EUROPEAN HANDBALL FEDERATION BACK TO HANDBALL - HYGIENE CONCEPT

Covid-19 Concept and Guidelines for EHF

Beach Handball Events - Version 1

(valid as of 20 April 2021)

Table of contents

 Introduction ........................................................................................................................ 3  Aim ...................................................................................................................................... 3  Covid-19 Officer .................................................................................................................. 4

 General Guidelines for Hygiene and Covid-19 Testing ...................................................... 5

 4.1 General Hygiene .......................................................................................................... 5

4.2 Covid-19 Testing Regime ............................................................................................ 5 4.3 Testing regime PRIOR to the TOURNAMENT .............................................................. 6

 4.4 PCR Test (Individual or Pool Test) .............................................................................. 6

 4.5 Positive PCR Tests ....................................................................................................... 6

 4.6 Confirmation to the EHF and Eligibility to participate................................................. 7

 4.7 Testing regime DURING the TOURNAMENT ............................................................... 7

 Guidelines for Travel ........................................................................................................... 8

 5.1 Prior to travel ............................................................................................................... 8

 5.2 RETURN travel ............................................................................................................. 9

 5.3 International travel To the EHF competition .............................................................. 9

 5.4 Transport during stay................................................................................................... 9

 Guidelines for Hotel Accommodation .............................................................................. 10

 Guidelines for Matches ..................................................................................................... 11

 7.1 Venue preparation – Zoning ...................................................................................... 11

 7.2 Changing rooms/Tents .............................................................................................. 13

 7.3 General preparation ................................................................................................... 13

 7.4 Team and staff arrival ................................................................................................ 14

 7.5 Entering the courts .................................................................................................... 14

 7.6 Substitution area........................................................................................................ 14

 7.7 Timekeeper’s table / SUPPORT TABLE ..................................................................... 14

 7.8 Technical meeting...................................................................................................... 14

 7.9 Pre-match Procedure ................................................................................................ 15

7.10 During the match ....................................................................................................... 15

7.11 Half-time .................................................................................................................... 16

7.12 END OF MATCH .......................................................................................................... 16

 Anti-Doping Controls ........................................................................................................ 16

 Guidelines for Media ......................................................................................................... 17

 9.1 General Media Guidance ........................................................................................... 17

 9.2 Photographers ........................................................................................................... 17

 9.3 TV Interviews (flash zone, mixed zone) .................................................................... 18

9.4 TV Production ............................................................................................................ 18  Guidelines for spectators ................................................................................................. 19  LEGAL CONSEQUENCES ................................................................................................... 20  APPENDIX 1 - Sample Health Declaration Form ............................................................. 21

 APPENDIX 2 - Registration of the Team Covid-19 Officer .............................................. 22

#  INTRODUCTION

This document provides guidelines for the following EHF Events considering the current Covid-19 pandemic:

* Women’s and Men’s ebt Finals 2021
* Women’s 17 and Men’s 17 Beach Handball EURO 2021
* Women’s and Men’s Beach Handball EURO 2021
* Women’s and Men’s Champions Cup 2021

These guidelines serve as an overview of measures that will be implemented for the competitions pending receipt of the final medical protocol and regulations from the European Handball Federation.

All participating nations/teams should have their own detailed Covid-19 mitigation plans in place, in line with local government guidelines, and remain responsible for implementing the necessary measures in their regular domestic environment. Participating nations/teams are responsible for doing all preparations in a safe environment and ensuring that they follow all national Covid-19 measures/regulations and safety recommendations. All participating nations/teams are expected to regularly test the respective players and team officials during the preparation phase prior to the EHF competitions.

If in the event host country the local Health Authority Covid-19 guidance is significantly different to the concepts outlined in this document, the host event organiser should contact the EHF in advance to discuss whether some relaxations/ intensification of the guidelines are possible/required. Any changes need to be communicated to and agreed with the EHF in advance.

With the Covid-19 situation constantly evolving, this will be a living document and the EHF will re-issue guidelines where changes are required.

#  AIM

The aim is to ensure that all possible mitigation steps are taken to reduce the risk of infection for all those involved in the Events, although the risk cannot be completely eliminated. All stakeholders participate in the competition at their own risk.

