



FÉDÉRATION  
INTERNATIONALE  
DE NATATION



# GUIDELINES

**FOR THE ORGANIZATION  
& THE MANAGEMENT OF FINA  
SWIMMING WORLD CUP EVENTS  
DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**



## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

0. INTRODUCTION.....	2
1. EVENT GENERAL GUIDELINES.....	4
2. SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION .....	7
3. REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO ORGANIZING A FINA COMPETITION .....	9
4. TESTING AND THE “BUBBLE” SYSTEM.....	11
5. TESTING DURING THE COMPETITION .....	19
6. OFFICIAL TRANSPORTATION .....	20
7. ACCOMMODATION / HOTEL.....	21
8. ACCREDITATION.....	23
9. AT THE VENUE .....	24
10. SPECIFIC PROCEDURE & PROTOCOLS AT SWIMMING COMPETITIONS .....	31
11. MEETINGS .....	33
12. CEREMONIES.....	34
13. SPECTATORS.....	35
14. VOLUNTEERS.....	36
15. POLICY FOR REPORTING CASES & ACTION PLAN IN CASE OF PARTICIPANT’S ILLNESS .....	37
16. COMMUNICATION TO PARTICIPANTS .....	38
17. REGULATORY PROVISIONS .....	39
18. REFERENCES AND LINKS.....	40
19. ANNEXE A // CONSEQUENCES FOR ATHLETES .....	43
20. DECLARATION OF RESPONSIBILITY .....	46
21. INFORMATION ABOUT VACCINATION .....	47
22. LOGBOOK OF COVID-19 TESTS AND VACCINATION .....	48



## 0. INTRODUCTION

FINA acknowledges the extraordinary nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing difficulties for the organization of safe sporting events. In consideration of these extraordinary circumstances, the FINA Bureau issued this document to provide mandatory guidelines for the resumption of competition in light of the current COVID-19 pandemic (“The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines”). The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines supplement existing FINA regulations for each discipline.

The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines set out requirements which must be complied with and practical recommendations which are not mandatory.

The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines will take effect from the day they are approved by the FINA Bureau and will remain in force until they are repealed by the FINA Bureau, this will be a living document and FINA will revise the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines when changes are required. Any amendments shall be published without delay and shall be immediately applicable, unless indicated otherwise. The FINA Bureau delegates its powers to amend the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines to the FINA COVID-19 Task Force, after consultation with the FINA Office.

The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines shall apply to all competitions organized or sanctioned by FINA, and strongly recommended for any Continental or Regional Organization or any Member Federation in which other FINA recognized federations, clubs or individuals participate, as per BL 12 (“FINA Competitions”).

The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines are applicable to all persons participating in FINA Competitions (hereinafter “Participant” or “Participants”). This includes but is not limited to athletes, athlete’s entourage, media, technical partners (e.g. timing and scoring staff), FINA Family (referees, judges, FINA Staff, Technical Committee Member or Bureau members), OC staff and volunteers.

Federations should have their own detailed COVID-19 mitigation plans in place, in line with local government guidelines, and remain responsible for implementing necessary measures in regular domestic environment. National Federations are responsible for preparing competition in a safe environment, ensuring they follow national and international guidelines and safety recommendations.

FINA recognizes that government COVID-19 regulations and recommendations vary from country to country. Where these are more rigorous they must supersede The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines.

The aim of The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines is to ensure that all steps are taken to mitigate the risk of infection for those involved in competition, understanding the risk cannot be completely eliminated. All stakeholders participate in competition at their own risk.

The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines provide a minimum standard for the health and safety of all athletes, staff and officials, with latitude for adaptation to individual circumstances.



Consistent with WHO recommendations FINA prioritizes enhanced hygiene and physical distancing, together with a COVID-19 testing programme. This is supported by a zonal approach for competition, mitigating risk for athletes and officials. The FINA COVID-19 Guidelines focus on a positive experience for a television audience, where local regulations do not permit spectators. Where spectators are permitted they must be kept fully separated from all other Participants at the venue through a distinct COVID-19 prevention strategy.

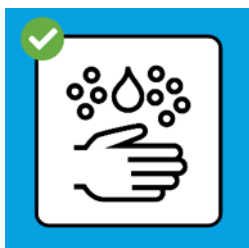
The National Federation or any other stakeholders must fully follow the regulations of FINA and the local health authorities as well as the recommendations of WHO and other international institutes. With entering to the event, the National federations and all stakeholders acknowledge and accept the possible risk of being infecting and they accept and follow the all regulations written below. The National Federations and all stakeholders who entered to the Event cannot raise any legal claim if one is infected with the COVID-19 virus.



## 1. EVENT GENERAL GUIDELINES

### 1.1 Hygiene Measures

Every accredited person must follow basic principles shown below. These are valid for travel to competition, at the hotel, and at the training/competition venue.



Wash your hands thoroughly



Cough and sneeze into a tissue or the crook of your arm



Wear a mask



Avoid shaking hands, hugging, kissing



Stay at home if you have symptoms



Keep your 1.5m distance



**Please note:**

Items/equipment/tools should NOT be shared. If this cannot be avoided, the user must disinfect his/her hands and the specific item before and after use.

Trained cleaning staff must regularly disinfect door handles, keyboards, phones, and hard surfaces, including tables, working places, sinks, toilets. The waste management and cleaning plan should be included in the competition Health Plan for FINA review.

Paper towels and liquid soaps must be provided in all bathrooms to replace hand soap bars and ventilation hand-dryers.

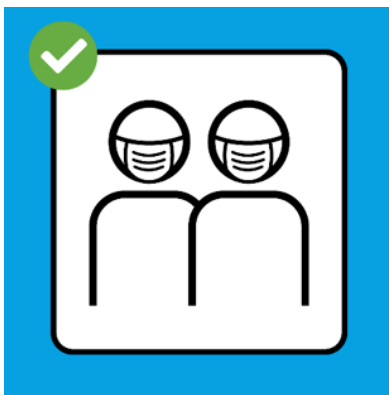


Organizers must provide sufficient hand sanitizers (hand-gel or similar based solutions as per WHO requirements) at all official venues, transportation hubs, and official hotels,

Offices and rooms in all official locations must be well ventilated. Air conditioning units may require special filters. Details are to be included in the competition OC COVID-19 Health Plan for FINA review

Athletes must use personal water bottles, refilled from no-touch water-outlets. Water bottles must not be shared.

## 1.2 Masks / Face-Nose Protection



Every accredited person **MUST** wear a mask/mouth-face nose protection at all times in official event locations including:

- Main Venue
- On official transportation
- At official hotels except when eating.

General exceptions to wearing a mask/mouth-face nose protection are outlined in sport-specific appendices.

When not worn the mask must be kept in a separate container/bag (e.g. sandwich “Ziploc” bag) to prevent contamination. Disposable masks must be regularly changed and multi-use masks washed after regular use.

If necessary Organizing Committee will provide a disposable mask (free of charge) to each accredited person (i.e. 2 masks/day)

## 1.3 Physical Distancing



The physical distance of **1.5 meter minimum** must be respected at all times (except when training and during competition).

Signage to indicate safe physical distancing at points of entry should be installed, as well as plexiglass barriers and or floor markings to show flow of traffic to respect physical distancing.



## 1.4 Social Events

Until further notice, all social events are excluded from FINA Events. Resumption of social events will recommence under FINA's guidance, when it is deemed by the local Public Health Authorities that the risks of COVID-19 community spread is minimal.

## 1.5 Sanitary / Disinfection Guidelines

The Organizing Committee, under the supervision of the OC COVID-19 Officer, shall establish cleaning and disinfection plan. This OC cleaning crew will report to the OC COVID-19 Officer via a daily briefing session. Details of the cleaning plan shall be included for review by FINA in the OC COVID-19 Competition Health Plan.

The cleaning plan must include the following areas:

- "High touch" areas (to be cleaned frequently throughout the day)
- General-use facility areas (cleaned twice a day).
- Individual working or sitting areas (cleaned before and after each individual use)

## 1.6 Event Information Package for COVID-19

The Organizing Committee must provide an overarching information package covering all prevention measures for COVID-19 for the Event. The document should also include the contact details of the OC COVID-19 Officer.

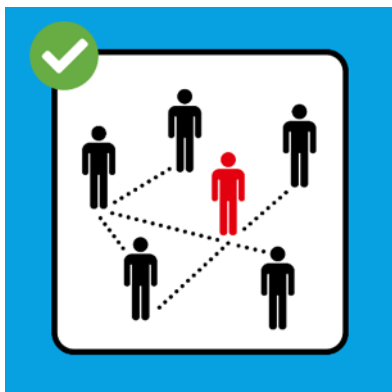
This document should also include details for delegation arrivals and departures, venue entry points, arrangements for training, field-of-play restrictions and an action plan to be followed in the event of a positive case during the event.

Emphasis must be made that the OC COVID-19 Officer is the focal point for all COVID-related matters for team delegations and those with FINA accreditation. All referrals for medical advice, testing and management of symptomatic individuals can only be made through the OC COVID-19 Officer.

This information package must be distributed, prior to their arrival, to all participating delegations, officials and media representatives following FINA approval.

All volunteers, guests, service providers, spectators, sponsors, etc. must also be made aware of strict protocols governing the event.

There must be clear indication that any person failing to comply with Event safety measures such as physical distancing and the wearing of masks (where indicated) will be removed from the competition venue.



If a “Tracing-App” is available within the host country, Event Participants should be informed how to access and download the App and offered help in case of need. This information should also be included in the general information package

## 2. SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION

### 2.1 Tests for COVID-19

There are two tests, on fresh nasal or throat swabs, currently used to detect the presence of COVID-19 virus.

#### 2.1.1 PCR Test:

This test employs a laboratory technique known as polymerase chain reaction from which the test gets its name. It offers a precise, very sensitive measure of viral genetic material even when the virus is dead. It is reported as either positive or negative irrespective of the number of COVID-19 particles present, preferably from a high nasal swab. Results from PCR testing take at least 24 hours to report, however in most jurisdictions it is several days before a result is known.

