



WORLD ROWING UNDER 23 CHAMPIONSHIPS

7. – 11.7.2021

COVID-19 RESPONSE PLAN

Version 5. at 15.06.2021

1. INTRODUCTION

- **Give an overview of the current local situation in the city/country and the scope of this plan, where it applies, does not apply etc.**

Currently the Czech Republic is among countries with the decreasing numbers of people infected by Covid-19 in Europe. The situation is improving due to the long-term government restrictions (see below) and increased vaccination.

The OC confirmed on 5 May that the hospital capacity is not exhausted and that it is granted that any participant will be treated in the hospital if needed.

This version of Covid-19 Response plan outlines general regulations which may be modified according to up-to-date situational changes.

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT / PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDELINES

- **Include the relevant (latest) information or links to the local regulations on Covid-measures and/or travel restrictions.**

The current situation in the Czech Republic still requires movement restriction. More on <https://koronavirus.mzcr.cz/en/list-of-countries-according-to-the-level-of-risk/>

Overview of actual travel rules to the Czech Republic is here:

<https://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/coronavirus-information-of-moi.aspx>

Based on the exemption from the epidemic rules of the Ministry of Health, people entering the country will be allowed to “skip” the quarantine usually required upon entry.

- **What are the guidelines on staging of sport events in the host country?**

Exception from epidemic rules is granted by the Czech Ministry of Health based on the request from the National Sports Agency (Government Organization). NSA submitted the OC’s request for exemption, and it is approved by the Ministry of Health and valid until the end of the Championships.

3. CONTACT INFORMATION

OC Covid-19 Officer:

Bc. Tereza Škvorová

+420 733 647 330

skvorova@rowingracice.com

4. GENERAL MEASURES AT THE REGATTA VENUE

GENERAL MEASURES

- The sports facility hosting this event will be closed to the public. Access to the event area is allowed only to the accredited participants of the event.
- The OC will carry out frequent sanitization of any space used.
- All participants, officials and workforce must be equipped with a mask covering mouth and nose to be used at all times (except when on a boat/warm up machine and meals). Currently the use of FFP2 or KN95 masks is mandatory everywhere.

THE VENUE AREA WILL BE DIVIDED INTO SEVERAL PARTS:

- Athlete area
- Race area
- Accreditation
- Finish tower
- Victory ceremony area
- Media centre
- Information & transport centre

INFORMATION TO PARTICIPANTS

- There is an obligation of all teams, officials and workforce to stay at home/at the hotel if there is a fever (over 37.5 °C) or other symptoms of flu and call OC COVID-19 manager.
- During the event:
 - a) pay particular attention to surface hygiene
 - b) wearing of masks at all times except when on a boat/warm up machine and meals
 - c) maintain an interpersonal distance of at least 2 meters
 - d) avoid close contacts such as hugs or handshakes. The following rules apply to the entire area of the event and are valid from arrival at the venue until departure from the venue.

IN CASE OF COVID-19 SYMPTOMS OR BODY TEMPERATURE ABOVE 37.5°C

Any registered athlete or staff (from WR, National, Teams), press or officials who has any symptoms somehow related to COVID and/or temperatures above 37.5°C must contact the National Team's COVID Manager, who will further contact the OC COVID Manager. Such person will be immediately isolated.

- If increased body temperature (above 37.5°C) will be observed on the checkpoints (e.g. entrance to the venue, hotels, buses etc.), a person will be immediately isolated.
- The isolated individual will be immediately reported to the OC COVID-19 Manager, who informs the OC-doctor and the WR-doctor.
 - This is valid also for national OC staff who stay at home.
- Every such subject will immediately be subject to a COVID-19-rapid test.
 - Positive person will be reported to national health service and quarantined.
 - Persons with negative rapid tests are not assumed to be contagious in the next few hours but will be subject to a PCR test to further exclude infection.

Note: The OC will contract a specialized lab which can provide test results within 24 hours at the latest.

- OC-Doctor after consultation with WR-doctor decides on isolation depending on clinical situation and mitigation possibilities.
 - When positive cases occur, OC-doctor decides on future measures after consultation with WR-doctor (further measures on contact persons, mitigation procedures, ...). For this purpose, WR will establish an emergency team with members from OC and WR which will decide on all future measures related to the

regatta and communication. The emergency team will include the official epidemiologist.

