



WORLD
ATHLETICS.

World Athletics Covid-19 Protection Procedures

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and Out-of-Stadium-Based Events..... 7**

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Purpose

- These procedures are designed to address health and safety organizational aspects for stadium-based and out-of-stadium-based Athletics competitions, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic situation, especially in phases 4, 5, 6 and post peak period, as described by the World Health Organisation (WHO). For a description of the WHO pandemic levels, please refer to the following weblink [here](#).

These procedures are based on the currently available scientific and medical knowledge regarding SARS CoV-2, the virus responsible for COVID-19, and are subjected to changes with the improvements in knowledge and treatment of the disease.

- Based on the type of event (i.e. stadium-based or out-of-stadium-based), different procedures will apply.

Type of event	
Stadium-based events	World Athletics Championships World Athletics Indoor Championships World Athletics Relays World Athletics U20 Championships Diamond League meetings Continental Tour meetings World Indoor Tour meetings
Out-of-Stadium-based events	World Athletics Half Marathon Championships World Athletics Cross Country Championships World Athletics Race Walking Team Championships Labelled Road Races

Additional measures should be implemented in case the **duration of stay in the competition location is more than 48 hours**.

- These procedures should guide on minimum requirements that competition organisers should consider, to ensure personal and public health protection for the following client groups:
 - Athletes
 - Athletes' supporting staff: coaches, managers, physiotherapists, etc...
 - Event's Technical Officials
 - Event's Volunteers and Workforce (suppliers, contractors, World Athletics and LOC staff)
 - Event's Medical and Anti-Doping Staffs
 - Media and Broadcasters
 - Guests and Sponsors

- These procedures do not apply to attending spectators, which should be dealt separately by the local authorities and/or the event venue operators, according to current public health and security regulations and guidance. The WHO has produced helpful documents and risk assessment tools for mass gatherings. Therefore, competition organizers are strongly encouraged to use these tools (<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/technical-guidance/points-of-entry-and-mass-gatherings>)
- The objective of these procedures is to assist event's organizers in minimizing the risk from COVID-19, bearing in mind that some risk, yet negligible, will always remain.
- These procedures are intended to guide and support competition organizers in the implementation of health and safety measures at their events, once local government and/or public health authorities, have approved the staging of the competition. Local or national public health and safety legislation, regulations and restrictions must be complied with and take precedence over these procedures.
- Competition organisers should make sure they have a clear policy on personal liability. This policy should consider the legal aspects related to the organisation of a competition under an outbreak situation and should be disclosed to all participating groups (e.g. athletes, athlete representatives, staff, volunteers, workforce etc.).
- These procedures are a living document forming part of a tool for guidance and will be updated as soon as more evidence and scientific-based knowledge on COVID-19 become available.
- Competition organisers should monitor changes to local legislation and regulations. They should thoroughly adhere to government and public health authorities' guidance and review risk assessments, policies, and procedures regularly, to ensure that compliance with local health and safety laws is maintained.

World Athletics Covid-19 Protection Procedures

Common Procedures for Stadium-Based and
Out-of-Stadium-Based Events

1. General Procedures

All individuals taking part to World Athletics Championships and events must comply to these procedures. Any breach of these procedures may result in **voiding the accreditation and cancelling the participation** to World Athletics events.

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

- **Wearing a mask covering the mouth and the nose is mandatory in all public areas at all time, except for these two exemptions:**
 - While consuming food or beverages;
 - For athletes only: once in the track and field stadium, racecourse, warm-up before taking part to the competition, and training areas (mask will have to be worn during transfers between these areas and the hotel).
- The mask suggested for the purpose of these protocols should be preferably surgical masks, N95 masks or FFP-2 type masks, but other types might be accepted. The use of disposable surgical masks, N95 masks or FFP-2 type masks is strongly recommended while travelling. Masks should be disposed on a regular basis according to the type of mask.
- **Any interaction, which constitute a significant risk of virus transmission (see paragraph 2.4), with an individual who is not accredited or directly involved in the organisation of the event is prohibited at all times.**

A medical doctor or a public health specialist should be appointed as the **COVID-19 coordination officer**. This person will be responsible for the risk assessments and implementation of risk mitigation measures at the event. The COVID-19 coordination officer will have a central role in coordinating and communicating with all parties, i.e. competition organisers, event venue operators/owners, local public health authorities and sport teams.

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

2. The Medical Clearance Protocol

2.1. Before travelling to the competition site (Stage 1)

- Complete and sign the **COVID-19 Symptoms Self-Report and the Medical Information Release Forms** on the dedicated electronic platform (see examples in Appendices A and B).
- Provide the negative results of a naso/oropharyngeal swab test to detect SARSCoV2 genetic material (Polymerase chain reaction – PCR or Loop-mediated isothermal amplification - LAMP) performed in the 72 hours prior to departure. Results from blood serological or antigenic tests will **not** be accepted as a part of the Medical Clearance Protocol.

Any cost related to the above test are to be covered by the Member Federation, or the athlete, the worker, the guest, or the company employing the client groups or individuals.

