**2021 Slovenia Open**

**Powered by Lidl Slovenija**

27.-29.7.2021

**EVENT SPECIFIC HYGIENE GUIDELINES**

1. **INTRODUCTION**

The health of players, official delegation members, officials, event staff and everyone associated with the **2021 Slovenia Open powered by Lidl Slovenija** remains the top priority of Paravolley Europe and the Local Organising Committee (LOC).

This document has been drawn-up to provide information relating to the Event Specific Hygiene Guidelines and the protocols that need to be followed by all athletes & delegations’ members and to prevent to the possible extend any risk of infection from SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), in line with the requirements and recommendation of the Slovenian National Authorities and shall be fully respected and followed.

This is a dynamic document forming part of a tool for guidance. Throughout the pre-event, event and post-event phases, the following principles and concepts shall be applied and respected in the entire process to minimise the risks of spreading coronavirus:

* Communication is the best performance of the tasks and to identify the associated risks.
* Accurate and regular health screening and COVID-19 testing.
* Social distancing protocols organised and mandated throughout the event location to optimise the safety and well-being of all groups.
* Additional hygiene and sanitary precautionary measures to be delivered prior to, during, and upon completion of the event.
* In applicable scenarios, limitation of the number of essential individuals (such as staff and players’ support personnel) to allow for adequate distancing, as well as facilitating testing (as and if needed) and entrance processing.
* Increased strict fragmentation and partitioning of all back of house/requiring accreditation areas at the venue to reduce the risk of groups of people forming inside the same area and potential virus transmission.
* On-site Media & Digital content production with strict social distancing and hygiene regulations in place

**Athletes and Official delegation members need to follow the instructions of the Local Organising Committee and the Paravolley Europe Officials on site.**

**TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS (constantly updated):**

The information regarding travel restrictions to Slovenia is available in the following link:

When entering in Slovenia from abroad an online Pre-Travel-Clearance is mandatory. The Pre-Travel-Clearance form is available under [*https://www.gov.si/en/topics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/border-crossing/*](https://www.gov.si/en/topics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/border-crossing/)*)*. Using of the application in Slovenia is not mandatory.

In addition, a medical certificate or a valid negative test result in English language for SARS-CoV-2 must be available and presented to border authorities upon request (negative PCR test, **not older than 72 hours** (prior to approval) *(*[*https://www.gov.si/en/topics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/border-crossing/*](https://www.gov.si/en/topics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/border-crossing/)*).*

1. **GENERAL GUIDELINE** (Actions to be undertaken by all athletes and Delegation members):
* Carefully review the Event Specific Hygiene Guidelines, Event Waiver and provisions as communication through the Practical Info document.
* Carefully study the tournament Events Regulations document in regard to travel restrictions or other requirements set by the local Authorities.
* Use the maximum personal attention and as much as possible isolate for the period prior to travelling.
* Ensure they follow all hygiene precaution measures prior/during travel (wearing face masks, regular hand washing/disinfecting, and social distancing).
* **Have mandatory a printed valid certificate of negativity Covid-19 PCR Test issued by authorised health laboratories latest 72 hours prior to the Preliminary Inquiry you attend. An SMS message is not considered as a valid printed certificate.**
* Follow the guidelines of the organiser regarding the local transportation, Rapid Test performed.
* Travelling athletes and accredited delegation members need to provide full and clear information about their travel schedule through the respective forms and are requested to follow all protection measures (face masks, social distancing) while travelling.
* The same measures should be applied throughout your staying in Slovenia.
* Anyone participating in the event (athlete, team officials, official, volunteer etc.) should proactively and regularly check their health status (including taking their temperature and monitoring for any symptoms) before coming to the Venue.
* Athletes are requested to do not move around if you feel unwell, fatigue, cold symptoms, fever, coughing, and in more severe cases shortness of breath which are COVID 19 most common symptoms. In case you have any of the above symptoms please inform directly the Hygiene Officer and stay in your room.
* Avoid staying in closed areas, avoid gathering and crowding. Stay within the areas of the Hotel and Venue following the social distancing principles.
* Collaborate with the LOC in regular health screening and checking the body temperature
* Observe the rules of cough hygiene and regularly wash your hands with soap and warm water a use disinfectant
* If soap and water are not available, use hand disinfectant intended for that purpose. Use hand disinfectant that contains at least 70 % alcohol. Hand disinfectant is intended for external use only. Surface cleaners or disinfectants are not intended for cleaning or disinfecting your skin.
* Scrub both hands with soap, which should be applied to the entire surface of your hands (the palms and the backs of your hands, between the fingers and around the thumbs, under fingernails), for one minute.
* After coughing or sneezing, wash your hands with soap and water every time.
1. **COVID-19 TESTS:**

**An PCT condition\* must be carried out for all delegation members for all days of the competition. As proof is accepted European digital COVID certificate or digital COVID certificate of third countries**

*\*PCT condition means that members must prove a certificate of recovery OR certificate of vaccination OR a negative PCR or rapid antigen test.*

Proof of a negative PCR test is valid for **72 hours**, while a rapid antigen test is valid for **48 hours**. In the further course of the tournament, members who have not have certificate of recovery or have not been vaccinated should be **retested after the test time elapsed**.