According to Rule 48 of WR rules of racing, registered subjects or team officials who will not report suspicious issues related to infections / public health will be subject to decisions by WR Exec which may include revocation of accreditation for this and future WR events.

QUARANTINE

- Anyone tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 virus at any time is to be quarantined at their hotel or the apartments (organized by the OC).
- Quarantine period in Czech Republic is 14 days (currently).
- Persons can only leave quarantine if they are symptom free, and upon expiration of 14-day period.
- If a person is PCR negative, but was in close contact (please see the definition below) with a positive person, he/she/they will be quarantined as well and monitored for 14 days period.
- Additional measures can be required by local health authorities (epidemiological service) and will be applied on case-to-case basis.
- Strict security system will be applied. If somebody is positive/quarantined, accreditation card will be withdrawn.
- Direct and related expenses of the quarantine and additional PCR testing are to be paid by the athlete/staff's National Team. National Teams must have adequate health insurance that ensures coverage in the Czech Republic.
- A report for the COVID-19 persons in quarantine (infected or close contact) will have to be completed by the National Team COVID-19 Manager on a daily basis.
- In case of any symptom worsening, immediately contact OC COVID-19 Manager.
- The National Team Covid-19 Manager of each federation will contact Tereza Škvorová (skvorova@rowingracice.com) in such cases.
- **Close contact as per definition**

<https://covid.gov.cz/en/situations/infection-and-general-measures/contact-infected-person>

NATIONAL TEAM'S COVID-19 MANAGER

- Member Federations should appoint a National Team COVID-19 Manager where possible or designate the National Team Manager as their National Team COVID-19 Manager for this event.
 - This task can be performed by one responsible person from the National Team.
 - The task of the National Team's COVID-19 Manager is to coordinate and verify compliance of the provisions implemented in the protocol and the supplementary ones, referring to the venue within which the competition takes place.
 - Each Member Federation is responsible for exercising maximum care for its team members before, during and after the event.
 - Each team will be asked to form a team "bubble", meaning that members of that team must strictly remain in the company of only fellow team members from arrival to departure in Račice (this includes at the venue, in the official transport and all public areas of the official hotel).
- Members of each team bubble should have no or limited (only when necessary) contact with people not being part of their team bubble.
- All participants must follow the measures in the OC COVID-19 Response Plan at all times, including the wearing of appropriate masks at all times except in the boat or at meals, social distancing and regular disinfection among the other measures published by the OC.

5. ACCREDITATION & ACCESS TO THE EVENT

- All participants in the event, including athletes, coaches, professionals, World Rowing staff and volunteers must be accredited.
 - The accreditation card will have a participant's name, surname and national team clearly written.
- Each participant at the regatta will be required to complete a Pre-Event Health Questionnaire and Member Federations are obliged to sign a National Federation Consent Form accepting responsibility for their team members.
 - The forms will be sent out to Member Federations directly by the OC and must be completed and returned to the OC by email to skvorova@rowingracice.com.
 - The form must be signed and returned to skvorova@rowingracice.com
 - Those who do not submit the forms until the deadline, or who do not fulfil completely the forms, or who by the answers provided in the forms are under higher risk of the Covid-19 infection will not be able to get the accreditation card.
- To protect the health of all participants, anyone not adhering to the participation conditions will be immediately disqualified and excluded from the event, at the discretion of the World Rowing Executive Committee.
- All participants must show the accreditation pass with their name and surname on entry to the venue.
- If travel restrictions are in place for certain teams, they can request an exception by contacting the Czech Rowing Federation who will take steps to contact the appropriate authorities to find a solution for the problem.
 - Please, contact via email: johanek@veslo.cz
 - It is highly recommended to request the exception at the latest 8 weeks prior to the planned entry.
- Team leader has to present a declaration that all member of the team have a negative PCR test for the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus before entering Czech territory and at team registration. Another PCR test will be performed after arrival in Racice and additionally, participants who arrive before 3 July will be tested for negative Antigenic test. Both tests are at the participants own costs and more information on the exact procedure will be provided soon.
- The same rules apply for WR staff, WR Contractors and Service Providers
 - Individual originals of negative PCR test must be available in English language, and in Latin alphabet (Cyrillic script, Arabic or Chinese alphabet and similar will not be accepted)
 - PCR test must be available in printed form; it is to be collected and stored by team leader and presented upon request.
 - Persons who were vaccinated or already recovered from COVID-19 have to provide the same negative PCR test result.
- **All local OC staff, volunteers, suppliers must present negative PRC test not older than 72 hours after arrival**