This protocol is intended to provide a minimum standard to ensure the health and safety of all players, staff, and officials, but allows some latitude for clubs and national federations to adapt them to their own circumstances.

In line with WHO recommendations the EHF will prioritise enhanced hygiene and social distancing, together with a Covid-19 testing programme. This will be supported by the adoption of a zonal approach for the Events, with a focus on reducing the risk for players and officials.

The guidance document focuses on providing a positive experience for a television/streaming audience. However, some local regulations may allow the attendance of spectators under certain conditions. Where this is the case, and if the event organiser decides to allow spectators, it is important that all local regulations are respected and that spectators are kept fully segregated from all other participants at the venue. A distinct Covid-19 prevention strategy to reduce the infection risk for spectators will be required for those events.

#  COVID-19 OFFICER

For the whole time of the tournament the OC should appoint an Event Covid-19 Officer who will be responsible for ensuring all mitigation measures are followed by players, teams and match officials and all other personnel involved in the event. The Event Covid19 Officer should work in close cooperation with the Teams Covid-19 Officers and medical advisors. The Covid-19 Officers should be knowledgeable in the symptoms and transmission of SARS-CoV-2 as well as the relevant laws and preventive measures for diseases transmission.

The Event Covid-19 Officer will be responsible for checking transport, hotel and event area measures and ensuring that the EHF and/or local Covid-19 guidelines have all been followed.

The Event Covid-19 Officer will be responsible for liaising with the government and local authorities to ensure that all relevant laws and guidelines have been followed and that measures are taken in case of a positive test.

The Event Covid-19 Officer should notify the EHF immediately if new travel restrictions or bans are enforced by the government or local authorities, which could impact the ability of the participating teams to travel to the Event host country.

The Event Covid-19 Officer together with the EHF delegates are responsible for checking the Covid-19 test results of all participants for each match day of the tournament.

The rapid Antigen Test must be conducted prior to the respective match day until 09:00 in the morning at the latest.

The test must be conducted by the team Covid-19 responsible persons, preferable the medical staff. The participants are allowed to use Antigen tests which are authorized in their own country. The participating teams must take care and check the reliability of these tests.

#   GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR HYGIENE AND COVID-19 TESTING

## 4.1 GENERAL HYGIENE

These measures are always recommended for all players, team, and match officials:

* Wash your hands several times a day with soap and water or an alcohol-based hand disinfectant.

* Players and team officials are recommended to each carry a personal hand sanitizer.

* Always wear a FFP2 face mask fully covering mouth and nose anytime outdoor and indoor, until entering the court (only mealtimes should be the exception). Face shields do not offer enough protection and should therefore not be used as a stand-alone protective measure.

* Turn away from other persons near you if you need to cough or sneeze.

* Cover mouth and nose with a paper towel or the crook of your arm whenever you cough or sneeze and dispose paper tissues promptly.

* Maintain social distancing. A distance of at least 2m is recommended wherever possible.

* Measure your body temperature every morning and evening throughout the tournament.

* Do not shake hands with other people.

* Avoid busy places (even where social distancing measures are in place) and large crowds of people.

* Avoid public transport.

* Avoid carpooling.

* Be aware of all the symptoms of Covid-19 and notify medical staff and the respective Covid-19 officer if symptoms appear.

## 4.2 COVID-19 TESTING REGIME

 Participating teams should develop their own regular Covid-19 testing regimes in line with local health regulations.

We recommend that all participating teams keep a Covid-19 testing logbook or passport for each travelling players/official, including individual or test results at the respective clubs for travelling players.

## 4.3 TESTING REGIME PRIOR TO THE TOURNAMENT

* All players, team officials and EHF officials must undergo a test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 prior to the event. This test must be a PCR (individual or pool) test.

* The test handling of the tournament team delegation is in the responsibility of the participating Team Covid-19 Officer.

* The confirmation form with the test results of the participating teams and the EHF

Officials must be sent to the EHF (pisani@eurohandball.com) and to the Event Covid-

19 Officer prior to the travel or/and respectively as soon as the test results are available.

## 4.4 PCR TEST (INDIVIDUAL OR POOL TEST)

 The PCR test must be conducted **earliest 72 hours** prior to the event (no extension is possible).

