

This document is a revised summary (**modifications appear in blue**) of the main articles of the
“FORMIR COVID-19” [for organisers of FIE competitions](#)

It does not replace the full document which is available on the FIE website:

<https://fie.org/fie/documents/other-documents>

The FIE and the competition organizers must strictly implement health protocols to protect participants as much as possible. It is in the interest of all participants to apply these protocols and we appeal to your cooperation, individual responsibility and support.

A) In order to foster the widest participation possible at its events, the FIE will only consider Hosts that provide the following options to enter their country:

a) negative PCR/antigen tests or certificates of recovery from Covid-19 or IgG certificates.

OR

b) acceptance of all Covid-19 vaccines recognized by WHO (proof of vaccination to be provided by participants).

c) in case of mandatory quarantines upon arrival in the host country (even though the participants can show the documents mentioned in a) or b) above), the host federation shall obtain exemptions for the participants concerned.

B) The criteria for approving an FIE official event have been updated in Appendix A of the FORMIR.

1. Requirements for Host Organisers before the Competition

1.1 Obligations with National authorities and the FIE

- Review the FORMIR – COVID-19.
- Plan sufficiently ahead to be able to complete all additional administrative procedures linked to COVID-19.
- Get updated requirements as put forward by the national/local public and health authorities in charge of COVID-19.
- When planning competition budget estimate all the expenses required for the implementation of the FORMIR – COVID 19, National and Regional rules and regulations and tests.
- Prepare a programme of the competition, incorporating detailed estimation of the time required to meet all the requirements and restrictions, and submit it to the FIE for approval.
- Get formal Notice of approval for organisation of the event from national, local or sport authorities and submit them to the FIE with the application.

- Prepare a detailed Crisis Management Plan for [potential positive and contact cases](#) during the event.
- Send a draft Invitation Letter to FIE for approval, containing:
 - [restrictions of any kind \(links to official information\)](#)
 - [exemptions of any kind \(links to official information\)](#)
 - [vaccinations accepted \(links to official information\)](#)
 - [recovery from Covid-19 certificates accepted \(links to official information\)](#)
 - [approved types of Covid-19 tests and labs](#)
 - [prices of Covid-19 tests \(rapid antigen and PCR\)](#)
 - [any other conditions and regulations \(links to official information\)](#)
 - [detailed Covid-19 requirements and protocols, including management of positive and contact cases, medication, quarantines and related expenses.](#)
 - [date of arrival and of departure of participants.](#)

Once approved by the FIE, the Invitation letter will be published on the FIE website.

- Inform the FIE and invited NFs about evolving administrative procedures and required paperwork.

1.2 Bubble System

The bubble system is the ideal solution, but it proved to be difficult and expensive to achieve and implement. Therefore, a “lighter” solution can also be put in place, according to the following steps.

1.3 Accommodation

- Choose, if possible, only one hotel or part of the hotel, within a walking distance from the venue in order to avoid transportation.
- If two or more hotels are used, moving from one hotel to another hotel should be avoided.
- Any gathering in hotel rooms should be avoided.
- Hotels booked must implement sanitary measures: facemasks, distance and sanitization.

1.4 Local Transport

- If hotel is at a walking distance from the venue, participants must refrain from going to other places.
- Transportation from and to airport should not mix different delegations to minimize contamination risks.
- [Hand disinfection before and wearing facemasks during transportation are obligatory](#)
- All transport means must be regularly sanitized.

1.5 Staff

- Assign and train sufficient number of the Covid [Marshals](#) and security staff.
- [Staff involved must have competence and authority to implement rules.](#)

1.6 Sanitary Preparation

- Temperature taking at the venue or hotel is optional. Each participant is responsible for monitoring his/her temperature daily.
- Prepare a detailed plan and sanitary measures, taking into account a distance of 1.5 meter and therefore the appropriate space.
- Display clear information (posters, flyers, videos, etc.) in the competition venue, about the General Advice on COVID-19.
- Provide sufficient protective equipment (approved facemasks and hand disinfecting liquid, face shields).
- Place sufficient approved disinfecting liquid dispensers in all areas.
- Every person entering or re-entering the venue must use hand sanitizers.
- Provide enough hand washing stations.
- Organise sanitary distance in all areas.
- Bar code on accreditations is no longer required.
- Approved/Authorized facemasks are: either Medical masks (also known as surgical masks) which are composed of minimum 3 layers, or Respirators (also known as filtering facepiece respirators – FFP2/N95) or equivalent facemask (K-95) or masks as detailed by WHO (<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-masks>).