#### 2.1.2 Antigen Tests:

Antigen (Ag) testing detects certain viral proteins present in a nose or throat swab. It offers rapid inexpensive testing conducted on-site with an immediate result. While a positive Ag test indicates contagion there is also the possibility of a false negative result. If an individual is symptomatic with a negative Ag test, the attending physician may order a PCR test.

In the context of the FINA Guidelines, evidence of PCR testing is required prior to the arrival of every member of a team delegation and each official. Upon arrival at the competition venue (hotel) every Participant will be required to undergo an Ag test. Only in the presence of negative PCR and Ag test results will an individual be permitted to participate in FINA competition.

Of the seven forms of Ag testing currently available, the FINA COVID Task Force recommends tests that detect high contagion with good sensitivity in patients with a CT value below 30. The CT value or threshold cycle value indicates viral load with a CT value of 30 considered by most authorities to be a significant cut-off for contagion.

As of September 2021 many Antigen (rapid) test are available and basically all are of good quality and are allowed by FINA.



## 2.2 The Swimming Pool and Sport Environment

It is recognized that physical distancing (>1.5m) and other preventive measures may not be possible in all circumstances.

Swimming pools are already generally safe from the perspective of viral transmission serious health risks and when hygiene measures are implemented there should be minimal spread of infection. The virus responsible for COVID-19 has a fragile external lipid membrane, rendering it less stable in the pool environment and more sensitive to oxidants such as chlorine.

According to the WHO, conventional methods employing a centralized water treatment system using chlorine filtration and disinfection are deemed capable of inactivating COVID-19. Although the virus has been reported in river water, it has not been detected in drinking water and, based on current evidence, the risk of COVID-19 viral transmission via drinking water is very low. It also reports that, for effective disinfection of the water, there should be a residual concentration of free chlorine of  $\geq 0.5$  mg / l. As further confirmation, it has long been demonstrated that free chlorine of at least 0.5 mg / l ensures deactivation of SARS-CoV (from the same family as the COVID-19 virus). Therefore, water used in swimming pools should be of the same quality as water for human consumption.

These principles are consistent with the opinion of the Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the reference point in USA for the application of all measures of disease prevention and control: *"Conventional water treatment methods that use filtration and disinfection, like those in most of the municipal drinking water systems, should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19"*. There is no evidence of COVID-19 being contracted through drinking water.

Therefore, free chlorine concentrations between 0.8 and 1.5 mg / l as maintained in most swimming pools appear capable of preventing the spread of COVID-19. Furthermore, the evaporation of chlorinated water could also reduce the risk of spreading a virus transmittable by air in the swimming pool environment.

## 2.3 Risk Assessment

The OC and all Event attendees must make themselves familiar with the following WHO publication:

[Key planning recommendations for mass gatherings in the context of the current covid-19 outbreak](#)

Organizers should also be aware of the WHO Risk Assessment Guidelines applicable to major events such as World Championships



### **3. REQUIREMENTS PRIOR TO ORGANIZING A FINA COMPETITION**

#### **3.1 General Requirements**

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

- 1) Submission of a competition Health Plan in compliance with the FINA COVID-19 Event Guidelines and is approved by local Public Health Authorities for approval by the FINA COVID-19 Task Force. Close cooperation between Organizing Committee (OC) and Local Public Health Authorities is mandatory.
- 2) Each organizing committee will appoint an *OC COVID-19 Officer*.
- 3) Provision of evidence that the OC and all attendees are in compliance with FINA COVID-19 Guidelines.
- 4) To have an agency responsible for the costs of testing and contact tracing.
- 5) To have the results of the PCR tests organized at participants' arrival within 12 hours.
- 6) To provide written evidence that host federation/organizers have met government/ local authority restrictions for participating delegations to enter and leave the country.

#### **3.2 Financial Management:**

- 1) Consider if the event is cost effective and the financial risk of cancellation.
- 2) Consider lower than expected registration/ticket sales to accommodate physical distancing protocol.
- 3) Develop late registration and refund policies and clearly communicate such policies at the time of registration.
- 4) Consider ancillary event order timelines, such as awards, programs, marketing, etc.
- 5) Consider the country's COVID-19 restrictions, requirements, cleaning protocols and financial impact on staffing requirements and volunteer needs.

#### **3.3. Host Federation OC COVID-19 OFFICER**

Each organizing committee will need to appoint an *OC COVID-19 Officer* who is a physician who has awareness of the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines and is up to date with the latest evidence on COVID-19 disease. He/she must be distinct from the Event Chief Medical Officer. The Guidelines of the event and the competition Health Plan will contain *OC COVID-19 Officer* contact details.



The OC COVID-19 Officer will liaise with local Public Health Authorities in the planning for the event, and during the event.

This appointee will ensure that pre-event planning, event protocols and departure/ follow up procedures are consistent with the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines and compliant with local health standards.

The FINA contact person pre-event, and on-site for COVID-19 matters will be the FINA Medical & Doping Control Delegate whose duty will be to liaise with the OC COVID-19 Officer, ensuring that all COVID-19-related issues outlined in these Guidelines are met.

The FINA Medical & Doping Control Delegate and OC COVID-19 Officer should meet daily during the event to update the status of all athletes and officials and check on the progress and management of any active cases. A current update should be circulated daily to all team delegations and officials.

### **3.4. COVID-19 Medical Coordinator (CMC)**

All delegations of the National Federation should appoint an English-speaking COVID-19 Medical Coordinator who will be responsible for ensuring all mitigation measures are followed by swimmers, delegations and all other personnel involved with the event.

The CMC would be the liaison with the OC COVID-19 Officer and the FINA COVID-19 Officer / Medical and Doping Control Delegate.

The CMC shall keep a Logbook of COVID-19 tests and vaccination (please refer to the FINA Template) and present it to the FINA COVID-19 Officer / Medical Delegate.

The CMC should work in close cooperation with the delegation's medical officer or advisors to daily monitor the health conditions of each delegation members and report it to the OC COVID-19 Officer and FINA COVID-19 Officer / Medical Delegate. The CMC should be knowledgeable in the symptoms and transmission of SARS-CoV-2 as well as the relevant laws and preventive measures for diseases transmission. The CMC must be the part of the Delegation.

*NB: In the case, swimmers are not accompanied by a team doctor or support personnel, they should liaise directly with the FINA COVID-19 Officer / Medical Delegate.*



## 4. TESTING AND THE “BUBBLE” SYSTEM

The delegation shall limit the number of support personnel accompanying the athletes.

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

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 remain within the Bubble at all times 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 coming into the Bubble (e.g. friends, family).

### 4.1 COVID-19 Testing Procedure

#### 4.1.1 Pre-Arrival / Pre-Competition Testing

All travelling participant should ensure strict compliance with all local guidance and regulations to enter the country of the event.

- ⇒ All costs related to this test are to be borne by the participant and/or their National Federation or FINA – depending on the specific event and arrangements (e.g for Stars Swimmers).

##### a) International Participants

A Nasopharyngeal PCR test within 48hours before the 1<sup>st</sup> flight.

##### b) Local Participants (e.g from local clubs)

As it is believed that participant of local clubs may not be accommodated in the officials hotels, the following protocol shall apply

- Club Athletes shall submit a PCR negative test taken within 48h prior to the event.
- Club Athletes shall submit daily negative antigen test results to the local Covid19 liaison.
- Club Athletes that will not comply with the above shall not be accepted to compete

#### 4.1.2 Arrival Testing

Upon arrival the foreign delegations are brought to the test center and everyone belonging to the delegation is retested by PCR, as well as with an antigen test.



Persons who are fully vaccinated and tested have to wait for the result of the antigen test (15-20 minutes):

- a. If the antigen test is negative, they can go to the hotel and then start training or working.
- b. If the antigen test is positive this person will go into isolation awaiting the definite report of the local PCR-test
- c. If the antigen test is negative and the PCR test is positive this person goes into isolation
- d. In the very unlikely event of a positive antigen test and a negative PCR test, quarantine will be lifted. For athlete, they can return to the team.

People not vaccinated or not fully vaccinated have to stay in their room until the PCR result is known and is negative.

All costs related to these tests are to be borne by the OC. Results reporting shall be provided within 12 hours.

→ *Should local authorities require another test for visitors on arrival to that country, then the COVID-19 Officer to be appointed by the Host Federation shall oversee arrangements with the local health authorities prior to the beginning of competition. It is the responsibility of the OC to liaise with their health authorities to ensure the facility for rapid analysis and reporting. The OC is also responsible for any costs related to this test.*

For events lasting not longer than 5 days with fewer than 100 persons participating, 1 PCR before arrival (< 48 hrs.) is enough for persons fully vaccinated (any WHO-recognised vaccine) as long as the general rules for covid prevention (distance > 1.5 m and masking indoors are respected).

Proof of vaccination can be taken on paper or in an app on the mobile phone and should be shown before the meeting starts.

For persons not vaccinated or not fully vaccinated a PCR on arrival (besides a pcr < 72 hr. before arrival) is mandatory (on their own cost) and these persons will remain in quarantine in their room until the result of the PCR is known.

#### 4.1.3 Testing during the Competition

During the Competition, regular antigens tests will be required. Depending on the duration of the Competition, the following scenarios will apply for all Participants:

Day 0 at arrival	(PCR + Ag Test),
Day 5 after arrival	(Ag Test)
Day 10 after arrival	(Ag Test)

#### 5.1.1 Events < 5 days duration and < 100 persons participating:



**a) Fully vaccinated (any WHO-recognised vaccine):**

Forty-eight (48) hrs. before arrival: 1 PCR

**b) Not (fully) vaccinated (tests on their own expense):**

Day 0 at arrival (PCR + Ag Test),

Day 5 after arrival (Ag Test)

## 5.2 Management of test results during competition

If a test is recorded as positive, it must immediately be reported to the OC COVID-19 Officer, who shall inform the FINA Medical and Doping Control Delegate. All close contacts of this person must be placed in isolation and investigated by local health authorities.

Please refer to the point 4.3.1 "how to consider a positive PCR Test.

A close contact is defined as the roommate. The quarantined roommate shall be tested daily (Ag Test) until Day 6 since the positive test. If negative, the athlete/staff may resume competing. If not, additional testing will be performed every day until negative.

Formal contact tracing by the local public health authorities is required.