## 4.5 POSITIVE PCR TESTS

* In their own country, teams should follow local health regulation advice if any players or staff test is positive for Covid-19. They should only return to club or national team duty when it is fully safe to do so, and they have tested negative for the virus or providing a test result with a crossing threshold (Ct) above 30 who are not considered infectious any longer and are allowed to fully participate in social life.

* If several players contract the virus and the team feels it can no longer field a competitive team for an upcoming match/tournament, they should contact the EHF immediately.

* If a player or team official tests positive for Covid-19 after arriving at the venue of the tournament, they should take the advice of the Event Covid-19 Officer and the local medical staff for self-isolation and mitigation. The EHF and the Team Covid-19 Officer will all have been made aware of the positive result under the testing protocol. The local authorities must be notified in case of a positive result and will be involved in the decision whether the matches can go ahead. OC and the EHF based on the local authorities’ advice should take a decision about whether or under which conditions the matches can go ahead.

* A positive tested person is allowed to participate at matches, if all three following conditions are fulfilled:

* + In their own country, clubs and national federations should follow local health regulation advice if any players or staff tests positive for Covid-19. They should only return to club or national team duty when it is fully safe to do so; they can prove a PCR test result with a crossing threshold (Ct) above 30, are not considered infectious any longer, and are allowed to fully participate in social life.

* + A full documentation must be available (first positive test result; latest test result must proof a Ct above 30; confirmation from local authorities that the quarantine is over – if available).

* + At least 14 days between the first positive test and the day of the respective match.

## 4.6 CONFIRMATION TO THE EHF AND ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE

In order to fulfil the testing requirements for the eligibility to participate at the EHF competition each player and team official must undertake a PCR test prior to the tournament and provide the EHF with the respective results. This can be done either by:

* PCR test/Negative tested person: A confirmation of the negative results by using the respective PCR confirmation form, which must be sent to the EHF

(pisani@eurohandball.com) and to the Event Covid-19 Officer of the OC prior to the travel (all teams and EHF officials) or/and respectively as soon as the test results are available (but not later than 20:00 local time of the place of the tournament one day prior to the arrival of the team).

* PCR test/Positive tested person: A confirmation of the positive results by using the respective confirmation form together with the complete documentation (see point 4.5) must be sent to the EHF (pisani@eurohandball.com) and to the Event Covid-19 Officer of the OC prior to the travel (all teams and EHF Officials) or/and respectively as soon as the test results are available (but not later than 20:00 local time of the place of the tournament one day prior to the arrival of the team).

* After checking all required documentation and information, the EHF will provide a confirmation of the eligibility to participate for all participants, fulfilling the testing requirements to the Event Covid-19 Officer and to the Covid-19 Officers of the respective teams. Without this EHF confirmation, the respective players and team officials are not eligible to take part at the respective event.

## 4.7 TESTING REGIME DURING THE TOURNAMENT

* All players, team officials, EHF officials and tournament personnel must undergo a test for the presence of SARS-CoV-2 for each match day of tournament. This test can be a rapid Antigen test.

* The EHF delegates and the Event Covid-19 Officer(s) are responsible for checking the test results of all participants (teams and officials) for each match day of the tournament.

The availability as well as the carrying out of the Antigen tests for each match day during the tournament is in the responsibility (including payment) of the respective team. The participants can use Antigen tests which are authorized in their own country. The participants must take care and check the reliability of these tests.

* The availability as well as the carrying out of the Antigen tests for the EHF officials and the tournament personnel for each match day during the tournament is in the responsibility of the OC. The costs for testing the EHF Officials will be borne by the EHF.

#### Positive Tests

If a player or/and a team official is tested positive for Covid-19 after arriving at the event site the player or/and team official and the roommate(s) will be isolated in a separate hotel or in a different part of the team hotel provided by the organiser where they will self-isolate and take all necessary mitigation steps. The rest of the team will be quarantined in their hotel rooms and must undergo immediate testing. The quarantine will be lifted when the tests are confirmed negative.

The local authorities and the OC will be involved in the isolation procedures for the person(s) in question in case of a positive result.

Costs of isolation of players and officials in a separate hotel (if necessary) have to be borne by the respective team/federation.

#  GUIDELINES FOR TRAVEL

## 5.1 PRIOR TO TRAVEL

* It is the responsibility of the event organiser to liaise with the government and local authorities to ensure that the participating teams can enter and leave the host country without limitation.