2.2. Arrival in the hosting city (Stage 2)

Prior to hotel check-in, the Local Organising Committee (LOC) Medical Team in coordination with World Athletics Medical Delegate will organise a second naso/oropharyngeal swab test to detect SARS CoV2 genetic material (PCR or LAMP) for everyone involved in the event in any capacity:

The swab returns negative result:

The person will be allowed to complete the hotel check-in and the accreditation process.

The swab returns positive result:

The person will not be able to check-in in the designated hotel room and will not be issued with the accreditation. A second nasopharyngeal swab will be taken and sent to a different laboratory for confirmation of the positivity. In the meantime, the individual will be accommodated in a provisional accommodation or in a dedicated quarantine accommodation (rental apartment, special hotel rooms...)

Failure to comply with either STAGE 1 or STAGE 2 of the Medical Clearance Protocol will prevent the person from accreditation, from being accommodated at Official Hotels, from entering Official sites and/or taking part to any competition-related activity.

The cost of the test to detect SARS CoV2 genetic material (PCR or LAMP) onsite will be covered by the LOC. This also includes costs related to confirmatory PCR test (if needed).

2.3. Target populations for the Medical Clearance Protocol

The following client groups will have to comply with **stages 1 and 2 of the Medical Clearance Protocol**.

- All accredited athletes and Team officials (e.g. coaches, physiotherapists, medical doctors, team leaders)
- All World Athletics and LOC technical officials and delegates who are in contact with non-local accredited individuals and Team officials
- All World Athletics staff and World Athletics contractors taking part to the event organization
- All media with exception of local media
- All broadcasting staff
- All World Athletics Family accredited persons, officials and delegates.

LOC staff, workforce and volunteers, should adhere to the rules provided by the LOC management, based on the national public health policies and regulations. The LOC should establish which categories should be COVID-19-tested and with which testing methodologies. Possible testing alternatives are:

- Antigenic test
- LAMP test on pooled samples
- LAMP test on single sample
- PCR test.

It is recommended that LOC staff, workforce and volunteers in contact with non-local client groups, comply to the standard Medical Clearance Protocol described above. The LOC staff, workforce and volunteers testing protocol should be discussed and agreed between the LOC and World Athletics on a competition-based approach, to ensure consistency in medical, operational, financial and legal aspects.

2.4. Definition of the risk levels of “contact subjects”

A person is considered “contact subject” if has met someone confirmed of having the virus during the infectious period (i.e. after symptoms developed and 48 hours before) and have been in close contact with this person. Close contact means contact lasting more than 15 minutes, at less than 1.5 metre, without protective equipment such as a face mask.

The following scenarios are considered **at high risk for a contact** subject of a positive PCR test individual:

- Without Mask:
 - has shared a hotel bedroom (including bathroom) with an infected person;
 - had a direct contact of less than 1.5 metre, whatever the duration, with an infected person (e.g. meal, drinks, conversation, hugging, kissing, flirting,...);
- Despite wearing a Mask:
 - has been in close or prolonged contact (car, meeting or working room) with an infected individual who had several episodes of coughing or sneezing

The following scenarios are considered **at low risk for a contact** subject of a positive PCR test individual:

- speaking to an infected person through a plexiglass barrier or window,
- N95 or FFP2 mask worn by the contact person or the infected person while both are in contact,
- Passing by an infected person in a corridor or a room for a short duration of time (few seconds)

Someone considering himself/herself as potential contact subject should report to the COVID-19 coordination officer or to the World Athletics Medical Delegate (if any).

2.5. Leaving the competition city

For public health purposes, the following aspects should be considered prior leaving the hosting city:

- Client groups or individual who, for compliance with their national sanitary rules, should provide a negative PCR test to enter back in their home country, must inform the COVID-19 coordination officer, and World Athletics Medical Delegate (if any), when registering on the accreditation system. Costs for these additional tests will be supported by the client group or the individual requesting them.
- All COVID-19 positive cases occurring within ten days following the end of the event should be notified to both the COVID-19 coordination officer and to the World Athletics Medical Delegate (if any). This information will be dealt confidentially and will be used only for both epidemiological and contact tracing purposes.
- All client groups and individual are asked to comply with the sanitary recommendation or rules for travellers of their final destination (testing, isolation, etc.)

2.6. Vaccination for COVID-19

Different types of vaccine against COVID-19 will be available in 2021. Nevertheless, as vaccines availability scheme, duration and nature of the conferred immune protection are unknown, all subjects taking part to WAS events, regardless of the fact that they have been vaccinated or not, will have to adhere to these procedures with the objective of protecting all other participants and the local community.

3. Arriving and staying at the competition location

3.1. Arrival at the hosting city Airport

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

From the Airport to Official Hotels and from Official Hotels to the Airport

Everyone will receive, at the LOC welcome desk, a kit including enough disposable surgical masks (a minimum of two masks per day during the stay), hand sanitizers, and an information leaflet with COVID-19-related rules and recommendations.