## 5.3 Pre-Departure Testing

The LOC shall assist the participant with the arrangement of a COVID-19 test (PCR or Antigen) that may be required to return to her/his country.

## 5.4 Consequences of a positive test and COVID-19 Diagnosis

Please refer to the section 19 Annex A Consequences.

## 4.3 Positive Tests

- In their own country, National Federations should follow local health regulation advice if any swimmers or staff tests positive for COVID-19. They should only return to the delegation when it is fully safe to do so, and they are tested negative for the virus and are not considered infectious any longer and are allowed to fully participate in social life.
- If a swimmer or staff member, or any member of the delegation is tested positive upon arrival, he/she must be immediately isolated, the person must be quarantined according to the Regulations of the local Government. The person must follow the instructions of the OC COVID-19 Officer.
- If a delegation has three (3) or more cases of COVID-19 confirmed by a PCR test, the delegation must be isolated and becomes automatically ineligible to participate in the remainder of the event in order to safeguard the health of other Participants. This is automatic and is not subject to a decision from any authority. It is also not subject to any appeal. The delegation should follow the advice of the local medical staff for isolation and



treatment. This scenario is defined as ‘community transmission, meaning that virus is potentially circulating amongst all members of the bubble

- The OC COVID-19 Officer, the FINA Medical & Doping Control Delegate and the visiting CMC must be made aware of the result under the testing protocol. The local authorities must be notified in case of a positive result.

#### 4.3.1 How to consider a positive PCR Test?

For any positive PCR, the CT values shall be requested and reviewed.

#### PCR test results from previous infection

- PCR-positive: request for CT value if < 30:
  - keep the person in quarantine
  - close contact monitored (as defined in the protocol),
  - this is a true infection
- PCR-positive: CT-value 30-32
  - Keep the person in quarantine
  - close contacts monitored,
  - serum (blood) antibody test and repeat PCR.
  - If antibody positive and CT value of second pcr the same value, remain in quarantine and repeat pcr in 5 days. If > 35 see below.
- PCR positive CT value > 32
  - Keep the person in quarantine
  - repeat PCR and serum (blood)-antibody test, if documented previous infection and antibody positive and repeat PCR (and negative antigen test) suspend quarantine unless local authorities decide otherwise

**Any case of positive antigen test is considered as true infection.**

#### 4.4 Athletes who have recovered from COVID-19 prior to the Competition

It is recognized that those who have recovered from COVID-19 may still be at risk of returning a positive PCR test, despite no risk of contagion or symptoms.

To be permitted to take part in subsequent competition any athlete who has recovered from COVID-19 must submit medical documentation to FINA<sup>1</sup> which confirms full recovery from COVID-19. This information will be reviewed confidentially by a delegation of at least two appointed FINA physicians who will decide the Athlete’s eligibility/safety to participate.

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<sup>1</sup> This information must be provided at least one week before the competition



The documentation must include:

- the date of initial diagnosis (the date of first symptoms should be at least 7 days before the competition with at least one day without any symptoms),
- relevant medical history in English,
- and the results of at least 1 negative COVID-19 test (PCR or antigen) in accordance with the health care regulations of the respective country reported within 14 days of the commencement of the intended competition.

Upon arrival of the competition a new antigen test will be done and must be negative for the individual to participate in the FINA event.

Besides the risk of contagion to other Participants, there are also potential health-risks (cardiopulmonary) post infection for the individual. Although primary health care is not the task of the FINA COVID-19 task-force, we provide some general management guidelines based on the scientific literature:

- Athletes with active COVID-19 should cease all sports activities and undergo self-isolation at home for the entire symptomatic period.
- While COVID-19-specific data are lacking, waiting 7 days after resolution of all symptoms, and a minimum of 10 days after onset of symptoms (besides a negative COVID-19 test as mentioned above) before resuming exercise seems reasonable.
- After that, gradual resumption of exercise and sports can be considered, based on the severity and duration of symptoms and after stratification if pre-participation screening (PPS) is indicated.

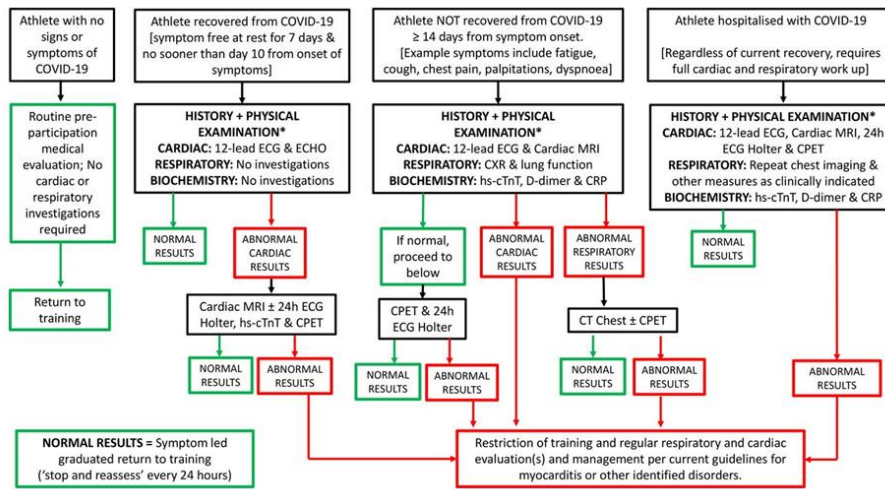
To summarize this, two algorithms have been published by cardio-respiratory experts. See (Fig1). and (Fig 2.).

→ A larger version of the documents can also be found at the end of these guidelines

*Fig 1. RTP pathway in those elite athletes confirmed (or suspected) COVID-19 positive. Wilson et al Br J Sports Med. 2020 Oct; 54(19): 1157–1161.*



RTP pathway in those elite athletes confirmed (or suspected) COVID-19 positive. \*History and physical examination should also consider other organ systems where COVID-19 can have pathological consequences such as neurological, gastrointestinal and dermatological.

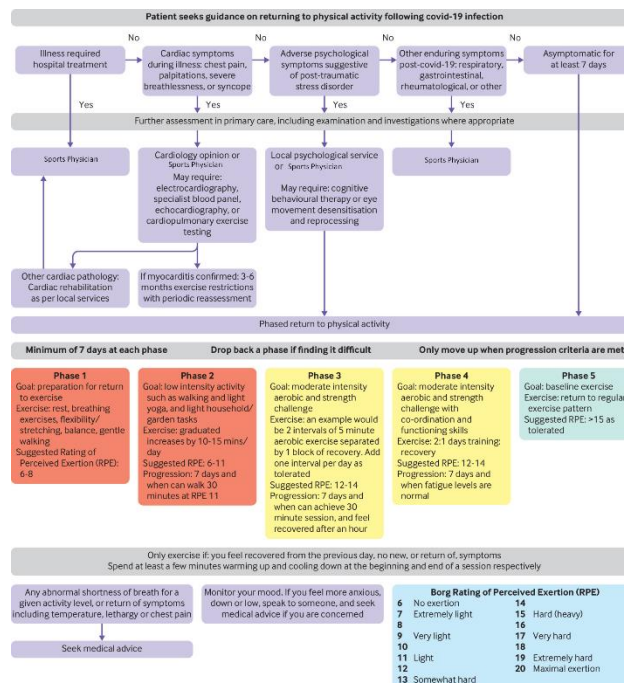


Mathew G Wilson et al. Br J Sports Med 2020;54:1157-1161

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Fig 2. Suggested return to physical activity after covid-19: risk stratification to exclude features suggestive of myocarditis or post-acute covid-19 and phased resumption of physical activity after 7 days without symptoms. BMJ 2021; 372



NB: The above protocols shall also apply to any accredited Participant.

#### 4.5 Development of symptoms during the Event

Signs and symptoms that may indicate COVID-19 infection include high fever, dry cough, fatigue, breathlessness, headache, diarrhea or loss of sense of taste and/or smell. Any



Participant at a FINA competition who develops one or more of these symptoms must immediately quarantine themselves at their hotel and contact the OC COVID-19 Officer whose details appear in the Competition Information Package. Until cleared by the OC COVID-19 Officer, a symptomatic individual must remain isolated from the delegation and not attend the venue. Any decision regarding contact tracing will be made by the OC COVID-19 Officer and confirmed with the FINA Medical and Anti-doping Delegate for the competition.

In this situation, a negative test (antigen or PCR also depending on the local regulations) will be mandatory before the Participant is released from isolation by the OC COVID-19 Officer in collaboration with the FINA Medical and Doping Control Delegate.

#### **4.6 Positive Report Protocol**

If an Event Participant experiences COVID-19 symptoms, or feels otherwise ill with related symptoms, he / she must immediately inform their Team Leader, or the supervisor of the respective service provider (media, volunteers, etc.) and go into quarantine. The identified person of authority must immediately inform the OC COVID-19 Officer or the FINA Medical and Doping Control Delegate. The subsequent testing protocol will then be the responsibility of the OC COVID-19 Officer in accordance with protocols set by the local health authority.

The following scenario will guide all decisions regarding a suspected COVID-19-positive case during the event.

- If a member of any delegation returns a positive test, it is the responsibility of the OC COVID-19 OFFICER to notify the local public health authority.
- The FINA Medical and Doping Control Delegate for the event will then be notified,
- The infected person will be isolated in quarantine
- Contact tracing will immediately commence
- All contacts will be isolated and tested as soon as possible.
- In the case of a positive result in an individual without any or with mild symptoms, they will be quarantined in their hotel room (or otherwise as indicated by the local authorities) with all meals delivered and their condition monitored.
- In the case of a positive test with accompanying severe symptoms, the individual should be admitted to hospital care under the direction of the OC COVID-19 Officer.
- From this point the management protocol of the hospital medical staff will be respected.
- Hospital discharge will be at the discretion of the attending medical staff who will inform the OC COVID-19 Officer.
- Any decision for return to compete will be made collaboratively by the OC COVID-19 Officer, the FINA Medical and Doping Control Delegate, the athlete, and delegation official Manager.

#### **4.7 Liability for costs related to COVID-19**

1. FINA's Travel & Accident Insurance policy covers the Participants of National Federations representatives and FINA Family attending any FINA event(s), from the



moment they leave their home country until they return back. This coverage is provided by TSM/AXA insurance company since 2013.