* It is also the responsibility of the event organiser to provide the participating teams with timely information on any measures that are required to enter and leave the country without quarantine.

* Local regulations may set different timescales and where more stringent than the EHF guidelines these should be followed.

* The participating teams should ensure that they follow all local guidelines and regulations while travelling, to ensure they mitigate against the risk of contracting the virus. This includes the requirements regarding testing for crossing borders and entering countries during travel.

## 5.2 RETURN TRAVEL

 It is the responsibility of the participating teams/EHF officials to ensure that on the retour travel they can enter to their home country without limitation.

## 5.3 INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL TO THE EHF COMPETITION

* It is the responsibility of the participating teams and EHF officials, who fly to a venue for a tournament, to ensure that they follow all local authority and transport company Covid-19 regulations during all stages of travel (maintain social distancing, wear a mask throughout travel and wash hands regularly, ideally arrange separate check-in area).

* Where teams are close enough to travel to the competition by bus, please see recommendations in point “5.4 Transport during stay”.

## 5.4 TRANSPORT DURING STAY

* Each team should have its own dedicated bus for the duration of the event/stay, if possible.

* All vehicles should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected immediately before being used to transport the teams for the first time and again if used for the transport of each following team during the event.

* In case more than one team will use the bus, the bus should be large enough to ensure that the teams can respect social distancing on board, and everybody need to wear masks (maximum 2 teams on the same bus).

* EHF officials should have a dedicated minibus, allowing them to respect social distancing.

* Other than the bus driver, no one else should travel on the bus with the teams or officials.

* The bus drivers should respect all hygiene recommendations, wash hands with sanitizer every time they return to the bus and always wear a mask.

* All vehicles should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected immediately before being used to transport the teams for the first time and again if used for any other purpose during the event.

* Where possible buses with centre entrances should be used, so that teams can enter away from the driver

The bus driver should open and close the luggage hold doors, but players/team officials should stow and remove their own luggage.

* These guidelines should also be used for the participating team if they travel by bus.

#  GUIDELINES FOR HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

* It is the responsibility of the OCs and the Event Covid-19 Officer to contact the hotel in advance to ensure that all arrangements are in place and that the hotel management and their staff understand what is required.

* The Event Covid-19 Officer must check all hotel before the arrival of the participating teams and EHF Officials.

* Only one team official should go to the reception on arrival to check-in the team. The rest of the team can either wait on the bus or go directly to a room exclusively for their use, until their personal rooms are allocated.

* Ideally the hotel should be exclusively used for the participating teams and EHF officials, but if this is not possible, other options should be considered, which are possible:

* + Dedicated entrance for the participating teams
	+ The participating teams and EHF officials must be strictly separated from other guests and outside persons.
	+ Each participating team shall have a separate floor/area without cross-over to other participating teams and EHF officials, if possible.
	+ Each participating team shall have a separate dining area in the hotel.
	+ The meeting room should only be available for the participating teams and need to be cleaned and ventilate after each team meeting.

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

* Hand sanitizers should be provided on the dedicated floors and in common areas (dining room, meeting room).

* Teams should wear FFP2 face masks in closed areas outside their own rooms and in the dining and meeting rooms, as well as inside and outside of the team bus.

* The hotel should provide thorough cleaning and disinfecting of rooms and spaces used by the team immediately before the team’s check-in and ventilate all rooms.

* There should be no cleaning of rooms while the team is in the hotel; no cleaning staff on the team floor/wing; enough towels and sanitary articles should be left in the rooms

for the duration of the stay. If necessary additional items can be left in advance in a dedicated space on the floor or quested at the reception.

* Hotel staff should wear masks and regularly disinfect hands; there should be no access to any area of the hotel for anyone showing symptoms of infection.

* Dedicated dining and meeting rooms should be large enough to allow social distancing.

* Contact with the hotel staff in the dining area should be minimised:
	+ Food and drink should be laid out prior to meals before players arrive.

* + There should be no self-service/buffet; food should be served by as few hotel staff as possible.

* + No clean-up of tables should be undertaken until the players/team staff have all left the room, so that the smallest number of staff is present in the dining room during meals.

* Players/Team staff should only use the toilets in their own room during their stay at the hotel.

