



## "COVID-19 protocols for BPAC Continental Events"

This document prepared by Badminton Pan Am to the reference protocol and **mandatory compliance**, with sanitary measures to be apply for the safe realization of the **Continental Events 2022**, due to the COVID-19 pandemic that we are facing. This aims to ensure maximum safe sports practice for all, athletes, TOs, staff group, and partners in general.

This protocol complies with general measures and recommendations for prevention, cleaning of facilities, guidelines for staff and hotel area, as well as transport and communication for athletes. Established by local authorities, as well as recommendations made by the BWF for tournaments.

Finally, it is noted that this health protocol is mandatory for all athletes, technical officers, staff and all the members who will make this continental tournament possible. **Please consider these protocols are valid and must be followed even if the Athlete/Participant has been vaccinated.**

**Failure to comply with health protocols could lead to a sanction on the athlete/participants**

### A- Glossary

#### **Infected Person**

- An infected person is a person who has a positive PCR (laboratory) test confirming the presence of COVID-19.

#### **Potentially Infected Person**

- A potentially infected person is someone who has symptoms or signs suggestive of COVID-19 and/or is awaiting results of testing following a close contact.

#### **Direct Contact**

- Is someone who had contact with an infected person (being contact within 1 metre and for >15 minutes);
- Provided direct care to an infected person without using proper personal protective equipment;
- Stayed in the same close environment as an infected person (including sharing a room or being at the same gathering) for any amount of time – i.e. having been in contact within 1 meter for more than 15 minutes.

#### **Quarantine**

- This is the restriction of activities of or the separation of the people who are not ill but who may have been exposed to an infected person or disease – or as required and defined by local health authorities. The purpose of quarantine is to monitor their symptoms, ensuring the early detection of cases and preventing possible further disease spread.

#### **Isolation**

- This is the separation of ill or infected persons from others to prevent the spread of infection or contamination

## B- Accreditation Groups

There are two accreditation groups – green for tested personnel and red for non-tested personnel. The green group personnel will have access to specific green zone areas and red group personnel will have access to specific red zone areas. The accreditation pass design should clearly display red or green. Red group accreditations are not permitted in green zone areas as these personnel are not part of the testing programme.

**Green** The Green category primarily includes all stakeholders that will come into direct contact with the players and players' entourage. All these will be part of the testing programme on arrival to the tournament city preferably at the venue or hotel. Green group accreditations are not permitted to stay in red zone areas (and any Green Group personnel passing through any red zones should be done with proper protective measures – i.e. mask wearing and social distancing).

**Red** The Red Group includes personnel who would not ordinarily come into contact with players and players' entourage. This group does not need to undergo testing or temperature checks unless advised by the local health authority.

**Red group accreditations are not permitted in green zone areas.**

Green		Red	
Zone	People	Zone	People
FOP	Players	Spectator entrance	Other media who will not have direct access to players.
Warm up courts	Entourage	Spectator concourse	Red zone area cleaners
Practice courts	Umpires	Spectator seating area	Venue staff
Players' lounge	Referees	VIP lounge	Other photographers
Player assembly point	Line Judges	VIP parking	
Changing rooms	Staff	Non tested venue staff rooms	
Secretariat and associated LOC offices	Tournament doctors	Media centre or tribune for nontested media	
TO rooms	Anti-doping	OB truck	
Medical and physio rooms	FOP management team	Non tested LOC staff rooms	
Anti-doping room	Shuttle control	Infront Office	
Player interview area	Player assembly point managers		
Match control			

## C- Overall Considerations

- All Players, Coaches, Team Managers, Technical Officials, and tournament Staff and any other personal who are taking part of this Continental Championships must follow all the indications and guidelines indicated in this document, fail to comply this will lead to a sanction or removed for the tournament.
- Is recommended that all Players, Coaches, Team Managers, Technical Officials and any other personal which are traveling, to buy a COVID-19 insurance together with the normal international travel insurance.
- It's mandatory that all personnel taking part in Continental Events have a complete **COVID-19 vaccination scheme**.
- In the case of a positive COVID-19 test, the concerned person must go straight to quarantine, for this specific situation the official hotel offers a Humanitarian rate **which must be borne by the concerned person or Team**. (PCR test can confirm/deny results **(check with the hotel if there will be a humanitarian fee)**)
- As part of the control and sanitary measures, all participants will undergo the COVID-19 rapid test halfway through the tournament as proposed schedule:
  - **Pan Am Team and Individual Championships:**
    - Antigen Test before Hotel check in
    - Antigen Test 4 days after their arrival
  - **Pan Am Junior Championships:**
    - Antigen Test before Hotel check in
    - Antigen Test every four (4) days during the tournament.
  - Covid-19 test could carry charges to the concerned participating Member Associations and this will be communicated into the tournament prospectus.
- Event bubble consist of official hotel, venue and official transportation provided by local organization.
- The Team entourage includes not only players and coaches but also psychologists, therapists, players' family, and all additional personnel that travels with each team, whom also have the same responsibility to engage in safe practices following the established protocol.
- The athlete's entourage comprises all the people associated with the athletes, including, without limitation, managers, agents, coaches, physical trainers, medical staff, scientists, sports organizations, sponsors, lawyers, and any person promoting the athlete's sporting career, including family members.