2. Because the insurance policy is excluding pandemics, the COVID-19 is not covered at this time. TSM/AXA organizes and pays, on a secondary base the emergency fees until the COVID-19 is diagnosed. FINA together with the insurance broker are working to find a solution as soon as possible, in order to include this cover for the FINA event(s) Participants.
3. The costs related to COVID-19 infection should be covered as follows:
  - a) PCR test before the boarding for all members of the delegation (including the referee with the team) should be covered by the participating National Federation. This is also related to the Host Federation's team
  - b) PCR test for all OC members (including desk officials and venue maintainer operation) should be covered by the Host Federation
  - c) PCR test for the appointed FINA Officials (Technical Officials, Representatives, Delegates, Staff, etc.) should be covered by the Host Federation
  - d) PCR test of TV production crew and service production crews should be covered by the Host Federation/OC
  - e) Antigen testing procedure upon arrival and in the middle of the Event for all Participant delegations should be covered by the Host Federation
  - f) Cost of Isolation after having a positive Antigen test upon arrival and/or in the middle of the Event of any member of the delegations should be covered by the respective federation
  - g) Cost of PCR test after positive Antigen test should be covered by the respective federation
  - h) Cost of the quarantine or medical care if occurs in case of a positive test in any member of the delegation must be covered by the respective federation. Cost of earlier travel or delayed travel should be covered by the respective federation
  - i) Cost of the quarantine or medical care if occurs in case of a positive test in any member of the FINA Officials must be covered by Host federation /OC. Cost of earlier travel or delayed travel should be covered by Host Federation/OC
  - j) Regular Medical Service (detailed in the Event Guide) connected to the Event and the cost of the OC COVID-19 Officer should be covered by the Host Federation. The medical hotline must be established by the Host Federation.



## 5. TESTING DURING THE COMPETITION

### 5.1 Testing

As mentioned before, pre-arrival testing will depend on the local regulation.

A negative PCR and Antigen tests upon arrival at the hotel are required to be accredited and to participate in the FINA Competition.

During the Competition, regular antigens tests will be required. Depending on the duration of the Competition, the following scenarios will apply for all Participants:

Day 0 at arrival	(PCR + Ag Test),
Day 5 after arrival	(Ag Test)
Day 10 after arrival	(Ag Test)

#### 5.1.1 Events < 5 days duration and < 100 persons participating:

a) Fully vaccinated (any WHO-recognised vaccine):

Forty-eight (48) hrs. before arrival: 1 PCR

b) Not (fully) vaccinated (tests on their own expense):

Day 0 at arrival	(PCR + Ag Test),
Day 5 after arrival	(Ag Test)

### 5.2 Management of test results during competition

If a test is recorded as positive, it must immediately be reported to the OC COVID-19 Officer, who shall inform the FINA Medical and Doping Control Delegate. All close contacts of this person must be placed in isolation and investigated by local health authorities.

Please refer to the point 4.3.1 “how to consider a positive PCR Test.

A close contact is defined as the roommate. The quarantined roommate shall be tested daily (Ag Test) until Day 6 since the positive test. If negative, the athlete/staff may resume competing. If not, additional testing will be performed every day until negative.

Formal contact tracing by the local public health authorities is required.

### 5.3 Pre-Departure Testing

The LOC shall assist the participant with the arrangement of a COVID-19 test (PCR or Antigen) that may be required to return to her/his country.

### 5.4 Consequences of a positive test and COVID-19 Diagnosis

Please refer to the section 19 Annex A Consequences.



## **6. OFFICIAL TRANSPORTATION**

### **6.1 At the Airport**

The OC must facilitate the arrival and transfer of the visiting Delegations, accredited FINA Officials and Media.

For airports with border controls, a dedicated lane should be available to any accredited person attending the FINA Event. This should also include direct collection in private buses avoiding public spaces where possible.

When possible, the return flight should take place immediately after the competition.

### **6.2 Local Transportation**

Buses must be thoroughly cleaned prior to collecting team delegations and officials. For large team/delegation (>20 athletes), each team/delegation will have its own bus for the match for the entire duration of the Event.

The bus driver should be equipped with appropriate face protection i.e. covering of the mouth and nose) and gloves and always remain at least 1.5m from athletes (e.g. middle door to be used by swimmers and staff to enter/leave the bus). The drivers' area of the bus can be isolated from the rest of the bus. The two first rows behind the driver shall remain unoccupied.

The OC remains responsible for providing transport for the accredited FINA Delegates and Officials. All designated drivers should wear face masks.

With respect to all transportation:

- Persons must wear a mask (as indicated in Information Package).
- An empty seat should be kept between persons (unless they are members of the same training squad).
- All transport access restrictions must apply at every Event Shuttle stop.
- Hand sanitizer should be provided at bus entrance/exit.

### **6.3 Luggage**

Each person will be responsible for the handling of personal luggage at airport pick-up, the bus, and at the hotel.

### **6.4 Airport Departure**

When possible, a dedicated security lane should be proposed to accredited Participants at the airport. Considering the last-minutes potential cancellations of flight due to COVID-19, the OC shall be prepared to offer accommodation (or assist in finding accommodation) to athletes, teams, FINA Family, International Media.



## **7. ACCOMMODATION / HOTEL**

Ideally the official hotel(s) should be exclusively for swimmers and delegations and FINA officials. If this is not possible, accredited FINA personnel should have access to a designated entrance, dedicated floors, dedicated dining area, meeting rooms, and elevators when possible.

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.

Hand sanitizers should be provided on the dedicated floor and in common spaces (dining room, meeting room).

Disposable masks shall be given to all accredited persons for the duration of the competition (e.g. 2 masks/day). The Organizing Committee will provide these masks free of charge for the Participants.

The policy on sharing hotel rooms will follow the existing FINA principles, but is ultimately the responsibility of the respective Team and Organizer

### **7.1 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.

### **7.2 Rooms**

In advance, it is recommended that FINA secures complete hotel floors for athletes and officials and restricting access to non-FINA hotel guests.

Rooms should be well ventilated and cleaned daily in accordance with anti-COVID-19 cleaning protocols.

There should be adequate supplies of hand sanitizers, soap and towels and no housekeeping while the athletes are occupying the room. The collection and handling of all used towels and bed linen should be in accordance with anti- COVID-19 cleaning protocols.

### **7.3 Amenities**

Access to spa area, fitness rooms, and other common spaces should be prohibited for athletes and staff, unless exclusivity can be arranged.

Video meeting room in the hotel can be provided if the delegations can use it with exclusivity during the whole time of the competition. The room must be cleaned after each session.



## 7.4 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 FINA.

In the dining room itself the following issues are highlighted:

- Contact with hotel staff in the dining area should be minimized
- 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
- No face masks are to be placed on tables
- 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.

## 7.5. Staff

As a minimum rule, hotel staff should wear face masks and regularly disinfect hands; there should be no access to any area of the hotel for anyone showing symptoms of infection.

## 7.6 Other activities

No delegation member should leave the hotel unless previously arranged with the OC COVID-19 Officer and only under circumstances that do not involve contact with anyone outside their group.

Delegates and officials, who are fully vaccinated, are allowed to walk/run outside, are allowed to attend shops and restaurants outside the hotel, while keeping social distancing and wearing face masks indoors.

Delegates and officials not (fully) vaccinated are allowed to walk/run outside but not able to attend shops and restaurants (unless outdoor seating is possible) outside the hotel.

## 7.7 Isolation Rooms

The OC must ensure the availability of at least two rooms for urgent isolation requirements.



## **8. ACCREDITATION**

Every person prior to receiving accreditation **MUST** proceed through a Medical Checkpoint. 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 FINA COVID-19 Officer / 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 FINA OFFICE shall be contacted for authorization.



## 9. AT THE VENUE

Equipment owned by the facility shall be maintained, sanitized, and disinfected by the facility owner/personnel.

In particular, the OC 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.

Personnel from the same team delegation are permitted to sit together and spectator seating for athletes, officials and other accredited FINA personnel should conform with standards for physical distancing.

The presence of public spectators will be agreed by the OC and FINA and in accordance with the prevailing standards set by the local health authority.

Bins and/or containers must be available in numerous venue locations for all disposables.

### 9.1 Zoning

A concept of zoning is recommended to reduce the interaction between the different Participants to a competition. The Venue shall be divided in 5 zones (see figure hereafter). The zones must be clearly separated and, where in the same stand, should have a minimum of three rows between them.

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 zone" access. These decisions should be agreed in advance by the OC, Competition Manager, the OC COVID-19 Officer and the FINA COVID-19 Officer / Medical Delegate.

A complete accreditation list of all personnel directly involved in the competition and their zone access must be established in accordance with the above process.

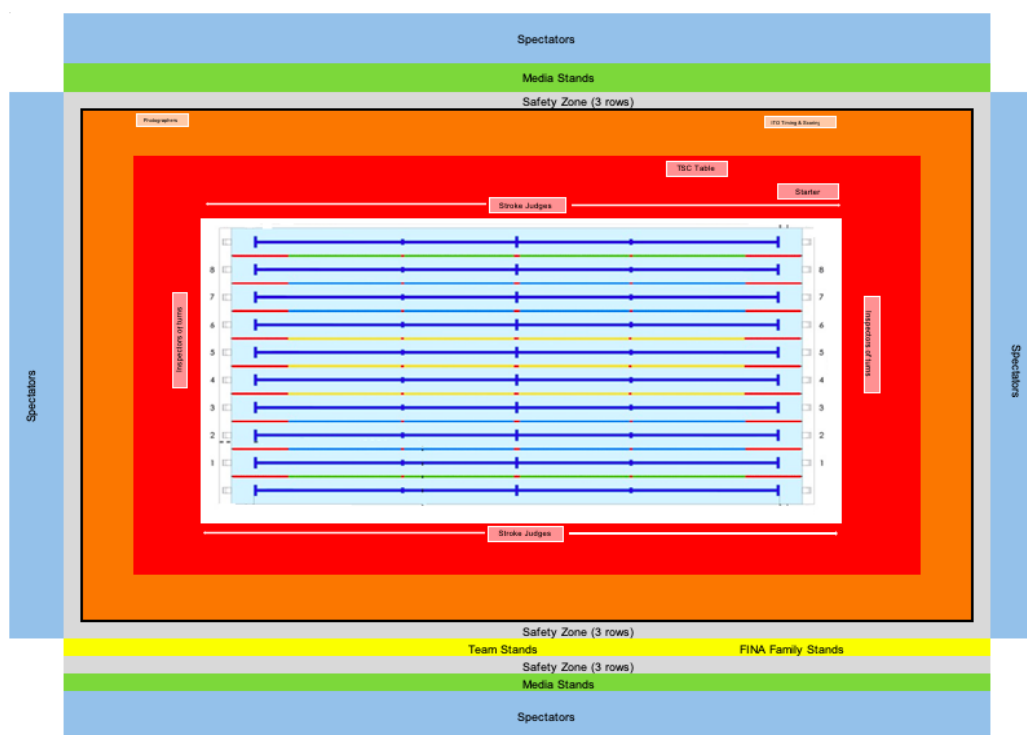
Zoning color (red/orange/yellow/green/blue) must be clearly marked at the venue with sufficient staff available to enforce the policy.