Transfers from the Airport to the Official Hotels will take place respecting the sanitary rules in force at the time. Furthermore,

- Vehicles used for transfer will run at 50% of their maximum capacity, to keep social distancing
- Vehicles will be disinfected before and after each trip
- Masks must be worn at all times, in buses or shuttles, for the entire duration of the transfer
- Passengers are requested to use the hand sanitizer provided before entering the buses and shuttles

Individuals and Teams arriving directly to the Official Hotels with their own means of transportation, should inform World Athletics and the LOC about the expected arrival date and time, so that testing procedures can be planned accordingly. They will follow the same procedure detailed in Stage 2.

3.2. At the Official Hotels

For health protection purposes, interactions between accredited persons/groups should be limited to the strictly necessary. Personal accreditation badge must be worn around the neck, with the individual photo and name clearly visible, at all times in all public spaces.

Member Federations are required to send their rooming list to World Athletics (teamservices@worldathletics.org) and the LOC accommodation manager within the Final Entry deadline. Room sharing will be allowed only for members of the same team or client group, that successfully went through stage 1 and stage 2 of the Medical Clearance Protocol. At Team hotels, room cleaning will be organised by the hotel cleaning staff, upon request only, to limit contact between hotel staff and team members.

Meals

Accreditation must be presented to be admitted in the restaurant. Wearing a mask is mandatory at all time in the restaurant, except while eating and drinking. Everyone entering the restaurant must clean hands with sanitizing gel.

Service will be provided according to National/Regional/Local Government regulations in force at the time, as well as hotel internal rules regarding sanitary restrictions. The dining room layout will ensure physical distancing of at least 1.5 metres. Groups that have already shared meals and rooms in the previous days, can be organised in group tables with a maximum of 4 people seating together. To facilitate the process, restaurants' service hours will be extended. Shifts will be organized to respect social distancing and room capacity limitations. Everyone's cooperation is requested to reduce the time spent in the restaurant to a minimum.

Depending on planned attendance to the restaurants, different processes can be implemented. If attendance is low to medium, meals will be served (served buffet) at Official Hotels' restaurants. If attendance is high, the served buffet option can be replaced by a self-service where users will have to wear disposable gloves when entering the dining room and dispose used gloves in small bin located under their dining table. Should they decide to return to the buffet, customers will have to queue and use new disposable gloves.

Physiotherapy service at Team Hotels

Treatment will be available in Official Team Hotels. All services will be provided according to medical regulations in force at the time. Hygienic procedures will be enforced in physiotherapy rooms, in particular:

- Single-use sheets must be used for each subject;
- Massage tables must be disinfected before and after each treatment;
- Treatments will be performed on scheduled appointments.

4. Training

Training will be allowed in a dedicated and secured area. **Personal accreditation badge must be worn to access the area.** Only athletes will be allowed to remove their masks while in the training area. Physical distancing should always be strongly encouraged.

It is strongly recommended not to train outside the official venues in order to avoid contact with people not related to the event (i.e. parks, boulevards, etc.)

5. Doping Controls

Doping controls will take place in two different locations: pre-competition tests at the athletes' official hotel and in-competition tests in a dedicated doping control station at the main venue.

Athletes will be required to wear their accreditation badge to facilitate the identification process, in case they are selected for doping control. The doping control station will be designed to ensure social distancing during all phases of doping control operations. All antidoping staff, athletes and accompanying persons will be required to wear mask (and where applicable gloves) for the entire procedure. Doping control operations will be conducted in strict accordance with AIU COVID-19 special instructions to Doping Control Personnel.

6. Media and Broadcasting

A specific Medical Clearance Protocol for Media will be published before the opening of the event's Online Press Accreditation System.

6.1. Press Conference the day before the Competition

Only accredited media will be allowed in the press conference room.

The press conference room must accommodate seated media, respecting social distancing. Photographers and TV personnel should have a limited possibility to move to get the coverage needed. The head table for the speakers must be 2.5-3 m away from the 1st row of seats. On the head table no extra microphones will be allowed except the one from the main audio system.

At the back of the room platform for cameras will be available (broadcasters, live streaming, etc.). TV cameras must be able to get the audio from an audio splitter at the back, where the platform will be.

A microphone will be placed in the middle of the room for media to ask questions (2-3 m away

from the seats around it). Media intending to ask questions, should cue in front of the microphone, respecting social distancing. Press conference will be live streamed. One to one interviews although not recommended will be planned in advance and in cooperation with World Athletics.

6.2. Photographers

Photographers Head-On

The positions on the Head-On platform will be preassigned.

Photo Positions

Photographers circulation must be taken into consideration while planning client flows. Use of the space behind the advertising boards (LED or static boards) is recommended to avoid cross flows with spectators.

6.3. Broadcasting

Broadcasting staff should comply with the health protection procedures outlined in this document. Broadcasting staff is required to limit contact with athletes, team officials, other media, LOC and World Athletics staff, to a strict minimum. Should interaction with the above-mentioned groups occur, broadcasting staff should follow a minimum social distancing of 1.5 metres (2 metres with athletes in mixed zone or post event). The broadcasting compound should be supervised by dedicated security personnel provided by the LOC and have dedicated toilets and washroom. Wearing mask is mandatory at all times.

