re-testing will be organized every 48 hours in specific time windows, starting from the first test performed upon arrival. Sample collection scheduling will be planned according to the category's schedule and, possibly, in the evening in order to provide results by the following morning. Participants will be informed about the test's results only in case of positivity or inconclusive results, in which case the sample will need to be recollected and the test repeated.

LAMP tests will be performed either on saliva or through naso/oropharyngeal swab. It is strongly recommended to avoid drinking, eating, smoking or brushing teeth for at least 30 minutes before taking the test, as this might cause false positive or inconclusive results.

Re-testing will be organized in specific official hotels in a dedicated sample collection room (to be announced closer to the event) and in the Indoor Arena. Signs and directions will be placed in all hotel to inform participants of the room location and operating hours.

The sample collection at hotels will be performed on the evening (time TBD) or until all scheduled participants have been tested.

3.4 STAGE 4 - Leaving Serbia

Participants who need a negative RT-PCR test to re-enter their home country, must inform World Athletics when providing information through the Health and Safety system (see STAGE 1), before they travel to Serbia.

Based on the departure date, participants will be able to do a RT-PCR test in Crowne Plaza Hotel or at the Main Testing Centre.

Collection of samples for RT-PCR will start on Friday 18th of March at 15:00 and be available until 20:00. Same collection hours will be observed on Saturday 19th of March for those leaving on Monday 21st of March.

All COVID-19 positive cases occurring within ten days following the end of the event should be notified to the World Athletics Medical Delegate. This information will be dealt confidentially and will be used only for both epidemiological and contact tracing purposes.

3.5 COVID-19 positive tests results management while in the Republic of Serbia

In case of COVID-19 positive test result during the stay in Serbia the person will be isolated in dedicated rooms on restricted access floors, in the same hotel. The person must avoid any contact with others.

According to the Serbian Public Health Authority, each person who is tested and confirmed positive by RT-PCR for COVID-19 while staying in Serbia, has to be isolated for a period of at least 14 days. The place where the positive case will be isolated is the hotel where the person is accommodated at the moment of diagnosis. The costs for the extended staying due to isolation or quarantine are to be covered by the participants or the sending organization. If symptoms-free for a period of 14 days, the person will be released from isolation, without performing an additional RT-PCR test.

All subjects who had prolonged and close contact with an infected person (e.g. roommate, contact without mask and/or no respect of social distancing) must be isolated as described above. Determination of the “contact persons” will be done by both the Local Sanitary Authorities and the World Athletics Medical Delegate, based on the information provided by the positive case.

Close contacts will be traced, LAMP tested every 24 hours and required to report potential symptoms every 24 hours to the LOC Medical Director or World Athletics Medical Delegate. The negative roommate of a positive contact will not share the room with anyone else for the duration of stay.

The cost of the test to detect SARS-CoV-2 genetic material (RT-PCR) onsite will be covered by the LOC. This also includes costs related to confirmatory RT-PCR test (if needed).

A specific team to collect samples for confirmatory RT-PCR test will be available 24h.

4. Financial liability

The Medical Clearance Protocol Stage 1 is under the full responsibility of participants or Member Federation.

The Medical Clearance Protocol Stage 2 is under the shared responsibility of the LOC and World Athletics.

The Medical Clearance Protocol Stage 4 is organized by the LOC together with World Athletics, but sample collection and tests analysis will be done by an external laboratory, accredited by the National Public Health Authorities and certified by International Standard Quality Control bodies. Costs for these additional tests will be carried by the participant or Member Federation.

The test cost will be communicated at later stage and this must be paid on site by the Team Leader when settling the financial matters with LOC and World Athletics at the Administrative Office .

5. Data Protection

The personal information provided to World Athletics and the LOC in accordance to this protocol will be held and managed in accordance to the Medical Clearance Protocol Privacy Policy and/or Event Management System Privacy Policy. These privacy policies are available to participants at the time of registering on the accreditation system and on World Athletics website in the Health and Science Library section.

If you have any questions, please contact Mónica Gómez Fernández, Head of Team Services, at the following email address: monica.gomez-fernandez@worldathletics.org.