Separate, clearly identified toilets should also be allocated in each zone.



Zone	Area	Group
<b>Red</b>	Competition pool, Training Pool, changing rooms and treatment rooms, Doping Control Station, Medical Room, Toilets and FOP Access	Athletes and supporting personnel Sport Officials (Judges, referees, etc.) FINA Representatives Doping Control Staff Competition Manager Lifeguards
<b>Orange</b>	Selected area on the FOP	Photographers TV Production/Cameras Limited staff of Timing/Scoring Medical Services COVID-19 Officer Security
<b>Yellow</b>	Stands, OC and FINA Family Offices, Timing/Scoring Office	Venue's speaker/announcer Teams delegations TV Production Fire Service Police/Security
<b>Green</b>	Stands	Media Media Manager Floor Manager
<b>Blue</b>	Stands	Spectators (if allowed) Security / Marshals

## 9.2 Venue Map





### 9.3 Swimmers and delegations Arrival

Access to the pool should be via dedicated 'zone' entrances (red, orange, yellow, green), no mixing is allowed.

Swimmers and officials (red zone) should be dropped immediately by their entrance. If any walking is necessary, there should be clear segregation of the swimmers/officials, and no mixing with anyone else.

A fixed time of arrival to the event should be scheduled to prevent crowding of athletes at the entrance.

### 9.4 Body Temperature Check at Competition Venue

The OC must provide individual temperature checks at all venue entry points using non-contact thermometers as a screen for all accredited personnel.

Where an accredited person is found to have an elevated temperature (**above 38.0°C**)\*, provision must be made for completion of an on-line symptom screening. Qualified personnel must be on hand to interpret individual results and determine whether the individual is permitted entry into the venue. The OC is recommended to have 3-4 suitable stations at the entrance for this function. If there is no other explanation for the increased temperature the person involved should be quarantined and a COVID-19 antigen test must be done. The OC COVID-19 Officer shall determine the appropriate next steps in this case.

*\*in certain countries the limit is 37.5°C and the local rule will apply*

### 9.5 Changing Rooms

Swimmers and Technical Officials should be allocated changing rooms that are large enough to allow for sufficient space between seats to ensure physical distancing is respected.

Swimmers and Technical Officials should be allocated their own toilets, which remain out of bounds to anyone else. When flushing the cover of the toilets should be closed.

Swimmers should be allocated separate treatment rooms when possible.

Venue staff should ensure that the changing rooms, treatment rooms and toilets are thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before the pool is open to anyone else.

To further reduce the risk of infection, at the end of the competition it is recommended that the athlete and officials do not shower at the venue but return to their hotel or homes as quickly as possible to shower there.

### 9.6 Warming Pool / Preparations Area

All the swimmers/teams shall respect the physical distancing with the other swimmers/federations/clubs. During the Swimming World Cup or the Champions Swim



Series, the reduced number of competing swimmers shall offer enough space. However, this may vary from one venue to another.

It is recommended to allocate one space for each federation or group of swimmers. This must be done by the local OC (LOC) based on the registration, and not by the swimmer/federations themselves.

If a delegation has a massage table, it must be used only by their swimmers and not any swimmer outside of this delegation. It must be cleaned after each massage.

### 9.6.1 Use of the swimming-pools

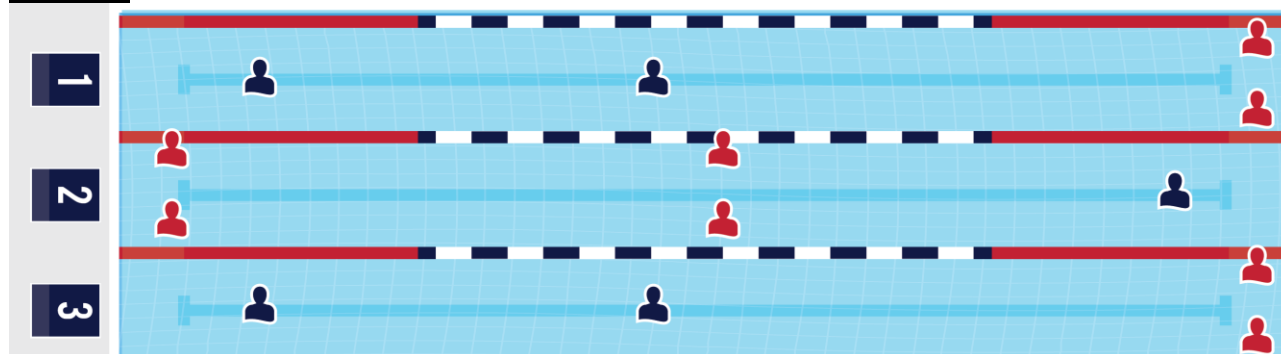
Remembering that chlorinated swimming pool water is considered a safe and COVID-free environment, the major issue with swim training is the application of acceptable physical distancing. Clearly this will limit the size of a swimming team able to use the pool at any one time. In general, we calculated that 10 square meters per person is enough (8 swimmers in a lane of a 50m pool).

The following guidelines are examples of how this may be achieved. They may be applied to the warm-up pool and the competition pool.

- Max 4 swimmers per lane (25m pool); 8 swimmers per lane (50m pool).
- Alternate start ends for each lane e.g. lane 1 start this end; lane 2 start far end.
- Min 5 sec gap between swimmers to ensure minimum 1m physical separation.
- Limit squad size to ensure maximum lane usage.
- Maximum of 80 persons in the 50m pool (excluding staff and trainers 1 per country)

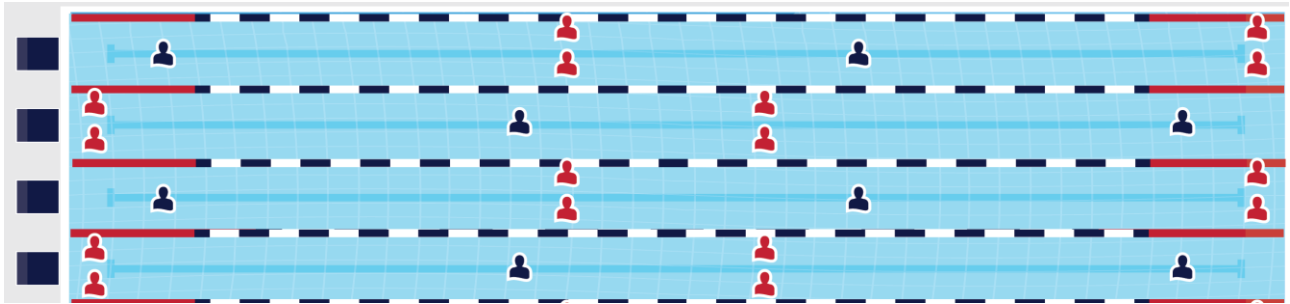
#### Examples:

##### 25m pool



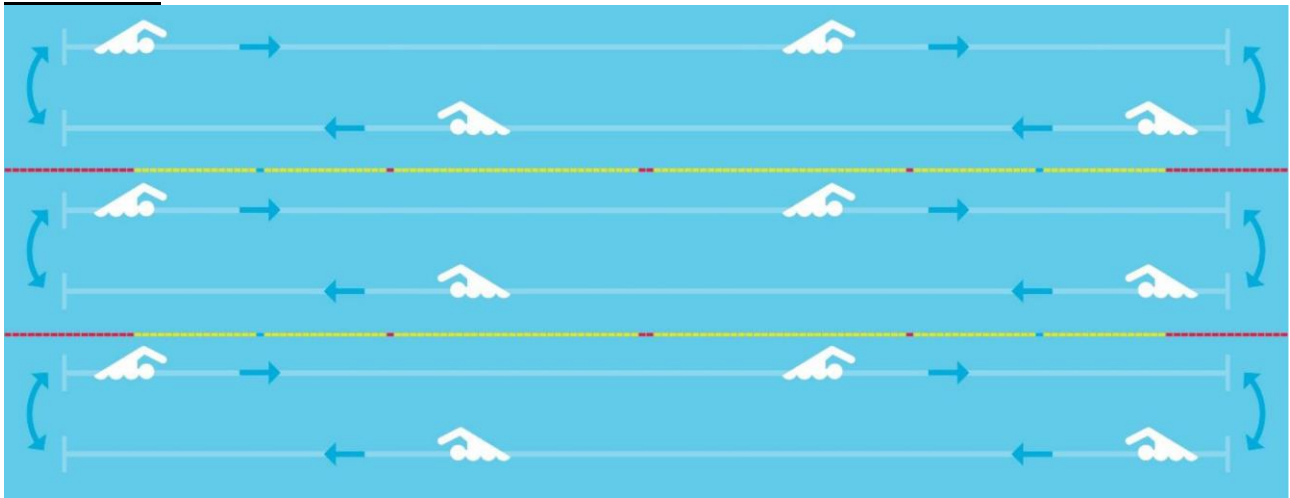
Source: USA Swimming

##### 50m pool



Source: USA Swimming

### Double lane



Source: Swimming Canada

## 9.7 Athletes' Lounge (if applicable)

Physical distancing shall be respected in the lounge.

It is advised not to have furniture (seats/tables) in the lounge to avoid having guests staying in the room for too long.