6.4. Media Centre and Tribune

As the Media centre is usually indoor, it is recommended that media staff keep their mask the whole time. Everyone entering the Media centre should clean their hands with hand sanitizer. LOC should make sure that proper disinfection of the area is done before the opening. LOC should secure an intermediate cleaning every 3 hours in the Media centre. A minimum distance of 2 metres between each table/chair (or one spare chair between two persons) or where social distancing is not possible, to use the plexiglass partition (approx 50 cm high) between each working place is recommended. Printing and distribution of printed materials should be kept at a minimum to limit risk of indirect contamination.

Media Tribune should be built to respect the social distancing - a minimum distance of 2 metres between each table/chair (or one spare chair between two persons) or where social distancing is not possible, to use the plexiglass partition (approx 50 cm high) between each working place is recommended. Sharing the devices (TV – CIS monitors) should be minimized. LOC should make

sure that proper disinfection of the area is done before the opening and intermediate cleaning every 3 hours (with no interfering to working media). The hand sanitizers should be available on the Media Tribune. Distribution of printed materials should be kept at a minimum to limit risk of indirect contamination.

6.5. The Mixed Zone

The Mixed Zone represents a location of potential viral dissemination. It is possible that athletes entering the Mixed Zone are still hyperventilating (especially long sprints, middle-long distance, long distance, and race-walking athletes) because of the exertion. Dissemination of contaminated droplets and aerosols, thus, can occur. The Mixed Zone's design and access should be carefully planned. The number of media accredited to enter in the Mixed Zone should be kept to a minimum under these exceptional circumstances.

Whenever possible the Mixed Zone should be outdoor, weather conditions allowing it. The Mixed Zone should also be a part of the one-way flow inside the venue.

Several options can be considered when designing the Mixed Zone:

- a multiple slot Mixed Zone where interview boxes can be organised. An athlete will be able to give interview to media through the plexiglass window. Each Mixed Zone box could host 2 journalists. Circulation of journalists and cameramen working in the Mixed Zone to other parts of the venue should be limited.

The recommended dimensions for these interview boxes are 2 metres width by 4 metres long. An extra length of 4 metres (one-way flow: 2 metres and athlete spot: 2 metres) should be considered. Overall, each interview box would represent a 16 square metres area.

- a safety distancing zone of at least 2 meters should be arranged between athletes and journalists. Both are advised to wear mask during the interview. Use of booms is recommended.
- in case an outdoor Mixed Zone should not be possible, the Mixed Zone should be organised in a well-ventilated and large room. The rule of 5 square metres per accredited media person should be followed by the LOC to determine the total size of the indoor Mixed Zone. The set up should be as described in the above options. No other accredited person than athletes, journalists, cameramen, the LOC Media team and medical staff should be allowed in the Mixed Zone.

7. Procedures for individuals staying in the competition location more than 48 hours.

In case the duration of stay in the competition location is more than 48 hours, further additional procedures should be implemented.

7.1. Re-testing onsite

Regardless of the accredited category, all individuals staying in the competition location more than 48 hours, should be re-tested to detect SARS CoV2 genetic material (PCR or LAMP). Re-testing should be organized on appointment every 48 hours, starting from the test performed upon arrival.

Sample collection scheduling should be planned according to the category's schedule and possibly in the evening and provide results by the following morning.

7.2. Clinical information and symptoms reporting

All individuals staying in the competition location more than 48 hours, might be asked to report their clinical conditions and potential onset of symptoms through an online system. Symptoms self-reporting form should ideally be automatically generated by an electronic medical encounter system and sent via email to the provided individual's email address every 48 hours.

Failure to comply with the re-testing protocol plan or not providing the requested periodical clinical information, will result in voidance of the accreditation badge and exclusion from participating to the event.

World Athletics Covid-19 Protection Procedures

Specific Procedures For Stadium-Based Events

1. Pre-event guidelines

To avoid and minimise interactions between individuals as much as possible, it is recommended to limit participation to the event to those considered essential to the organization of the event and the competition.

1.1. Invitation of athletes, athletes' supporting staff, non-local technical officials, and non-local workforce.

For one-day meeting, athletes, athletes' supporting staff, non-local technical officials, and non-local workforce should spend the least necessary amount of time in the city hosting the competition. The optimal duration of stay is here less than 72 hours. Some specific workforces like timing system, broadcasting staffs or athletes and athletes' supporting staff travelling from other regions of the world with a significant time difference could, on an exceptional basis, be allowed to stay beyond the 72-hour period, for operational reasons only.

In all cases, client groups and individual still present at the competition site more than 48 hours after their second naso/oropharyngeal swab test (stage 2) should comply with the onsite retesting procedure described in in paragraph 7 of the Chapter Common Procedures for Stadium-Based and Out-of-Stadium-Based Events.