1.7 Administrative Obligations before the competition

- Organise collection of the original Covid-19 Acknowledgement of Risk and Release from Liability (Appendix B) and the COVID-19 Screening Questionnaire for FIE Event (Appendix C) signed by each Participant once they arrive (and not before their arrival as information should be recent= no more than 12 hours).
If applicable, Appendix B and C can be filled out online, upon arrival.
- Request list of Associate Participants before the competition.

1.8 Spectators at FIE competitions

- If external spectators are allowed, strict separation must be organised between participants, delegations and spectators.
- Associated participants will be strictly treated according to the FORMiR – COVID-19 (Article 6d).
- There will be no opening and closing ceremonies.

2. Testing for COVID-19

a) Host country and airlines requirements

- It is everyone's responsibility to comply with regulations and tests to travel and enter host countries, at their expense.
- National conditions and regulations will be laid out in the invitation letter.

- It is everyone's responsibility to plan travels in such a way to be able to undergo all the required Covid-19 tests before traveling and in the Host Country.

b) FIE requirements

- Upon arrival: one rapid antigen test, including for vaccinated or Covid-19 recovered participants. The rapid antigen test used must be WHO-approved.
- No isolation is required unless the rapid antigen test is positive.
- Results of tests must be communicated to each participant individually.
- During the stay (every 4 days after arrival day, unless that 4th day is the day of departure of the participant): one rapid antigen test (the rapid antigen test used must be WHO-approved).
- After each test those who test negative will receive a visible mark (e.g., bracelets).
- Participants who receive a negative result of the rapid antigen test will be allowed to enter training and competition.
- In case a rapid antigen test is positive, the test result will be confirmed by a PCR test, if enough time allows it. (See full text of the FORMIR).
- Maximum time to receive result of a rapid antigen test: 30 minutes.
- Maximum time to receive result of a PCR test: 8 hours.
- Participants who test positive to Covid-19 after a PCR test will not be authorised to take part in training or competition and must comply with the local **sanitary and** quarantine requirements.
- Results of the PCR test cannot be appealed.

c) Departure tests

- Participants needing a Covid-19 test to go back to their home country must inform the **organiser's** test station and make an appointment according to their departure time. These tests are at the expense of participants.
- **Results of tests must be printed and provided to the participants in the hotel.**

3. Requirements for Host Organisers during the Competition

a. Weapon Control

- **Must be separated from the training and competition areas.**
- Must be large enough to allow required sanitary distance.
- Sanitary distance must be clearly marked on the floor, and security staff must enforce this distance to be applied.
- Equipment controllers will use protective gloves, facemasks and face shields provided by the organisers.
- Material brought for the control must be placed in the crates provided by the Host Organizers which must be sanitized before each reuse.

b. Venue Cleaning and Sanitation

- Venue must be cleaned, and surfaces disinfected **regularly**.
- **Hand washing stations must be supplied with paper towels.**

- Trash pickup must occur regularly.
- c. **Doping Control**
- Arrangements must be made with the national ADOs to organise doping control, making sure that the WADA Guidance Document for Testing is applied.
- d. **Presentation and Award Ceremonies**
- During the presentation of fencers **and referees** on the piste and medal ceremony, **1.5 meter distance must be kept.**
 - Medals and gifts to be presented to the fencers on a cushion **or a tray** and fencers are to take medals by themselves.
 - **Trays must be disinfected after each ceremony.**
 - No handshaking or hugging is allowed.
 - **After the award ceremony, photos can be taken without mask under the following conditions:**
 - **Mask-off time shall not be longer than 30"**
 - **Sanitary distance must be of 1.5 meter for those not training in the same group**
 - **During group photos a distance of 1.5 meter must be applied.**
4. Breaching of the Covid-19 protocol or refusing to obey the Covid-19 protocol will be sanctioned by the withdrawal of the accreditation and exclusion from the event.

