

RESTARTING INTERNATIONAL
BADMINTON TOURNAMENTS

SAFETY PROTOCOLS & OPERATING PROCEDURES 2022

PHASE 3: JULY-DECEMBER 2022



Introduction

The widespread success of national vaccination programmes has allowed the opening up of many economies and international travel is rapidly increasing towards pre pandemic levels in many parts of the world. In the context of vaccination, a recent survey of the top 100 players showed that at least 95% of all participating athletes are vaccinated and therefore protected against the most severe conditions of the COVID-19 disease. With these facts at hand, it is now deemed possible to relax some of the COVID-19 tournament protocols in line with many government policies around the world. Where local governments do mandate increased restrictions over and above the BWF protocols, it will be necessary for all participants to follow these.

The protocols described in this document is intended to cover the second half of 2022 unless there are new Covid-19 related developments in the coming months.

Financial support package

From 1 July 2022 the BWF COVID-19 support fund for tournament organisers will only be allocated on a case-by-case basis and hosts are required to apply in advance to BWF. Funding allocation will be based only on local government COVID-19 safety requirements.

The 10% prize money reduction and 20% sanction fee reduction from the 2021 host agreements will remain available to hosts until the end of 2022.

BWF appointed umpires will continue to be accommodated in single rooms during phase 3 until end of Q3, whereafter double occupancy will resume.

Phase 3 guidelines – relaxation of some protocols

From 1 July 2022 BWF will implement phase 3 of the COVID-19 safety protocols. Phase 3 will remove some of the BWF phase 2 safety protocols and BWF will now predominantly follow the local government regulations in each tournament location. The following BWF protocols will be relaxed in phase 3:

- BWF will no longer implement tournament COVID-19 testing programmes. At events where testing is required by the local government and / or local organising committee, the coordination of testing and management of results will be managed by the tournament organising committee.
- The BWF pre-departure test requirement will be removed, unless mandated by the local government for COVID-19 reasons.
- The BWF exemption policy for recently recovered participants will be removed. Exemptions will be regulated by the local government policy.
- BWF will not enforce green and red venue accreditation zones and will revert to the standard accreditation zoning used before the COVID-19 pandemic. Any additional accreditation zoning requirements will be managed by the local organising committee.

- Players and team officials are no longer required to stay in the official hotels unless mandated by the local government and / or local organising committee for COVID-19 reasons.
- BWF will generally follow the local government regulations regarding the wearing of face masks. However, in specific cases BWF may mandate the wearing of face masks as per the phase 1 and phase 2 protocols.
- Two coaches sitting behind the court are now permitted per player / pair.
- Shuttle dispensers will no longer be mandatory and will be removed unless otherwise requested by the local government and / or local organising committee to continue to use the shuttle dispensers.
- Player sponsor and media activations will resume with some protective measures for players.
- Qualification draw will resume as normal unless an exemption is requested to BWF in advance due to COVID-19 related circumstances.

At some tournaments it may be necessary for BWF and / or the local organising committee to implement COVID-19 testing and other COVID-19 restrictions. All restrictions will be communicated to participants via the prospectus and tournament COVID-19 protocols documents in advance of the event.

Continued preventative advice

BWF recommends the following preventative measures are continued to be adhered to at all tournaments:

- Cough and sneeze into your sleeve.
- Wash hands and / or use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Recommended to wear face mask in crowded confined spaces.
- To inform the medical team if feeling unwell or showing signs of COVID-19 infection

Protocols in the case of positive tests

In the case of a positive COVID-19 test, BWF will follow the local government regulations regarding isolation and further testing. In addition to any local regulations, participants who do test positive during an event will have their accreditation withdrawn by BWF and will not be able to be reaccredited or gain accreditation to another tournament for a minimum of 5 days after the positive test (day zero being the day of the positive test). Accreditation to another tournament may however be granted if the participant test negative (PCR test) before the 5 days period ends.

Close contacts and vaccines

The BWF procedures for close contacts remain unchanged and are defined as doubles partner and roommate. The BWF protocols for close contacts are determined by

vaccination status. At some tournaments the local government may determine close contacts of a positive case and BWF has no authority to overrule these decisions.

Vaccinated close contacts

Vaccinated participants who are deemed close contacts by BWF (doubles partner and roommate) can avoid withdrawing from the tournament if they test negative when requested to do so and if they move to a single room and undertake a daily antigen test for a minimum of 5 days at their own expense. **If however the local government regulations require participants to isolate then BWF does not have the authority to override this.**

Unvaccinated close contacts

Unvaccinated participants who are deemed close contacts are required to withdraw from the tournament and depending on the local government regulations may be required to undertake a period of isolation and / or testing.

Approved vaccines

BWF follows the World Health Organisation (WHO) approved vaccines list and also accepts vaccines that are approved in the country that they are administered. Please note that there may be different rules around booster shots in different countries. As of 18 February 2022, the following vaccines have been approved by the WHO for emergency use:

- Biotech Pfizer
- AstraZeneca Oxford
- Covishield
- Janssen
- Moderna
- Sinopharm
- Sinovac
- Bharat Biotech
- Covovax
- Novavax

<https://extranet.who.int/pqweb/key-resources/documents/status-covid-19-vaccines-within-who-eulpg-evaluation-process>

BWF cannot override local government vaccine regulations.

Player commitment regulations

The player commitment regulations will remain suspended until further notice.