Use of masks is mandatory in the lounge.

For any food service, lunch packets or “grab and go” food is mandatory. If a buffet is proposed, an OC Staff Member shall serve the food as no self-service will be allowed.

Personnel to hand out cutlery and dishes if needed.

The time spent in the Lounge must be kept to a minimum.



## 9.8 Function Rooms

All Function Rooms shall be large enough to maintain physical distancing.

- Hand sanitizer or sink with liquid soap and paper towels must be available in every room.
- Tables and chairs shall be placed in a way to guarantee physical distancing between work spaces.
- Catering (if any): The OC shall provide individual drinks and snack boxes for each official, depending on the duration of the Competition. Meal details and timings shall be discussed with the FINA Delegates on site. Officials shall be advised to provide their own water bottle/thermos.

## 9.9 Medical Station

The Medical Station and First Aid Room will follow the principles set in the present FINA COVID-19 Guidelines.

All procedures must comply with the local Public Health Authority regulations.

## 9.10 Doping Control Station

The Doping Control Station Room will follow the principles set in the present FINA COVID-19 Guidelines.

The doping control procedures will be defined by the FINA DCRB 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.

<https://www.wada-ama.org/en/media/news/2020-11/wada-updates-its-covid-19-testing-guidance-for-anti-doping-organizations>

All doping control officers, and volunteers must respect all anti-COVID-19 precautions and wear masks and gloves.

## 9.11 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.

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.

### **9.12 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 FINA Press Delegate who is familiar with the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines, to ensure that all procedures are respected.

### **9.13 Field of Play (FOP)**

The field of play is the whole area surrounding the swimming pools.

Waiting areas must be clearly identified with signage and floor markings near entrances to the FOP.

Supplemental field of play accreditation may be used to limit the number of persons having access to the field of play area.

### **9.14 Training**

Physical distancing between athletes and training groups shall be organized and respected. Physical distancing between athletes shall be respected during warm-up/training as feasible.

Coaches shall wear face masks and respect physical distancing with other people when in the same area.

For specific training rooms (weight room, dry land, etc.) and if applicable, the maximum number of persons allowed at the same time shall respect the local rules (based on the size of the room) and physical distancing of at least 1.5 meters shall apply.



## **10 SPECIFIC PROCEDURE & PROTOCOLS AT SWIMMING COMPETITIONS**

### **10.1 Call Room**

Protocol before entering the competition area for the competitions needs to be adjusted to respect all the sanitary precautions. The different call-rooms shall be adjusted to respect all the physical distancing. Swimmers shall wear their mask at all times. Adequate ventilation is recommended.

### **10.2 Sport Presentation**

It should be evaluated on how the sport presentation (entrance, sponsors bibs, etc.) is compatible with the COVID-19 principles.

The swimmer shall be allowed to remove her/his mask when entering on the pool deck after the sport presentation (e.g. like during the Tokyo2020 Olympic Games).

### **10.3 Baskets / Bags**

The volunteers in charge of the swimmers' apparels shall wear mask and gloves at all time.

### **10.4 Judges Considerations**

Provide separate/more tables to maintain physical distancing protocols.

Limit volunteers/staff that may customarily sit at official's table.

Provide cleaning supplies for frequent cleaning of electronic timing/scoring devices.

The various officials on the pool shall always wear mask.

Technical Officials/judges meetings may be hosted via video conference.

Technical Officials Debriefs may also be held via videoconference.

Consult with the Meet Referee if an official becomes ill during a meet to discuss the process to inform the official that she/he needs to leave the meet or move to an isolation area. The OC COVID-19 officer should be informed and involved. The TSC is responsible for identifying replacement options and should notify the Referee.

### **10.5 Coaches**

Coaches should not be allowed on the pool deck during the competition.

### **10.6 Photographers**

The Host Federation/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.

### **10.7 TV Interview (Flash zone, Mixed zone)**

The Host Federation media representative/media partner representative ('supervisor') are jointly responsible for coordinating TV interviews.

Physical distancing rules must always be respected during the interviews (both in the mixed zone and when accessing it for players/coaches).

Where possible pooling may be considered using the unilateral feed to minimize the number of interviews – one per team in own language.

For both flash and mixed zone interviews a 1.5m boom microphone should be used, so that the interviewer can stand well back.

All microphone covers should be cleaned with an anti-bacterial wet wipe just prior to and between interviews.

The microphone should not be held closer than 30cm to the face of the player/coach

If any of the rules are breached or the player/coach feels uncomfortable, an interview should be ended immediately by the supervisor.

### **10.8 TV Production**

The TV partners of the Host Federation 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 orange zone must ensure that they always remain at least 1.5m away from all swimmers and officials, except where this is unavoidable and accidental during the match.



## 11. MEETINGS

### 11.1 Team Leaders Meeting

It is recommended that the Team Leaders' Meeting be held virtually.

If the meeting is not done virtually, only one (1) Team Leader (or assistant) per participating FINA Member Federation shall attend this meeting.

The room must be prepared to allow at least 1.5 meters between the seats and rows of seats.

In addition to the Venue/ Competition Agenda, the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines and details shall be illustrated by the OC COVID-19 Officer and the FINA COVID-19 / Medical & Doping Control Delegate, if present

Masks / Mouth-Nose Coverings are mandatory for all attendees.

### 11.2 Medical Meeting

It is recommended that the Medical Meeting be held virtually. If the meeting is not done virtually, only one (1) person per participating FINA Member Federation shall attend this meeting

The room must be prepared with at least 1.5 meters between the seats and rows of seats. In addition to the Medical Agenda, the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines and details shall be illustrated by the OC COVID Officer and a FINA Medical & Doping Control Delegate, if present.

### 11.3 Event-Related Meetings

Before the meeting, a water bottle shall be placed at each seat. If snacks are provided, they must be offered in individual snack boxes.

### 11.4 Non-Event-Related Meetings

To minimize the number of accredited personnel it is recommended that no non-event-related meetings will be held at a FINA Competition.



## 12. CEREMONIES

### 12.1 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 FINA OC Member and the FINA Office on a case by case basis.

### 12.2 Presentations of competitors or relay

Individual and relay presentation can be done

### 12.3 Award Ceremony

Award ceremonies shall respect the physical distancing of 1.5 meters.

Athletes must wear a mask in indoor meetings. A 30-seconds period without mask is allowed for photography.

No hand shaking or hugs are permitted between any ceremony Participants (e.g. medalists, award presenters).

Medals are presented on a plate by the FINA Representative or another delegate. The athlete must put the medal around his/her neck by himself/herself.

Same procedure for Mascots/Flowers presentations.

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 FINA Delegates. The FINA COVID-19 / Medical & Doping Control Delegate along with the host OC COVID-19 Officer should approve the ceremonies from a health and safety perspective.



### 13. SPECTATORS

The decision on whether or not to allow spectators to attend competitions is up to the Host Federation, upon consultation with the local health authority. The Host Federation will be responsible for ensuring all health and safety regulations are met for spectators. If spectators are allowed, a distinct prevention protocol for the visitor area must be provided and enforced by the organizers.

Similarly, the decision on whether or not to open retail and refreshment shops at the Venue rests with the host federation and should be guided by local health regulations.

From the perspective of FINA, the following guidelines should be followed:

- The number of spectators attending should be within the limits set by any local government regulations and communicated to FINA.
- Staff working in the spectator area (green zone) should wear face masks, which are changed at regular intervals, as per local health & safety regulations.
- Staff working in the green zone should not mix with anyone working in the other zones.
- All spectators should have their temperature taken at the entrance using a touchless forehead thermometer (anyone with a temperature higher than 38.0°C cannot enter<sup>[FF1][AH2]</sup>).
- Spectators should be made aware of the COVID-19 restrictions at the competitions and any other requirements.
- Where available, spectators are encouraged to install the COVID-19 detection App on their mobile devices.
- Spectators must stay within the green zone.
- Spectator seating should allow for physical distancing, as per local country regulations.
- Retail/refreshment shops should follow physical distancing measures.
- Steps should be taken to ensure physical distancing for all queues at the venue entrance or in the retail area, in line with local country regulations.
- Enforcement of the above regulations applicable to all spectators remains the responsibility of the OC.



## 14. 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.



## **15. POLICY FOR REPORTING CASES & ACTION PLAN IN CASE OF PARTICIPANT'S ILLNESS**

This item is covered in Section 4.

The OC must define an action plan in collaboration with the local public health authority for submission to FINA prior to the competition. This information could be included in the Competition Information Package.

The OC COVID-19 Officer must have direct contact with public health authorities to facilitate access to medical care and testing as required.

Where a specific Team Delegation has ONE confirmed positive COVID-19 case in an accredited athlete or official, that delegation is permitted to continue in the Competition. The infected individual will be isolated and managed in accordance with local health regulations.

Subsequent contact tracing to include all members of the team delegation will be at the discretion of the OC COVID-19 Officer.

The OC and FINA 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.

### **15.1 Isolation and associated costs.**

All issues relating to the responsibility for isolation, including accommodation costs, meals and changes to itinerary must be clarified in advance with the OC and informed to all Participants in the Event Information Package.

### **15.2 After competition Survey**

FINA should submit a post-competition survey to all Participants to determine their health status following the competition.

It will remain the responsibility of the OC to implement a similar post-competition survey for spectators if recommended by the local health regulations.



## **16. COMMUNICATION TO PARTICIPANTS**

It is important that these Guidelines are communicated to all accredited persons and spectators who may attend a FINA Competition. It could be communicated clearly to all Participants and spectators in advance through social media, websites and through the FINA Member Federations.

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, well in advance of their departure for the FINA Competition location.

Delegated FINA COVID-19 Officer / Medical and DC Delegate of the SMC and Competition OC should be prepared to respond to any relevant questions at any time before, during and after the competition.



## 17. REGULATORY PROVISIONS

Any of the following shall be considered a Violation giving rise to emergency measures:

- Any failure to comply with requirements from the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines; and/or
- Any failure to comply with instructions given by the OC COVID-19 Officer

Any Violation must be reported without delay to the OC COVID-19 Officer who will refer the case to the Management Committee of the Event if he/she is comfortably satisfied that a Violation has occurred. The Management Committee of the Event is defined according to the FINA Rules.