1.2. Medical Encounter Registry and Data Protection

It is strongly recommended that the LOC and the Chief Medical Officer organise and use a Medical Encounter Registry. All encounters occurring pre-, during and post- competition should be recorded on a preferably electronic Medical Encounter System. This registry should also include athlete, staff, officials, and LOC workforce (ideally all LOC workforce; at least LOC workforce in contact with athletes, athletes' supporting staff and officials) contact details to facilitate identification and further contact of potentially infected individuals. This registry should be compliant with local personal data protection legislation, regulations, and policies. As disclosure of medical data may be requested to athletes, staff, event technical officials and workforce, it is recommended that this point is addressed by the working contract linking these individuals to the competition organiser. Local legal advice should be sought to cover this important matter, and to ensure compliance with local data protection legislation, regulations, and legal requirements.

2. Event guidelines

2.1. Accredited groups entering official venues

General principles:

- All accredited personnel and workforce must always wear mask and have their personal hand sanitiser gel. Access to the competition venue will be granted only to those wearing a face mask and having with their personal hand sanitizer. Spare personal protective equipment should be available at restricted areas entry points.
- Face mask should be worn always by everyone in the stadium, warm-up zone, all Media areas (not only Media centre), with exception of athletes when exercising for the purpose of warming-up or competing in their event.
- Accredited groups that might be in close contact with athletes such as jury, technical officials and technical staff should spend the shortest time as possible on the Field of Play (FoP), corridors, Call Room. Once their duty is completed, they should leave the FoP and all other sensitive zones.
- Entrance of spectators and entrance of accredited personnel in the stadium should be separate and the flows should not cross with each other.
- The access to and the exit from the Call Room, the FoP, and the Mixed Zone should follow a one-way path for accredited personnel, (clockwise or counter-clockwise).

2.2. Training and warm up location procedures

To reduce the risk of viral transmission, training should be restricted only to competing athletes.

The warm-up zone should be organized in a large open-air area at close walking distance to the competition stadium. This is important to avoid, as much as possible, use of shuttles and buses to reach the warm-up and competition areas.

Access to the warm-up area should be strictly controlled. Public should not be able to access the warm-up zone or the close surroundings. Athletes should be invited to enter the warm-up area according to a specific timetable, to ensure that social distancing measures can be maintained.

Only one accredited accompanying person (e.g. coach, manager, physio) per athlete will be allowed to enter in the warm-up area. No media should be allowed in the warm-up area.

Before entering in the warm-up zone or their dedicated toilets, all accredited persons should wear a mask and wash their hands with soap and water or with hydroalcoholic gel.

Social distance rules as well as the use of mask is mandatory in the warm-up zone.

To facilitate this process, the LOC should set-up the warm-up area so that the athletes are evenly distributed over the entire surface of the warm-up zone. Only athletes can temporarily remove their mask when exercising and warming up.

If the warm-up zone is too small or indoor, special attention should be paid to the accredited person flows and timetable in this area. Organizing multiple warm-up areas is a possible alternative.

If athletes use specific devices to warm-up (throwing events for instance), the LOC should provide each athlete with a “personal” device. If this is not possible, then the athletes and their staff should be given clear instructions on the necessary process to clean the devices after each use. Athletes must return those “personal” devices to LOC staff once they will finish their warm-up. The required cleaning products should be available. Other equipment (hurdle, starting blocks, mats,...) used for warm-up purpose will be regularly cleaned by the LOC staff.

When leaving the warm-up area, athletes should directly enter the stadium through a dedicated one-way pathway, to reach the Call Room.

2.3. Call room flow and procedures

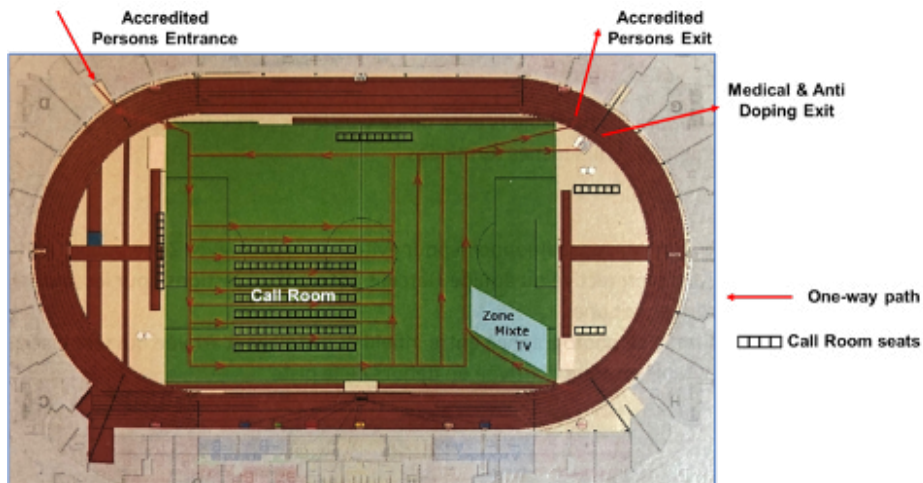
The Call Room usually represents a location with a high risk of viral transmission. To minimise the risks, the following recommendations should be implemented:

- All accredited personnel should always wear a mask in the Call Room.
- Do not use volunteers to recover and manage athletes’ basket. Should volunteers be recruited as a part of the workforce, the LOC should clearly define and communicate their role, and keep their number at a minimum.
- The Call Room should be arranged in an outdoor location, sheltered if necessary.
- A minimum distance of 2 metres between each athlete chair should be observed.
- Ideally, each event should have its dedicated zone in the Call Room so that chairs are used by a sole person during the whole event. In case this is not possible, it is mandatory to disinfect chairs between each use.
- Using part of the FoP to accommodate the Call Room is an option. For instance, the Throws areas can be used if no throwing events are organised. The Jumps areas can be used if no or few Jumps events are organised.
- Using a secured part of the warm-up area to accommodate the Call Room is another option.
- The Call Room should operate with the minimum necessary number of accredited officials.

- As the use of volunteers to collect baskets is strongly discouraged, athletes are responsible for collecting their bags and belongings after the end of their event. This process should be performed in a short time.
- The Call Room should be in a place which is consistent with the one-way flow operated in the stadium.
- Should the LOC opt for an indoor Call Room, this should be large enough to respect a social distancing of 2 meters between athletes. Hand sanitizers should be available at the entrance of the Call Room.

An example of FoP flows and Call Room set-up is illustrated in the Figure 1 A and B below.

Figure 1. Examples of FoP flows (A) and Call Room set-up (B) in an outdoor stadium



2.4. Field of Play rules for athletes and staff

It is important for the LOC to keep the number of officials, volunteers and staff working on the track and the field to a minimum.

Middle-distance running events

The very high levels of ventilation achieved by the runners right after crossing the finish line represents a significant risk for dissemination of the virus. Therefore, right after the crossing of the finish line, the athletes should stay away from the public (victory lap) and to some extent from officials. This applies until they return to the call room to collect their belongings. All technical officials in charge of these events that could potentially come close to the athletes during this period (approximately 3 minutes post finish), should wear protective glasses or a face shield in addition to their mask. It is strongly recommended for the anti-doping personnel to delay the notification process for a couple of minutes and to prefer notifying the targeted athletes a bit further down the exit one-way path.

For the specific case of 3000m steeple chase, sufficient quantities of chlorine (or similar chemical sanitizer) should be added to the water at the jump.

Sprinting events

For long sprints (200m, 400m, 4x400 relays), the same preventive measures as for middle distance running events (see above) should apply. In addition, the starting blocks should be cleaned between each heat/use (by different athletes). Specific surface cleaning procedures should be discussed and agreed with the starting block manufacturers.

Athletes should avoid touching hurdles as much as possible. Should this occur, the hurdles should be cleaned by a technical official only. The technical officials in charge of the cleaning procedures (blocks, hurdles) should wear disposable gloves and discard them in a dedicated bin after use.

Relays

See above (Sprinting events). In addition, the relay baton should be cleaned by the technical official after being used by the relay teams. Relay team members should avoid from gathering, hugging, and celebrating at the end of their races.

Jumping events

For vertical jump events, the athletes, before and in between attempts, should sit on dedicated and clearly marked chairs while maintaining a minimum distance of 2 meters between each other. Judges and officials should also restrict their moves in the area and should have their preferable place to stand clearly marked on the ground.

The jumping mat is a potential source of indirect contamination and it is recommended that the LOC implement some protection/cleaning procedures to prevent potential cross contamination between athletes. Here after are some examples of procedures which can be implemented:

- Systematic use of hand sanitiser by athlete before each jump could be recommended.
- Between each jump, one or two officials can quickly clean the mat with a floor mopper and sanitizing solution,
- A thin layer can be unrolled from a roll of recyclable plastic or tissue, cut to a standardised size and placed on the jumping mat by two volunteers (during the warm-up session) or by the official during the official competition. Layers will be left on top of each other, removed from time to time and stored in a dedicated container.

For horizontal jumps, the same rules on distancing and positioning as the vertical jumps should be enforced. The sandpit is a potential reservoir for virus. The scientific data on this topic are scarce and it is important to take a proactive, conservative approach. Therefore, it is recommended, before the start of the event to wet and mix the sand with a solution that contains biodegradable and non-skin aggressive sanitizing agent (many of them contains oxygen peroxide).

Throwing events

The throwing implements should not be shared by athletes during warm-up and competition. Officials in charge of collecting, transporting, and recovering implements should clean their hands with a hydroalcoholic gel or use disposable gloves after each handling. The remote-controlled vehicles used to bring implements to the throwing zone should be cleaned with wipes on a regular basis by officials.

Combined events

All recommendations described in this document for track and field events should apply to combined events competition. In addition, the room used by athletes to recover and change between events should be outdoor (as much as possible) and large enough to allow distancing. Coaches should be encouraged to interact with their athletes remotely and through electronic devices (smartphone, etc). Competition rules should be softened to make this possible.