6. COMPETITION AREAS

CONTROL COMMISSION:

- All people and staff at Control Commission must wear masks covering the mouth and nose.
- Everyone must maintain an interpersonal distance of 2 metres.
- GPS units and bow will be sanitized after use.

BOATING PONTOONS:

- The number of people at any given times on pontoons will be limited.
- The members of Control Commission and NTOs will manage the adherence of this rule.
- Only athletes and official workers will be able to access the pontoons.
 - It will not be allowed to leave personal items on the pontoons.

- The athletes will have to wear their mask until they have left the pontoon.

START AREA:

- Boat Holders
The boat holders enter the start bridge one after another in the order of their designated lanes, beginning with the most distant lane. Leaving the start bridge will be done in the reverse order. Wearing a mouth/nose protection is mandatory for all boat holders.
- Starter
In principle, wearing a mouth/nose protection is mandatory for the Starter as well. He/she might remove the mouth/nose protection while speaking to the rowers to enhance the communication and audibility
- Aligner's hut
The Judge at the Start and the Aligner must adhere to the minimum distance regulations within the Aligner's Hut.

TIMING SYSTEM

The desk for the time measurements and finish line will be separated to ensure minimum distance regulations

MOTOR BOATS

- The respective driver and Umpire must wear masks covering the mouth and nose.
- He/she might remove the mouth/nose protection while following a race to enhance the communication and audibility.

ON THE WATER FOR RACING/TRAINING/WARM UP:

Same rules apply for competition and training days.

7. TEAM / ATHLETE FACILITIES & SERVICES

Dedicated courses for one-way walking flow will be organized to avoid gatherings and limit as much as possible people crossing paths. The doors must remain open where possible to avoid frequent contact with the hands of different people and to allow for sufficient ventilation.

ACCREDITATION AND TEAM REGISTRATION CENTRE:

- Only one person in the accreditation centre at a time and only the designated National Team Manager is allowed to enter the centre.
- Plastic shields will be installed to separate OC volunteers from National Team Managers.
- Hand disinfection before entering the area
- Allow for sufficient ventilation
- The maximum number of persons permitted will be announced on a notice board according to the size of the room.

BOAT RACKING:

- Boat racking will be located on open space before the boathouse.
- Boat racks will be distributed by the OC and assigned according to nations

BOAT WEIGHING

- Only one crew will access the boat weighing-machine.

- Other crews waiting outside must keep social distancing while waiting to enter the boat weighing area.

BAG DROP

- The volunteers at the Bag Drop must wear both a mouth/nose protection as well as rubber gloves.
- Dedicated waiting spots are marked to ensure adherence to minimum distance regulations.
- Disinfecting the hands with the hand sanitizers provided by the OC is mandatory when entering and leaving the area.

ATHLETE WEIGHING:

- Limited crews at a time will be allowed in the waiting area.
 - Crews waiting outside must keep social distancing while waiting to enter the athletes weighing area.
 - Test scales will be regularly sanitized.
- Plastic shield will be installed between staff and athletes
- Hand disinfection before entering
- Allow for sufficient ventilation

TEAM INFORMATION CENTRE:

- Only one person at a time is allowed to enter the information centre.
- Plastic shield will be installed to separate OC volunteers from team managers.
- Hand disinfection before entering the area
- Allow for sufficient ventilation
- The maximum number of persons permitted will be announced on a notice board according to the size of the room

TOILETS:

- Frequent sanitization will be performed daily.