The Management Committee of the Event shall then (i) 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 (ii) 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 Event 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:

- (i) a reprimand; and/or
- (ii) 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
- (iii) exclusion of the participant from the event; and/or
- (iv) exclusion of the team of the participant from the Event (only for serious and/or repeated Violations within the team).

Any obstruction to the identification of a Violation, including delaying a report to the OC COVID-19 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 Event, a Violation might lead to disciplinary proceedings and sanctions pursuant to FINA Rules. For the sake of clarity, the sanctioning process defined under Appendix C of the FINA Water Polo Rules is not applicable to the FINA 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.



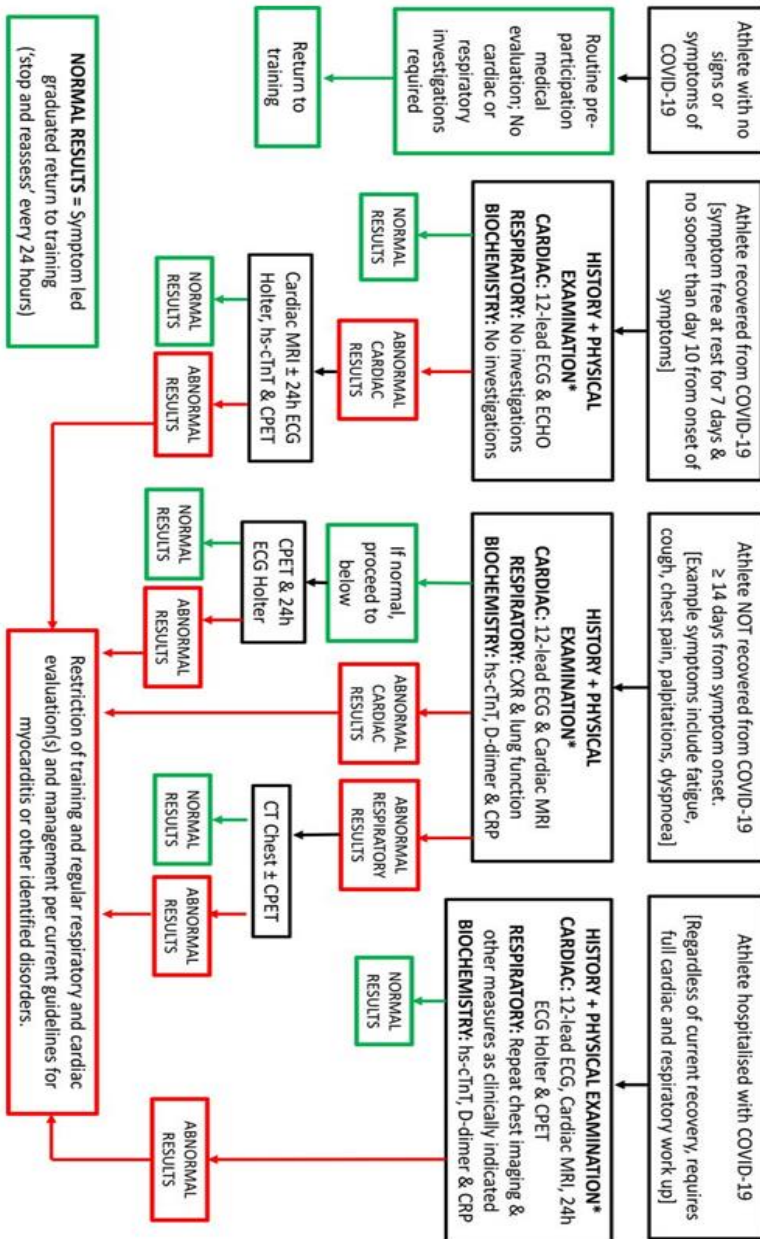
## 18. REFERENCES AND LINKS

### 18.1 Approved Tests

As of September 2021 all available antigen test are approved by FINA

### 18.2 RTP pathway in those elite athletes confirmed (or suspected) COVID-19 positive. Wilson et al *Br J Sports Med.* 2020 Oct; 54(19): 1157–1161.

**RTP pathway in those elite athletes confirmed (or suspected) COVID-19 positive. \*History and physical examination should also consider other organ systems where COVID-19 can have pathological consequences such as neurological, gastrointestinal and dermatological.**



Mathew G Wilson et al. *Br J Sports Med* 2020;54:1157-1161

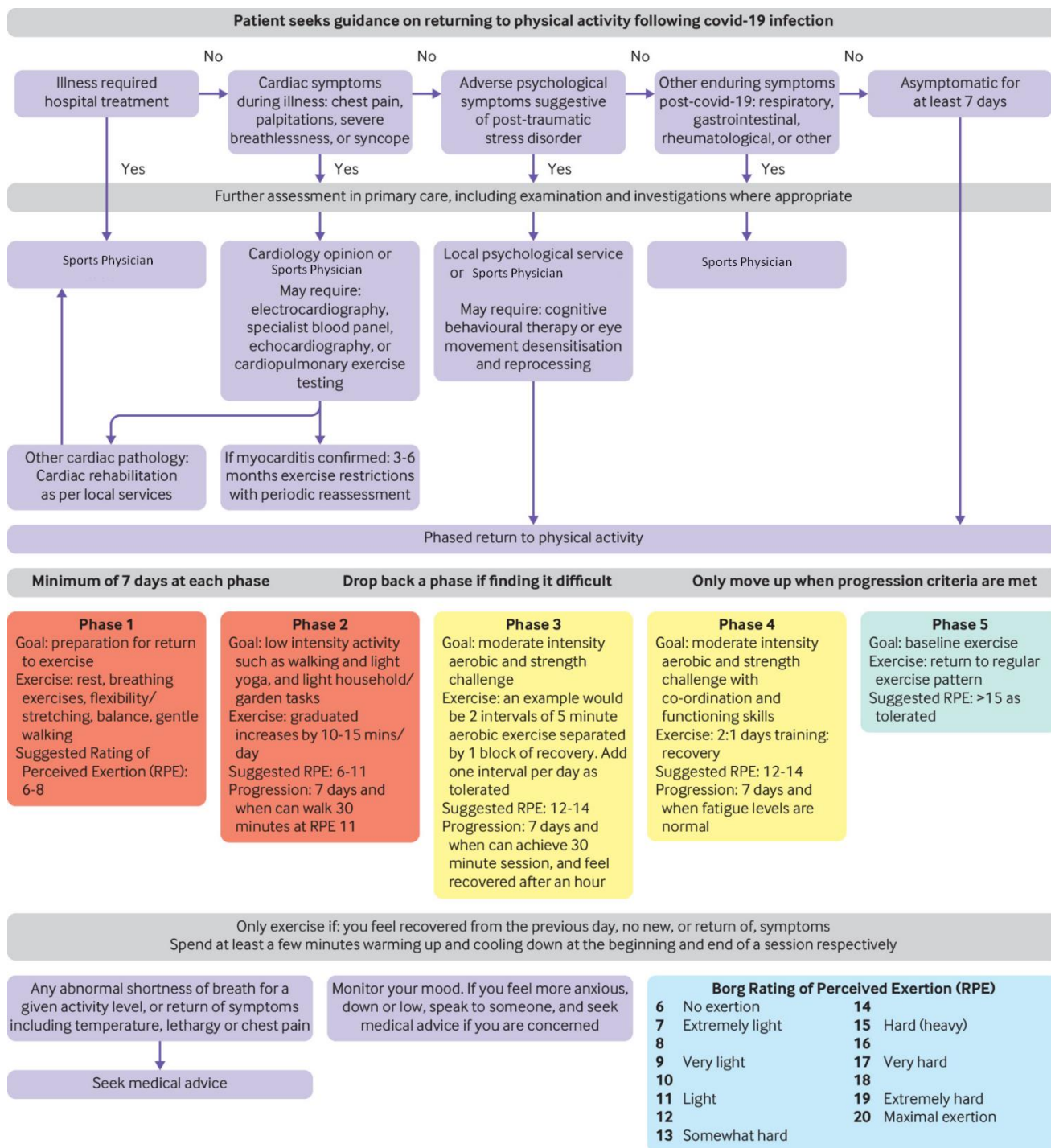
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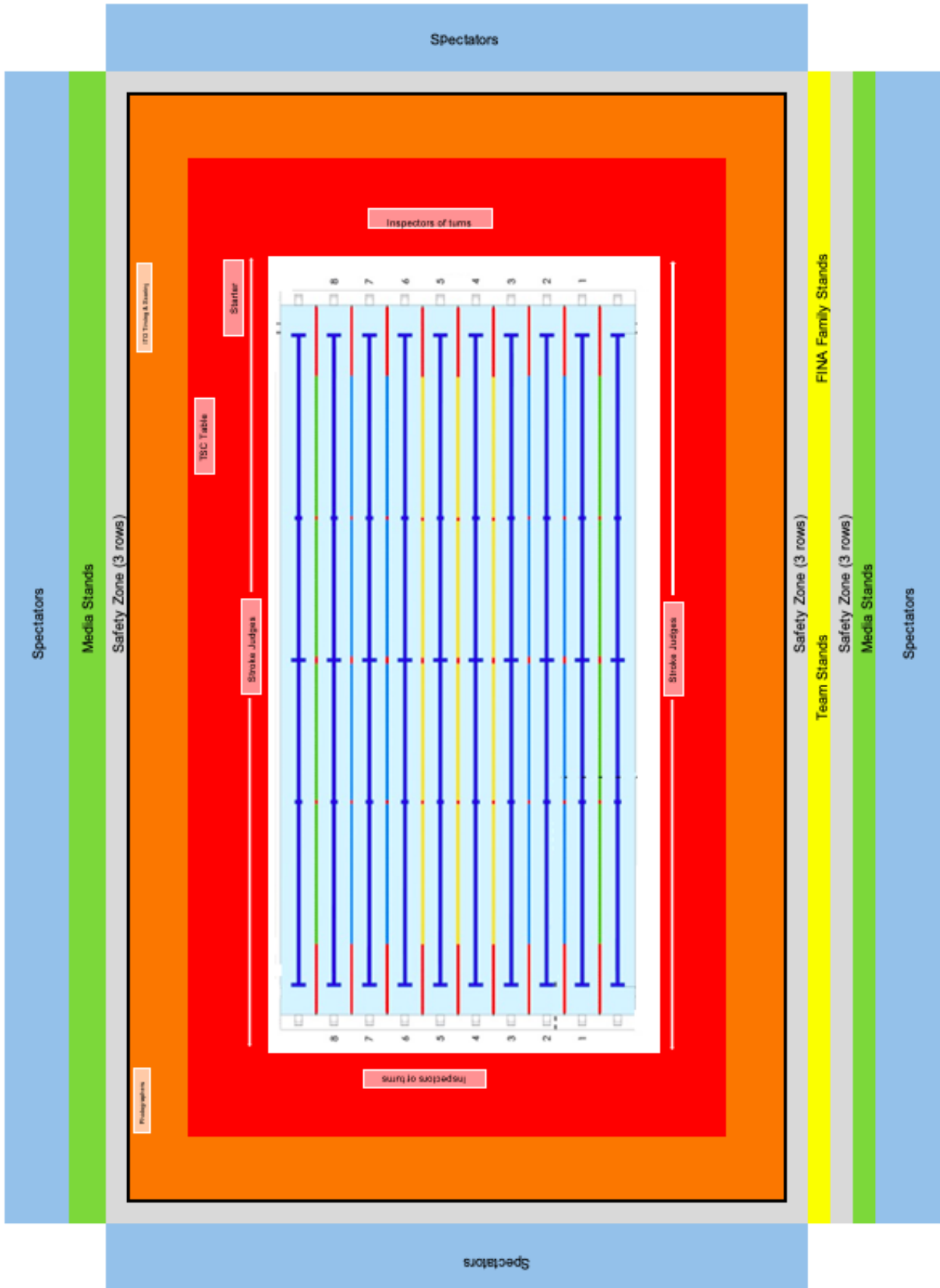
### 18.3 Suggested return to physical activity after covid-19: risk stratification to exclude features suggestive of myocarditis or post-acute covid-19 and phased resumption of physical activity after 7 days without symptoms.