#  GUIDELINES FOR MATCHES

## 7.1 VENUE PREPARATION – ZONING

A zoning approach, with the Event area being divided into sectors for different sets of participants. It is important during the event that there should be no cross-over of participants between the zones.

The Event area will be divided into four zones:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Zone**  | **Area**  | **Group**  |
| **Red**  | Playing court, substitution areas, red card seats, team seating, changing rooms, support table, doping control room, entrees, warm up area, toilets, showers, access, technical tents  | Teams (players and team officials) Referees and delegates EHF office staff Timekeepers, score takers and scouters Court maintenance crew Court managers Technicians Doping control crew Covid-19 Officers  |
| **Orange**  | Courtside (selected areas) / behind the goal – must be at least 2m away from player’s entrances and substitution areas  | Photographers Medical service TV Production/Camera Security OC Staff  |
| **Yellow**  | Dedicated area in the stands  | Entertainer/speaker Media VIP guests EHF partners  |
| **Blue**  | Stands  | Spectators (where allowed) Security  |

* The zones must be clearly separated and.

* It is important that all players, coaches, referees, and match officials in the red zone remain isolated from other groups and maintain the precautions they already have in place in their home/training environments.

* Except for the players, referees and head coaches, all other people attending the match should always wear FFP2 masks.

* Staff in the orange zone should never approach players or officials closer than two meters, unless specifically called onto court by referees (e.g. medical teams) and then maintaining social distancing from other players and officials).

* OC’s staff working in the red zone (match officials and court crew) must follow the guidelines in the Hygiene section (4.1 and 4.7.) and it is the responsibility of the tournament Covid-19 Officer to ensure all OC’s personnel are made aware of these guidelines.

* Staff in the orange zone requires to be tested with Antigen test on the match days too.

* Zoning access must clearly be identified on everyone’s accreditation (including any staff working in the blue zone) and no one should be allowed access without accreditation or work across more than one zone.

* The EHF is responsible for the creation of a complete accreditation list of all parties directly involved in the game and their zone access.

* Zoning (red/orange/yellow/blue) must be clearly marked out at the area and enough staff on hand to enforce it.

* Separate toilets should be allocated in each of the zones and clearly identified.
* In addition, red zone areas on the tribunes shall be created (e.g. red zone members not directly involved with the match, teams and coaches watching matches, etc). The area shall be separated from all other accreditations and spectators (if allowed). In addition, the area shall have a clear routing without crossing any red zone access routes.

## 7.2 CHANGING ROOMS/TENTS

With some research suggesting that the changing room environment can heighten the risk of spreading the virus, our guidelines aim to mitigate the risk and reduce the amount of time players and officials spend in the changing rooms.

* Teams and referees should be allocated changing rooms/areas that are large enough to allow enough space to ensure social distancing is respected.

* Teams and referees should be allocated their own toilets, which remain out of bounds to anyone else.

* Each team/player is responsible for bringing their own towels to the match. No towels will be provided.

* The teams and referees should minimize the time in the changing room/area designated for them.

* It needs to be ensured by the event organiser that the changing rooms, treatment rooms and toilets are thoroughly cleaned, disinfected, and ventilated regularly before and after each use.

* Once cleaned, no one outside of the teams/officials should enter the changing rooms for the duration of the event.

* To further reduce the risk of infection, it is recommended that the players and officials do not shower at the event area but return to their hotels as quickly as possible to shower there.

* Access from the teams and referee rooms onto the courts will be within the red zone and supervised accordingly.

## 7.3 GENERAL PREPARATION

* All public areas at the venue should be thoroughly cleaned before the start of each match day and before the arrival of the teams and officials.

* The goals, timekeeper’s and support tables & seats should all be cleaned and disinfected before the arrival of the teams and officials.

* Touchless hand sanitizers should be provided in each changing room, meeting room, treatment room, toilet and at the timekeeper’s table and in any shared areas in orange/yellow/ zones.

In addition to the regular briefing, all OC staff working on the match (security, medical, cleaning, court crew, etc.) must be fully briefed on Covid-19 measures.

## 7.4 TEAM AND STAFF ARRIVAL

* Access to the event area should be via dedicated ‘zone’ entrances/routing (red, orange, yellow), no mixing is allowed.

* Teams and officials (red zone) should be dropped near the closest entrance. If any walking is necessary, there should be clear segregation of the teams/officials, and no mixing with anyone else.