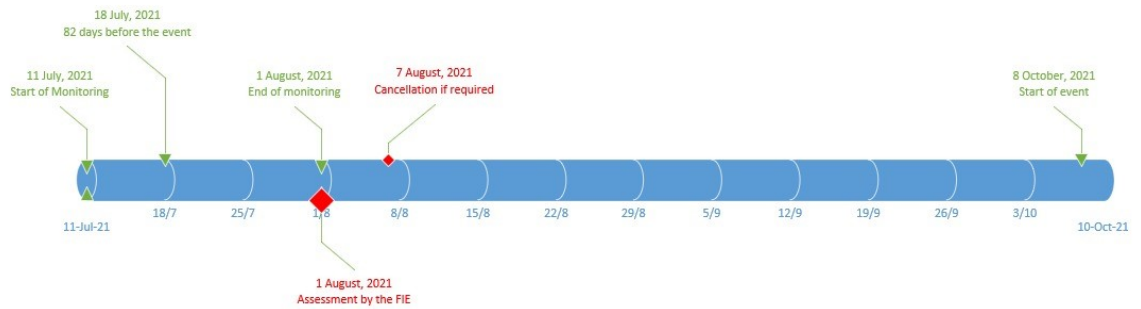
5. APPENDIX A (main revisions).

The FIE may deny an Application or cancel or postpone/relocate a previously approved FIE Fencing event after the following assessment:

82 days before the event :

- 1) FIE monitors the Covid data (daily new cases*) of the past 7 days in the country
- 2) FIE monitors the Covid data (daily new cases*) of the next 14 days in the country
- 3) **68 days** before the event, FIE assesses the data of:
 - 1) and 2) above
 - if reliable data is available, the FIE may consider the number of hospitals beds*** (ICU and others) available on that specific day (day 68 before the event). The criteria used is 25% of total beds are available in the country.
- 4) Determination
 - a) if the number of new daily cases per 100.000 of population is inferior to 75**, and/or decreasing, the event can move forward
 - b) if the number of new daily cases per 100.000 of population is superior to 75**, and/or increasing, the event cannot move forward

- 5) Decision: In case of b), FIE cancels the holding 62 days before the event. If circumstances and options allow it, FIE may consider postponement/relocation of the event.



- 6) If within the 60 days before an event is to be held, the Covid data dramatically change and/or dramatically increase during a period of 7 days, the FIE may decide to cancel the holding of the event due to force majeure.

Formula to be used:

(Average number of daily new cases over 21 days x 100.000) / (total population)

Notes:

* Data source: Worldometer, <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

**75 is the number recommended by the FIE Medical Commission

***Date source: IHME, <https://covid19.healthdata.org>

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OR

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c) in case of mandatory quarantines upon arrival in the host country (even though the participants can show the documents mentioned in a) or b) above), the host federation shall obtain exemptions for the participants concerned.

B) The criteria for approving an FIE official event have been updated in Appendix A of the FORMIR.

1. Requirements for Participants Before the Competition

1.1 Travel organisation

- Verify all requirements, conditions and exemptions mentioned in the invitation letter posted on the FIE website.
- Verify requirements from airlines companies.
- Plan more time for traveling than usually. It is everybody’s responsibility to plan to travel in such a way to be able to undergo all the required Covid-19 tests before traveling and in the Host Country.
- Make the necessary tests required to enter the host country. **These tests are at the expense of participants.**

1.2 Administrative obligations

- Read and respect the FORMiR – COVID-19 and Safety Plan.
- Read and respect rules communicated by the host organisers.

1.3 Accommodation

- It is recommended to book single rooms for participants. This is to avoid all occupants of a room to have to be placed into quarantine and be eliminated from the competition, due to a positive Covid-19 result.
- Any gathering in hotel rooms should be avoided.
- If hotel is at a walking distance from the venue, participants must refrain from going to other places.