### 1.-Protocol for players, technical staff and Team entourage:

It is set for all players, coaches, support team, Technical Officials and staff **both nationally and international**, must take a COVID-19 PCR test within 3 days (72 hours) before participating in the tournament and showing a negative test result. This to ensure that participants enter the



tournament with some certainty that they are COVID-19 free, in addition, they must submit their complete Covid-19 vaccination scheme certificate/card, **PDF copy of this result and copy of the vaccination card must be sent to the following email [events@badmintonpanam.org](mailto:events@badmintonpanam.org) prior their arrival to the competition.**

## **2.-Safety measures in flights and airports.**

The delegations or players coming from abroad it is recommended to travel by air, to facilitate their access to the country, since the general health measures are those that operate in most countries, such as: use of **mandatory facemask, maintain the physical distance of 1.5 meters, wash your hands periodically during the journey, use antibacterial gel and do not touch your face.**

Countries Immigration offices have already several guidelines to enter to their countries, so, is recommended that the participating Member Associations, verify all the requirements before their departure in order to avoid any issues.

Fail to comply Government immigration guidelines is a direct responsibility of the concerned participating Team.

## **3.-Protocol for players, technical staff and support team:**

Transportation will be arranged so that players have the physical distance measures which means that not all seats can be used. All **persons on board the transport must use the Mask/ mouth cover/ face mask throughout the journey**, antibacterial gel will be administered for the hands when boarding the transport. All vehicles used to transport players and support equipment will be disinfected periodically and drivers must wear face masks.

**All delegations must stay only at the official hotel** which complies all the biosecurity sanitary measures established by the national government such as: temperature control when entering the hotel, hydrogel dispensers in all common areas, capacity control, and adequate and guaranteed cleaning measures.

The official hotel of the tournament could be shared with other guests who are not related to the event. Therefore, it is important for players to take steps to mitigate risks, such as avoiding close meetings, maintaining safe distances, using face cover and face masks, using antibacterial gel when taking elevators and its recommended capacity. To ensure the safest possible environment for players and the support team, the local organizing committee will aim to create as much as possible infection-free "bubbles" within the environment of the venue, so athletes will only be inside their rooms with the following exceptions:

- To have meals (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)
- To pick up a delivery (Following all guidelines established by the hotel)
- To take official transportation to the Venue or Airport.

**Gatherings are not allowed into the hotel rooms.**

#### **4.- General measures - access to sports facilities:**

To access the facilities, players/participants must manage their personal space or **distance of 1.5 meters between each other**. The venue will be given access only to the minimum people required for the competition dispute, PLAYERS, TRAINERS, TECHNICAL OFFICIALS, STAFF. (Venue Capacity will be reduced).

The COMPETITION will have a limitation of attendance reflected in the maximum capacity of the venue based on the Specific Protocol of the venue.

The assembly of the competition shall be in line with the interpersonal separation measures of at least 1.5 metres.

**The use of mask will be always mandatory, except for PLAYERS for the strict duration of matches.** The use of hydroalcoholic gel will be mandatory in the entrances and exits of the seating area and changing rooms. Each day, all accredited personnel, including players and support team, must go through with temperature verification each time they enter the venue.

##### **4.1.-Specific measures in bleachers:**

For the **Pan American Continental events** all players and coaches, will be located in a specific area, for this purpose. **Each PERSON must safeguard the minimum interpersonal distance of 1.5 meters, wear the mask correctly at all times and use antibacterial gel at the inlet and exit. (Specific locations will be designated for each participating delegation within the stands)**

##### **4.2.-Specific measurements in the changing room area.**

Each PERSON must make correct use of the changing rooms by minimizing their presence in them and following extreme protection and hygiene measures in the actions carried out. **(The use of showers is not allowed)**

Each PERSON must safeguard the minimum interpersonal distance of 1.5 meters, always wear the mask correctly and use antibacterial gel at the entrance and exit of the changing rooms.

#### **5.-Warming courts and practice courts:**

To ensure physical distance, a maximum of 4 players are allowed practicing on each warm-up court. In addition, warm-up court are strictly limited to those players with upcoming matches. The local organizing committee seek players help to ensure that these measures are implemented. The local organizing committee will design the practice court schedule in a way that limits the number of players within the practice room at any time.