BMJ 2021; 372 doi: <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.m4721>





### 18.4 Zoning for Swimming





## 19. ANNEXE A // CONSEQUENCES FOR ATHLETES

All the following consequences / recommendations shall be done in agreement with the local regulations.

### **A swimmer is tested positive before the event, at home, during preparation.**

One (1) negative test is needed (PCR) before boarding and fit for competition according to the point 4.2 of the general guidelines.

### **A swimmer is tested positive before the Event, at home, after registration in the GMS**

Swimmer can be replaced by the federation.

### **A swimmer is tested positive upon arrival with Antigen and PCR tests**

The swimmer must be quarantined immediately.

### **A swimmer is tested positive during the competition period after initial negative Antigen and PCR Tests**

The swimmer is quarantined immediately, and a PCR test shall be done.

If the PCR test is reported negative, no further action is required and the swimmer can leave the quarantine and is allowed to resume competing.

### **A swimmer is tested positive after the competition**

The contact tracing shall be implemented. The whole team may be quarantined up to each federation.

### **Swimmers are tested positive during preparation**

All swimmers from a team/delegation must enter a competition with negative tests.

Two (2) negative tests are required from each member of the team/delegation. Swimmers should be fit to return to competition (please see 4.2).

### **Swimmers are tested positive at home after registration in the GMS**

The swimmers or players selected for the competition must be nominated 48 hours before boarding with two negative tests.



### **A Participant (other than athlete) is tested positive by antigen and PCR tests upon arrival**

This person must be quarantined.

### **A Participant (other than athlete) is tested positive (Ag) during the Event**

The participant is quarantined and PCR tested to confirm positivity and if positive the participant is excluded but if negative she/he can be allowed to return to the competition.

### **Two (2) team/delegation member are tested positive during the Event**

Two swimmers positive could mean that there is a spread and therefore the selection/team and entourage could have been contaminated.

The whole team must be tested by antigen tests and the ones who are positive need to be confirmed by PCR. If 2 persons are positive they are quarantined and the team remains in competition.

If 3 team members are tested positive the team is taken out of the competition.

### **More teams have positive cases upon arrival, during competition time**

Please refer to the above.

### **A technical official has a positive case upon arrival or during the Event**

Isolation and local regulation shall apply.

### **Team official is tested positive upon arrival or during the Event**

The team official is isolated. The isolation costs shall be covered by the member federation. Replacement from the accredited staff can be done.

### **A Team official is tested positive upon arrival**

Please see above.

### **More than 10% of the Participants are tested positive**

The competition may be cancelled/postponed. To be decided by FINA.



## SUMMARY

### Testing during the Competition

Testing every 5 days and all Participants.

Day 0 at arrival (Ag + PCR)

Day 5 after arrival (Ag)

### Team = athletes and entourage

Is there a risk for the team?

1 case = Immediate isolation and PCR test should be applied

2 cases = It could mean spread and therefore the team and entourage have been contaminated. Then Antigen tests shall be conducted for the whole team

3 cases = To be removed from the competition

### Officials (Referees/Judges)

The above recommendation will apply to Officials.

### FINA Family (Technical Committee, Bureau Members, FINA Staff)

The above recommendation will apply to FINA Family

### Events < 5 days duration and < 100 persons participating:

Fully vaccinated (any WHO-recognised vaccine):

Forty-eight (48) hrs. before arrival: PCR

Not (fully) vaccinated (tests on their own expense):

Day 0 at arrival (PCR + Ag Test),

Day 5 after arrival (Ag Test)



## 20. 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 of Swimming 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 38.0 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 FINA.*
7. *That I promise to inform the Organizer and the respective FINA 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 close during the Event. By completing this document, the signature grants the consent for FINA/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 Federation or entity that organizes the Event, without there being any responsibility on the part of FINA in case of infection(s) that occurs in relation with the Event.*

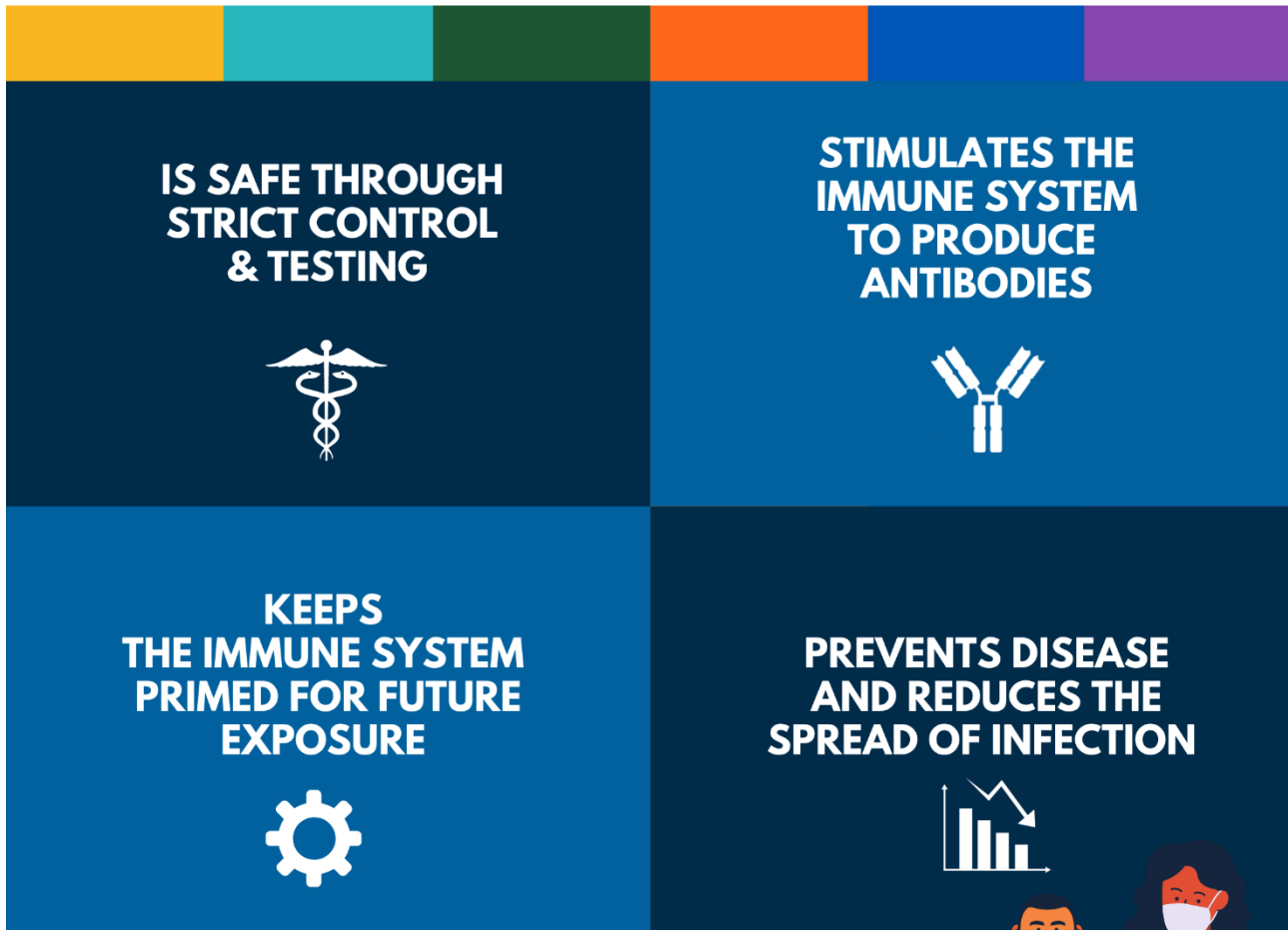
*Any failure to comply with requirements from the FINA COVID-19 Guidelines, and/or any failure to comply with instructions given by the OC COVID-19 Officer is a Violation giving rise to emergency measures ranging from a reprimand to exclusion of the Participant and/or of his team from the Event.*

*In addition, Violations might be subject to disciplinary proceedings and sanctions pursuant to FINA Rules.*



## 21. INFORMATION ABOUT VACCINATION

# THE COVID-19 VACCINATION



**THE FINA SPORT MEDICINE COMMITTEE  
ENDORSES COVID-19 VACCINATION  
PROGRAMMES**







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