SHOWERS:

- Showering will be prohibited at the venue
- **If an athlete requires taking shower (e.g., in case of immediate departure), a Team Manager has to schedule a term a day before on the Info centre (the exact number of people and requested time).**

WARM UP ERGOMETERS:

- Ergometers will be positioned in a permanent shelter, allowing good ventilation, at least 2-3 m away from each other based on local government requirements.
- Each athlete must sanitize ergometer with products made available by the OC before and after use. OC volunteers will check if the sanitation is done properly.
 - The OC will provide sanitation with specialized operators and volunteers.
 - Teams who wish to bring their own ergometers will be able to; however, they must remain within the confinements of their own team tent and adjacent area to ensure social distancing from other teams.
 - Teams will be responsible for their own frequent sanitation of their machines.

TEAM TENTS AND ICE BATHS:

- Each tent will be positioned at a safe distance from each other and the position will be preassigned based on the number of athletes for each team.
 - **Ice Baths will not be allowed.**
- Each National federation must have its own tent or borrow it from the organizer for a fee.
 - Face masks are also compulsory in the team tents.
 - The minimum distance of 1.5 meters must be maintained between all persons.

- Each team is responsible for cleaning and disinfecting their own team tents during the regatta.

TEAM MESSAGE AREAS:

- The message area will be provided by OC.
 - The tables will be separated with partitions and dedicated space will be assigned where appropriate.
- Operators and athletes must also use a mask covering mouth and nose during treatments.
 - At the end of each session the team must sanitize the area. OC volunteers will check if the sanitation is done properly.

ATHLETE REST AREA:

- Athletes must always wear a mask covering mouth and nose and sanitize their hands with disinfectant made available and maintain a distance of at least 2 metres.

ATHLETES AND COACHES VIEWING AREA – Grandstands:

- There will be a dedicated area available. All attending the area must wear mask covering mouth and nose, sanitize hands very often, maintain a distance of at least 2 metres. The OC will control that the minimum distance will be respected.

CYCLING AROUND THE COURSE:

- Cycling around the the course is allowed for accredited team coaches only. They can cycle during training and racing on the island along the course opposite the Finish Tower. The road on the Finish Tower side will be used for TV and commentary. No cyclists permitted on the Finish Tower side. The permission to cycle on the course will be marked by sticker on accreditation card. OC recommends the coaches keep social distance of 2.0 m to other cyclists whenever possible and to keep masks on while cycling and following training or races. For those who will not bring their own bikes, OC offers a rent, when the handle bars will be disinfected each time after use.

8. MEDIA AND BROADCAST

MEDIA CENTRE:

- The layout will be revised to ensure social distancing.
- Opportunities for photos and interviews with athletes in a dedicated space within the boat park will be offered to the media on an appointment basis and will be co-ordinated through the World Rowing Communications Team
- Mask covering mouth and nose will be required to be worn at all times.

PHOTOGRAPHERS & PHOTO POSITIONS:

- The photographers' locations will remain the same but will be revised to ensure social distancing.
 - Marks will be placed in order to indicate where to stand to have adequate social distance and properly controlled by an OC volunteers.

MIX ZONE:

- Not applicable

VICTORY CEREMONY PROTOCOLS:

- During the victory ceremony all athletes must wear a mask covering mouth and nose.
- The awards ceremony will be in a limited area in which only the awarded athletes enter.
- Interpersonal distances of 2 meters must be respected.
- The awards will be made after each race and will be performed without contact.
- The awarded athlete will take the medal directly from the tray to carry it around their neck.
- No handshakes and hugs. The athletes photographed must be careful not to hug each other or have an attitude that is not respectful of distance and the safety of others.
- Photos may be taken by authorized and accredited photographers in compliance with the distancing rules.

9. WORLD ROWING (INCLUDING ITOs)

The duty roster is to be designed in such a way that the same persons are constantly deployed together.

The same general rules apply to the World Rowing group (including jury and contractors etc).

- In addition, they must register and sign the COVID-19 documentation and proceed with temperature measurement when accessing the venue.

Working space – limits/layout changes/measures:

- World Rowing Office
- Jury Meeting Rooms

FINISH TOWER

- Plastic shields will be installed between the commentators in the Finish Tower and other commentary positions so they can remove masks for commentating.