1.4 Equipment

- Equipment (bags, masks, gloves and weapons, etc) must be disinfected by the fencers before the competition.

2. Requirements for Participants During the Competition

2.1 Forms

After arrival in the host country complete and sign the **Covid-19 Acknowledgement of risk and release from liability (Appendix B)** and the **Covid-19 Screening Questionnaire (Appendix C)**. For Annex C, information should not be older than 12 hours.

If applicable, Appendix B and C can be filled out online, upon arrival.

2.2 Testing

a) Host country and airlines requirements

- It is everyone's responsibility to comply with regulations and tests to travel and enter host countries, **at their expense**.
- Conditions and national regulations will be laid out in the invitation letter.
- It is everyone's responsibility to plan travels in such a way to be able to undergo all the required Covid-19 tests before traveling and in the Host Country.

b) FIE requirements

- Upon arrival: one rapid antigen test, including for vaccinated or Covid-19 recovered participants. The rapid antigen test used must be WHO-approved.
- No isolation is required unless the rapid antigen test is positive.
- Results of tests must be communicated to each participant individually.
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- Maximum time to receive result of a rapid antigen test: 30 minutes.
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- Participants who test positive to Covid-19 after a PCR test will not be authorised to take part in training or competition and must comply with the local sanitary and quarantine requirements.
- Results of the PCR test cannot be appealed.

c) Departure tests

- Participants needing a Covid-19 test to go back to their home country must inform the [organiser's](#) test station and make an appointment according to their departure time. **These tests are at the expense of participants.**
- [Results of tests must be printed and provided to the participants in the hotel.](#)

2.3 Obligatory Sanitary Measures

- Consult a doctor in case of symptom
- Fencing masks, gloves and weapons must be disinfected by the fencers before the competition.
- Sharing equipment with another participant is not allowed.
- [Hand disinfection before and wearing facemasks during transportation in the host country are obligatory.](#)
- Sanitary Distance [1.5 meter](#).
- Coaches are allowed to stay at 1 meter from the fencer but must wear a face shield/visor in addition to the facemask.
- Facemasks are obligatory at any time, except when training, fencing and eating
 - [Approved/Authorized facemasks are: either Medical masks \(also known as surgical masks\) which are composed of minimum 3 layers, or Respirators \(also known as filtering facepiece respirators – FFP2/N95\) or equivalent facemask \(K-95\) or masks as detailed by WHO \(<https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/coronavirus-disease-covid-19-masks>\).](#)
- [Referees must wear face mask and face shield when they have to be close to any participants and when they perform video refereeing.](#)
- Referees must use hand-disinfectant before and after each bout.
- Doctor and medical staff of the competition wear facemasks, gloves and a face shield/visor during treatment of injuries.
- During rest periods, all people in the fencing piste area must maintain a distance of 1.5 meter from the fencer(s).
- Participants should bring their own bottle of water and must not share it with anyone.
- Participants should bring their own pen to fill in and sign documents.
- Any additional measure put forward by FIE or local regulations are obligatory

3. Rules and Practices Impacted

- Fencers' handshake at the end of bouts is replaced with a salute.
- Exchanging gifts is suspended until further notice.
- Screaming after a hit is scored is suspended until further notice.
- Rushing to the victorious fencer on the piste or after the fencer leaves the piste is suspended until further notice.
- Congratulatory hugging, kissing or handshakes are suspended until further notice.

- If the Host Authorities/Federation forbid spectators, any person not participating in the event (eliminated fencer after a pool or a table, his/her coach, medical staff, accompanying persons, etc.) must leave the venue and go to the hotel, and cannot stay as a spectator.
- Participants can sit on the tribunes while preparing for the competition, but they must keep the required distance.

4. Presentation and Award Ceremonies

- During the presentation of fencers and referees on the piste and medal ceremony, 1.5-meter distance must be kept.
- Medals and gifts to be presented to the fencers on a cushion or a tray and fencers are to take medals by themselves.
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