* Everyone entering the venue and with access to the red, orange and yellow zones, with the exception of the teams and team officials, EHF officials, who will already be logged, shall complete a Health Declaration Form (see sample in annex 1), so that they can confirm they are free of Covid-19 symptoms and can be contacted if a virus case is later reported in their zone. Anyone reporting any symptom cannot enter.

* See section 10 for advice about spectator zones

## 7.5 ENTERING THE COURTS

* Social distancing should continue to be observed outside of the courts.

* The access areas must be designed to allow social distancing.

* If possible different entrances and exit routes should be used for access to and exit from the playing area (one-way system).

* During the warm-up teams should respect social distancing, where possible.

## 7.6 SUBSTITUTION AREA

 Both substitution areas must be cleaned, and the boxes disinfected before the teams arrive and between each match.

## 7.7 TIMEKEEPER’S TABLE / SUPPORT TABLE

* The timekeeper’s tables and support tables should be cleaned and disinfected before the arrival of the match officials, including all equipment (scoreboard controls, laptop, etc.).

* All persons should wear FFP2 face masks during the match.

* All communications between the timekeeper’s table and teams must be done while observing social distancing rules.

## 7.8 TECHNICAL MEETING

The technical meeting should be conducted in a meeting room large enough to ensure social distancing.

* Only essential people should attend, i.e. EHF Delegate(s), OC, one representative per team and Covid-19 Officer(s).

* All participants should wear FFP2 face masks during the entire meeting.

* The Event Covid-19 Officer should ensure that the teams are fully aware of the Covid19 procedures for warm-up, entrance to the courts and match end.

## 7.9 PRE-MATCH PROCEDURE

* Only essential staff should be at the court entrance (TV Producer, Covid-19 Officer, Camera Operator, Security) and all must wear a FFP2 face masks and respect social distancing.

* Each team arrives from a separate corner, led by one referee and line up in the middle of the court. A 2m space must be maintained between the referees and the leading players.

* When standing in the centre for the introductions, players and referees should respect social distancing.

* Teams and referees should have no contact with each other when entering (no high five/fist bump).

* Player introductions can then be made as usual.

* There should be no exchange of gifts between players, EHF Officials, etc.

## 7.10 DURING THE MATCH

* In case a ball hits the face of a player, the ball shall be exchanged.

* If a player requires medical assistance from the substitution area or the tribunes, the referees should ensure that other players are standing at least 2m back when the team staff arrive to provide treatment.

* Medical devices (e.g. cool packs) must be disinfected after each use.

* If a player requires the assistance of the local medical teams, they must wait to be called by the referees, who will ensure the area and access is clear of players. Medical staff should wear masks and gloves.

* The teams should conduct their time outs at least 4m away from the timekeeper’s table.

If the court maintenance crew need to enter the court, the referee should ensure that players are standing back at least 2m before allowing the volunteers to enter the court.  For players or team officials given a red card during the matches a suitable and clearly separated area in the tribunes must be identified. The respective places are to be coordinated between the EHF delegate and the Event Covid-19 Officer prior to the start of the tournament.

## 7.11 HALF-TIME

* Only essential staff should be at the court entrance (TV Producer, Covid-19 Officer, Camera operator, security) and all must wear a FFP2 face masks and respect social distancing.

* No entertainment should take place on court during half-time.

## 7.12 END OF MATCH

* The teams/officials should leave the court in the following order (this should be supervised by the Event Covid-19 Officer: Referees, team nearest the exit, team furthest from the exit, table officials.

* To reduce any further infection risk, it is recommended that players do not shower at the event area, but return to their hotels as quickly as possible for showers in their rooms, if possible

* In addition, it is recommended that no catering should be provided for the teams and team officials at the event area.

* Packed food would be possible; however, a rapid clearing of the area is preferable.

* The event area and all available rooms/containers used should be thoroughly cleaned after everyone has left.

#  ANTI-DOPING CONTROLS

The EHF carries out random doping checks at the matches and allowances should be made for this.

* A clean and disinfected room should be made available for anti-doping checks.

* The room should be large enough to allow players and anti-doping staff to be able to socially distance.

* Everyone in the room should wear a FFP2 face mask and gloves.

* Gloves only required for medical procedures; anti-doping staff should provide negative Sars-CoV-2 testing result.