10. SPECTATORS, VIPS & HOSPITALITY

Currently, sporting events must be held without the presence of the public.

- VIP and hospitality can be organized and managed following the general rules for reducing the spread of the virus.
- It is still to be determined if hospitality will be arranged.

11. ORGANISING COMMITTEE STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS

- OC staff & volunteers must follow all the general rules for reducing the spread of the virus and sign the Pre-Event Health Questionnaire forms.
- They must always carry the accreditation card with them.
- All volunteers will be divided into specific areas and their task allocation would attempt to minimize interaction between them.

12. LOGISTICS, MEETINGS AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

VENUE CATERING

The catering for the athletes will be organized in the central catering tent

- The choice of two menus will be offered
- During meals in catering shed athletes must maintain an interpersonal distance of at least 1,5 meters.
- Conversation during the meals should be avoided in order to prevent the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus among athletes.

TEAM MANAGER MEETINGS:

- Team Manager Meetings will be held virtually unless otherwise indicated at the event.

CEREMONIES AND SOCIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Opening and Closing Ceremonies are currently not foreseen to be held.
- No Nations Dinner will be held.
- No Media or Jury outing will be held.

TRANSPORT:

- Wearing a mask covering mouth and nose is mandatory within transport buses.
- Transport to and from airports and to and from the venue will follow the same regulations and procedures and will be provided by the OC.
- Shuttle travel will be defined in advance and organized **by NF teams**, reducing the crossing of teams during the training days on the site.
- For each team a specific transport mean (bus, van, car) will be assigned and only this particular team will use it all the time.
- There will be an OC Transport Coordinator at each official hotel who will assure the compliance with requested schedule.
- The transfer from hotel–venue–hotel can be carried out by own buses/vans/cars which are reported to the OC and have a parking card for this event.
- **The schedule will be made available and the teams must strictly comply with the scheduled times for each group.**
 - **The schedules will be fixed for every day, and the teams must choose their departure and return times, with no possibility of alteration after scheduling.**
 - This procedure is mandatory and will serve to avoid the crossing of groups of participants and also to ensure low occupancy at Venue, avoiding agglomerations and contagion risks.

HOTEL:

- All teams must be accommodated at the OC's official hotels, so that the protocols are followed by all participants
- OC's official hotels will provide separate entrance, separate dining areas, in bigger hotels dedicated floors.
- For security reasons, accommodation will not be allowed outside the official hotels of the Organizing Committee, or reservations made directly at the hotels. This procedure aims to keep all participants within the same protocol and routine. Teams which book accommodation outside the OC will be required to provide negative PCR COVID test every 72 hours from the first testing in the Czech Republic.
- The OC will reserve additional rooms at the hotel in case isolation is needed for someone with a positive COVID-19 test or COVID-19 symptoms.
- Athletes from the same crew should remain in the same room. Room sharing by athletes who are not on the same boat should be avoided where possible.

13. REPORTING AND COMMUNICATIONS

PRE-EVENT:

- Done through use of the “Pre-Event Health Questionnaire”. This shall be submitted via email 2 days before arrival.

DURING EVENT:

- The OC COVID-19 Manager will take care of identifying a place in the venue dedicated to the isolation of those who present symptoms attributable to COVID-19 during the event and implement all procedures to ensure rapid health intervention

- In case of COVID-19 symptoms or body temperature above 37.5°C, a protocol (page 4) must be followed.

POST-EVENT:

- 14 day after the completion of the competition, National Teams will be required to complete an online survey about the event. Please inform OC and WR.

14. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR MEASURES

DOPING CONTROL PROCEDURES:

- Doping Control will be performed as scheduled, respecting all the health procedures required by proceeding 1 athlete at a time.
 - An additional waiting area will be organized outside the doping control room to ensure social distancing for waiting athletes.

COVID-19 PCR TESTS:

- Additional PCR re-testing (e. g., for purposes of departure) will be available upon request, but must be requested by National Team COVID-19 manager at 7 days in advance.
 - Costs of PCR testing (currently approx. 40 EUR) will be charged to the national teams.

TRAINING AT THE VENUE PRIOR TO THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE VENUE:

- It is possible to arrive in Racice from June 27, 2021