1. **ACCESS TO THE VENUES:**
* **Only accredited people can access the event areas which will be controlled by security**
* **No spectators are allowed at the event area** *(depending on the area of the venue, up to 1000 spectators will be allowed).*
1. **GUIDELINE AT THE VENUE:**
* **Enter the venue through the dedicated entrance and stay within the dedicated areas.**
* **Face mask is mandatory from the time entering to the time leaving the Venue all time while not warming up or playing.**
* **All people involved will have their temperature measured upon arrival to the** competition venue.
* Disinfect hands and personal equipment when entering the venue, before and after each training/match day.
* **Players should arrive at the venue with official gear and personal equipment to avoid using the changing rooms and lockers, no sharing of personal equipment or gear**
* **It is recommended for athletes to use their hotel room for shower after the match. If using the changing rooms of the venue, athletes are obligated to keep safety distance (1,5 m) while using it. Only the members of the same team can use the changing room at the same time.**
* Respecting the hygiene signage across the venue in a way to prevent and avoid the spread of the Virus
* **It is recommended that players after training or match do not socialize and stay in public areas.**
* **Fast and in depth cleaning plan will be established**
* Organisers retain the right to perform additional testing to any accredited person despite of already provided certificates throughout the period of the CEV Competition.
* Daily list with the people entering the Venue will be created (Name and surname, phone number, time of arrival and departure)
* Number of people will be limited, present at the same time in different areas in order to ensure the implementation of the prevention measures
* Handshaking or interaction between any accredited people is prohibited. Match protocol follows the amendments annexed to this document and communicated in the Preliminary Inquiry.
* Physical distance (at least 2 meter) separating of competitors, officials, ball kids.
* Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
* Towels are for single use only.
* The Organiser will ensure the disinfection of all areas in the Competition Venue and training facilities before, during and after each match including:
	+ Competition courts – after each game
	+ Sport Equipment – after each game
	+ Common areas– after every fourth game
	+ Working offices and areas as defined in the CEV Regulations, press tribune, media centre, commentary positions, etc. – after every fourth game
	+ Toilets
1. **EQUIPMENT USAGE:**
* No exchanging or sharing personal effects
* Disinfection of balls after each set by ball retrievers under the supervision of the Court manager
* Enough quantity of cleaning and disinfection materials in the competition area
1. **OTHER GUIDELINES:**

MEETINGS:

* Scheduled meetings will take place at open area/big meeting rooms with respecting the safety distance
* Clear time schedule for Preliminary Inquiries will be defined.

MEDIA AND PHOTOGRAPHERS:

Any media initiatives will follow all precaution measures and will be communicated in detail to all athletes during the Preliminary Inquiry.

* Limited number of the media and photographers
* Limited areas where they can move and operate will be defined
* Photographers and Media shall wear a mask when entering and leaving the venue
* In case of any media activities, safe distancing shall be respected.

ANNEX: Match Protocol

**BEFORE THE MATCH**

* Hand disinfection is mandatory before going to the court, before the match starts, during time-outs and after the match
* Ball boys to enter the Field of Play wearing mask and gloves. Mask to be removed as soon as they take their position. Ball boys to respect the minimum social distancing of 2m throughout the warm up and the match.
* Number of ball boys to be confirmed in collaboration with Referee Delegate/ Supervisor.
* Rakers spot to be placed minimum 2m from players’ area (athletes’ timeout area) in a spot to be confirmed by the assigned Supervisor (corner of free zone, etc.).
* Line judges and scorers to enter the court separately from the Referees and shall always use the personal protection equipment.
* Line judges to not be equipped with small towels; athletes need to go to their timeout area to clean their face/sunglasses.
* Court Managers to position a small penholder with 2 disinfected pens on the scorer’s table that will be used by the athletes for signing the scoresheet.
* Athletes to wait in a designated holding area near the Field of Play to enter after the court is prepared and disinfected by the court staff.

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| Time (min) | Action |
|  | Previous match finishes, referees to complete post-match formalities and exit court area separately from line judges and scorers. |
| -8 | As soon as court is prepared by the sand levellers, players and officials enter the court area. Players from this time must be in official match uniforms. Watering and raking should be complete by this time.Players warm up in the court and other preparations, officials check match equipment, score sheet, conditions, players area, etc. |
| -5 | Coin toss taken in front of scorer’s table (Minimum 1,5 meter from the scorer).(Note: If local conditions allow the coin toss time can be moved forward to allow extra warm up time)  |
| -4 | Beginning of official warm up period. |
| -1 | End of Official warm up period, players to leave the court area to their respective Player’s Area.First referee to the referee’s chair, second referee to position standing in front of the scorer’s table, all other officials take their positions. Entry from their players’ area to the short side line of their side of playing court (for the centre court Individual player’s announcement).After last player‘s entry to the field of play, the first referee whistles to invite all players to enter the court - no hand shake under the net |
| 0 | Start of the match |
| During the match | Athletes shall go around opposite side of the net during side switch (counter clockwise) and not under the net.Athletes shall avoid handshaking or other exchange of hand gestures during the match with opponents. |
| End of match | After the match, the players return to the players’ area and wait for the second referee to bring them the scoresheet. The scoresheet is signed by the captains. All participants gather their belongings, and the referees lead the teams to exit the court so that it can be prepared for the next match.Athletes shall avoid handshaking or other exchange of hand gestures after the match with opponents.Line judges and scorers exit together after handing the scoresheet over to the 2nd referee to collect the signatures from both captains. The second Referee to use a different and disinfected pen for the signatures.Teams exit after line judges and scorers have exited the court. Referees to control the process and leave the court last. |