**Training shuttlecocks** will be provided by the organizing Committee.



**Warming up shuttlecocks**, all players must ensure to have warming up shuttlecocks before warming up time, the Organizing Committee will have a stand to provide warming up shuttlecocks (used ones) previously disinfected.

**5.1-Measures for warming up:**

**BEFORE:** Use your own shuttlecocks on the warming up court and pick them up once you finish by safely storing them in the in the tube or box. Carry with you everything you need for the match, including a dry towel for drying sweat. You will access the court only when you are explicitly called by public address (not before), respecting the access path that is marked by the local organizer for each of the courts.

**5.2- During a Match:**

Safeguard the individual and personal use of your own bottle, towel, rackets and clothing. Ensure the safety distance of 2 meters if you need to go to the Umpire. Avoid holding the shuttlecock with your hands, except during the service you will take it by the feathers. Avoid contact with the net as much as possible. Dry sweat off the playing court and with the use of a personal towel. The court change will be made crossing below the net, in the center of the court. First, the athlete who has won or wins the set will do so. The other athlete, meanwhile, will wait with his/her racket bag to make the change.

**For change of shuttlecock/** once indicated by the referee the player will deposit the shuttlecock in a container on the side of the service judge and take the replacement shuttlecock located in a specific place.

**Sweat Drying/ Once the referee considers that the court should be dried due to the sweat on the court, it will indicate to the person in charge of drying, he/she will keep the minimum distance required, with the athletes on the side of the court on which the drying service is being performed.**

**5.3- After a Match:**

Dry your sweat, put all the personal items inside the racket bag and put the mask back on. First, will leave the athlete/couple closest to the starting point marked by the organization. Then the other athlete/couple will do so, passing under the net. Keep the safety distance at all times. Once all the people have left the court, the cleaning staff will enter to sanitize the court, chairs and periphery of the field of play.

No additional training requests will be received than those already stipulated, prior to the start of the competition.

**6.- Player seating area:**

A player seating area will be allocated during playing sessions and adequate distance between players will be arranged. It is important that players and the team's entourage follow physical distance measurements that are inside of a seating area.

**7.- Meeting point:**



There will be reduced number of people in the player assembly point area than in previous tournaments. Line judges will walk to the court separately from the players. Instead of shaking hands, players can touch the rackets with their opponents and nod/putting their hand on their chest by greeting the referees.

### **8.-Shuttlecock's dispensers**

A shuttlecock dispenser or similar will be located at each side of the court. When a player wants to change a shuttlecock and the umpire allows him to do so, the player can take the shuttlecock of the dispenser and return the used one dropping it into the shuttlecock box placed close to the Service Judge.

### **9.-Coaching**

Only one coach is allowed on court at coach chair.

### **10.-Award Ceremony.**

Before each presentation, players will be asked to disinfect their hands. Only players and authorities are allowed in the presentation area, no children and other entourages are allowed to be there. Physical safety distance measurements will be followed during presentations. Verbal and/or physical contact between athletes is not allowed during the award.

A group photo, safekeeping the distance rules will be held at the end of each presentation.

### **11.- Media obligations**

Players will be required to assume post-match media obligations as described in the Regulations. However, there will be new protocols to ensure the safety of players, media and translators.

The mixed zone or media interview area will be placed near the exit of the field of play according to previous tournaments. The only media allowed in these areas will be designated and in addition, interviews in the mixed area and/or interview area will be conducted under physical strict distance rules with the players and translators required to wear face masks. Post-match interviews on the court will not take place until further notice.

### **12.- Procedure for the case of suspected covid-19.**

The exact procedures of the test shall be determined by the local health authority and/or designated testing body at each event and shall be communicated to the Member Associations before, during or at the end of the tournament. Testing will be conducted in a secure environment at a designated test facility.

### **13. – Table of infringements and sanctions of COVID protocols – 19.**

**(BWF Statutes, Section 2.5.1)**

Sanction	Penalty
Do not provide test results when needed before you arrive at the tournament	\$500 If the failure is due to the failure of the test, in addition to the previous penalty, the accreditation can be eliminated, resulting in expulsion from the tournament.

Refusing to take a COVID test – 19, if requested by the Organizers	\$500 USD and removal of accreditation resulting in expulsion from the tournament
Don't reveal COVID symptoms - 19	First incident: \$500 Second Incident: \$1000 USD and expulsion from the tournament
Enter public areas or when it is necessary to be isolated or refuse to isolate (if necessary)	\$500 USD and expulsion from the tournament
Do not stay at designated accommodation (When necessary)	First incident: \$500 Second Incident: \$1000 USD and expulsion from the tournament
Do not follow the rules of the Tournament with respect to the use of mask.	First incident: Verbal warning Second issue: \$250 USD Third Incidence: \$500 USD and expulsion from the tournament
Shake hands or any physical contact between people	First incident: Verbal warning Second and other incident: \$250 USD