2.5. Field of Play Media and Broadcasting

Photographers

The number of infield photographers should be kept at a minimum. Photographers should wear a mask the entire time. Infield photographers should stay within the infield throughout the session/ event. LOC must provide data drop off point (preferably via LAN or dedicated Wi-Fi) for the infield photographers to upload the photographs. Their moves in the infield should be kept at a minimum.

The Head-On photo platform should have a limited number of dedicated spots for photographers; each spot should be 2 metres from the others. This photo platform should be located on the FoP not far from the one-way flow used by athletes, as per World Athletics guidelines.

Broadcasting

Although primarily designed for the UK business, there are well written TV production guidance note dealing with the COVID-19 threat: <https://downloads.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/tv-production-guidance-managing-the-risk-of-coronavirus-in-production-making-v1.pdf>

Broadcasting staff working on the FoP should stay at their workstation for a pre-defined, strictly necessary amount of time. They should avoid unnecessary conversation, observe social distancing rules, and not cross the one-way flow used by athletes. Broadcasting staff on stands should avoid contact with the public and spectators and observe social distancing rules. The layout inside broadcasting vans should be organised so that each desk is separated from another by 1.5 m. When this is not possible small partition should be considered. Ventilation inside the van should be organised ideally with open doors while the production process is on. Surfaces, screen, door handles should be cleaned on a regular basis, and a complete disinfection of the van should be done once the broadcasting mission is completed.

2.6. Post-event room procedures

In case the Call Room is not large enough to accommodate all athletes (immediately prior and post competition groups and flows, as described in Figure 1), a post event control room must be organised. The post event control room should be on open air if weather permits. The surface and the layout of this room should be adapted to guarantee:

- social distancing with other athletes, staff and volunteers (if any),
- limited duration of stay and easy flows,
- limited number of volunteers and staff (transponder collection, doping control, healthcare)

From the Post Event Control back to their hotel, athletes should be guided through a secured one-way path.

2.7. Award Ceremony

To avoid repeated entries of athletes and officials on the FoP during the competition, it is recommended carefully organise the award ceremony.

2.8. Anti-Doping procedures

Anti-Doping procedures under COVID-19 outbreak should strictly adhere to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) recommendations and the AIU COVID-19 special instructions to Doping Control Personnel: https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/resources/files/20200506_ado_guidance_resuming_testing_en.pdf

In addition to these specific guidelines, the number of tested athletes should be limited to the minimum required and make sure that the waiting and processing rooms are large enough to accommodate athletes, accompanying persons and anti-doping staff, whilst maintaining social distancing. It is up to the anti-doping delegate to decide whether a softening of the WADA guidelines can be decided based on the negative PCR test results.

2.9. Medical procedures (including FoP, warm-up, and training venues)

All patients should be considered potentially infective, even if they have provided the results from a negative swab test. Therefore, personal protective equipment should be used always by athletes and medical/paramedical staff. Extra personal protective equipment (including but not limited to disposable gowns, face shields, gloves) should be available at medical and physiotherapy rooms. Hand washing protocol should be implemented when entering and leaving all rooms, and between each medical encounter.

No accompanying person should be allowed in the medical/paramedical rooms. Except for medical emergencies, all medical and paramedical services should be organised on an appointment basis, to respect social distancing. If necessary, a waiting room can be organised with a minimum distance of 2 metres between each seated person.

In addition to the usual devices and material found in competition medical rooms, these areas should be equipped with:

- dedicated bins to collect potentially contaminated consumables,
- skin thermometer (medical room)
- pulse oximeter (medical room)
- material to perform a nasopharyngeal swab for the purpose of SARS CoV-2 test (medical room).

An entry and exit register to medical and paramedical rooms should be organised and kept under the responsibility of the chief medical officer.

A cleaning plan should be organized at least every 3 hours for the medical/paramedical rooms.

Should the distance between the stadium and the athletes' hotel be too big, a minimal physiotherapy service can be exceptionally organised at the athlete hotels. It should then comply with the same recommendations as above.

3. Post-event guidelines

3.1. Winners/Medallists press conference

The press conference should be organised in a limited number of cases, following the set-up described at Pre-competition press conference. The LOC Media manager should also consider holding a remote video call or conference to limit the numbers of journalists, photographers or camera crew in attendance at the location of proposed press conference.

3.2. Accredited groups exit and transfer

The LOC should organise, with the hotel management, dedicated lanes and procedure to facilitate a fast-track check-out. Transport of accredited individuals from hotels directly to the airport or railway station should be done by vehicles operating at 50% of their transportation capacity.

3.3. Cleaning procedures

Once the competition is finished a thorough disinfection procedure should be undertaken. Special attention should be paid to indoor spaces used by athletes, staff and officials like call room, toilets, mixed zone, medical/paramedical rooms, anti-doping rooms, broadcasting and media areas, including TV studios. These cleaning procedures should be discussed between the venue operator/owner and the COVID-19 coordinator and agreed before the date of the competition.

World Athletics Covid-19 Protection Procedures

Specific Procedures
For Out-of-Stadium-Based Events

1. Warm-up

The warm-up area will be in a closed area, accessible to team members only. Individuals will enter the warm-up area from the hotel via a designated route.

After the last call for the event, athletes will walk to the Call-room, guided by a dedicated Competition Official. Athletes will wear their mask during this phase.

2. Call Room

The Call-room will be a dedicated room where seats will allow for physical distancing. The area and each seat will be disinfected before and after each use by dedicated LOC personnel. Athletes should prepare for the race before going to the start line and leave all their belongings in boxes available in the call room. Athletes will be authorized to remove their masks and throw them in dedicated bin only once at the start line. Dedicated personnel from the LOC (equipped with masks and gloves) will collect masks.

3. The Racecourse

Portable toilets will be available for athlete's use only, along the racecourse. They will be inspected and cleaned by dedicated personnel every 15 minutes during the duration of the competitions. Sanitizing gels or equivalent will be available at toilets' entrance.

4. Refreshments stations

The LOC staff in charge of the refreshment station will wear gloves, mask and face shield. Only sealed bottles of water and beverages will be available to athletes at refreshments stations. Manipulation of bottles or other items for athletes, by either team official or neutral LOC volunteers, will be done with extreme caution and regular hand sanitizing will be implemented by all staff members. Waste generated by refreshment stations will be treated as potentially contaminated.

5. Post-event: Finish Line, Mixed Zone and Medal Ceremony

Athletes completing the race will be given masks by LOC volunteers, once they have crossed the finish line and before entering the mixed zone. In the Mixed Zone, a physical distancing of 2 metres will be ensured between the interviewer and the athlete. The interviewer and assisting staff will

wear masks, as the athlete will likely not wear a mask to answer questions. Athletes must wear mask when exiting the Mixed Zone. A remote Mixed Zone can be organised via teleconference devices connecting accredited media on Media Tribune and specialised Remote Mixed Zone moderator.

From the Mixed Zone, athletes will go to a Post Event Control room where they can recover their belongings. The post event control room should be on open air if weather permits. The surface and the layout of this room should be adapted to guarantee:

- social distancing with other athletes, staff and volunteers (if any),
- limited duration of stay and easy flows,
- limited number of volunteers and staff (timing, doping control, healthcare)

From the Post Event Control back to their hotel, athletes should be guided through a secured one-way path.

The top 3 males and top 3 females plus the first three teams will attend the medal ceremony.

6. Medical

Medical staff will be located along the racecourse and at the finish line. All medical staff will wear mask and gloves and operate according to the medical protocol to prevent any contamination during their contact with a patient.

7. Photographers

Photographers will be allowed in specific locations around the course as well as on the Head-On platform at the Finish Line.

World Athletics Covid-19 Protection Procedures

Appendices

APPENDIX A - COVID-19 SYMPTOMS SELF REPORTING FORM

Competition Title

Last name	
First name	
Date of birth	
Today's Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	

Private and confidential

To: World Athletics

Have you experienced any of the following symptoms in the last 48 hours:

	YES	NO
Sore throat		
Persistent cough		
Breathing difficulty		
Fever (Temperature Above 38.0 C / 100.4 F)		
Headache		
Vomiting and diarrhoea		
Muscle soreness		
Loss of taste and smell		

I confirm that

I DO

I DO NOT

display or report any symptoms of COVID-19.

Signed:

By signing this self-reporting form, I consent to share to World Athletics whether I do or do not display any symptoms of COVID-19. Accordingly, I have signed the attached Medical Information Release Form. I confirm have read and understood the Medical Clearance Protocol Privacy Policy ('Privacy Policy') and that this form and the Medical Information Release Form will both be disclosed to third parties (as referenced in the Privacy Policy) for the purposes of deciding whether or not I pose a risk to public health in order to issue my accreditation to the (Competition title). I also acknowledge that the Medical Clearance Protocol is subject to local legislation, regulations, and local government and public health authorities' guidance to safeguarding against the COVID-19 pandemic generally and the health and safety of all attendees at the event.

APPENDIX B – COVID-19 MEDICAL INFORMATION RELEASE FORM

Competition Title

Last name	
First name	
Date of birth	
Today's Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	

Private and confidential

I understand that World Athletics wishes to obtain:

1. the results of tests detecting SARS CoV2 genetic material (PCR or LAMP) on the samples collected from my nasopharyngeal swab; and
2. the results of the medical examination carried out on me by my personal or team doctor or the doctor working with World Athletics to determine whether or not I display or report signs of COVID-19.

This information is required to allow World Athletics to assess whether I may participate in the _____ (Competition title) without causing a risk to public health.

I understand that if I do not allow the above information to be provided to World Athletics, I will not be permitted to participate in _____ (Competition title) as they will not be able to assess whether or not I pose a risk to public health.

I confirm that I [do/ do not]* consent you to send the above information to Dr _____, medical delegate at the _____ (Competition title); and World Athletics' service provider for data hosting purposes, being noted that the servers can be located outside of Europe.

*SELECT AS APPROPRIATE

Signed:

Name of individual:



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