#  GUIDELINES FOR MEDIA

To allow safe access to players, it is important that all media respect hygiene and social distancing rules.

## 9.1 GENERAL MEDIA GUIDANCE

* All media representatives must be accredited through the official accreditation tool in place for the event and provide full contact details as part of the accreditation to allow contact tracing in case of a Covid-19 infection.

* Media representatives must be made aware of the Covid-19 regulations in place at the respective tournament and that they are obliged to follow them.

* All accredited media representatives must complete a Health Declaration Form (see sample in annex), so that they can confirm they are free of Covid-19 symptoms and can be contacted if a virus case is later reported in the media zone. Anyone reporting any symptoms cannot enter.

* All media representatives should carry hand disinfectant, wash hands regularly and wear a face mask.

* Media representatives can only access the yellow zone, except for those given courtside access at specific times and under supervision of the Media Manager/Court Manager.

* A separate route must be identified for media representatives moving from the yellow zone to courtside interview areas/mixed zone.

* Allocated seats (to facilitate contact tracing in case of an infection) in the media area should be spaced out in line with local social distancing regulations.

* In case media catering is provided, this should be packaged to be picked up by the media representatives and consumed at their dedicated media seat. If no catering is provided, media representatives shall be advised to bring their own food and drink.

## 9.2 PHOTOGRAPHERS

* The OC should allocate marked-out photo places in compliance with social distancing measures.

* A maximum number of photographers should be set for each area, allowing for social distancing measures. EHF recommends that a maximum of three photographers be allowed to the left and right of the goal. If space and routing allow, additional photographers can operate from the stands.

## 9.3 TV INTERVIEWS (FLASH ZONE, MIXED ZONE)

* A mixed zone may be set up to allow for post-match interviews. Routing to the mixed zone must be separate for media and players and social distancing (between the media representatives as such and between the media representatives and the players) must be respected at all times. In case of a higher demand for post-match interviews, this shall be supervised by an event media manager.

* The team media representative/media partner representative (‘supervisor’) are jointly responsible for coordinating TV interviews.

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

* For both flash and mixed zone interviews a 2m boom microphone should be used, so that the interviewer can stand well back. Ideally, if space allows, barriers should be in place to enforce the 2m spacing.

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

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

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

## 9.4 TV PRODUCTION

For more detailed guidelines, see separate EHF document ‘Guidelines for TV Production for Competitions during the Covid-19 period’.

* The TV/streaming partner is responsible for the TV production and their staff.

* It is the TV/streaming production’s responsibility to ensure that the Code of Conduct regulations are respected, as well as all local Covid-19 guidelines.

* All TV/streaming production staff will need to follow the same guidelines as for other media, including, completion of Covid-19 information form.

* All TV personnel operating inside the court area must always wear a mask.

* TV personnel operating in the Orange zone must ensure that they always remain at least 2m away from all players and officials, except where this is unavoidable and accidental during the match.

#  GUIDELINES FOR SPECTATORS

The decision on whether to allow spectators to attend the events is up to the OC, in line with local country regulations. The OC will be responsible for ensuring that all health and safety regulations are met for spectators. If spectators are allowed, a distinct prevention concept for the visitor area must be provided by the OCs.

Similarly, the decision on whether to open retail and refreshment shops at the arena rests with the OC and should be guided by local country regulations.

From the perspective of the EHF, the following guidelines are recommended:

* The numbers of spectators attending should be within limits set by any local government regulations and communicated to the EHF.

* Staff working on the spectator area should wear face masks, which are changed at regular intervals, as per local health & safety regulations.

* Staff working in the yellow zone should not mix with anyone working in the other zones.

* Where possible the OC should consider measures to ensure they can track spectators in line with local health authority guidance. This may be done by encouraging spectators to download a track-and-trace system on their phone or by requesting spectators to enter their phone number when registering for the event online.

The OC should work with local health authorities to ensure that spectators are made aware of Covid-19 guidelines at the match and of the need to stay away if they have any Covid-19 symptoms. OC should consider doing this via the ticketing webpage/outlet, local media and signage at the arena.

* Where possible and according to the local health organisation, OC may consider taking spectators’ temperature at the entrance using a touchless forehead thermometer (anyone with a temperature of 37,5˚ or more cannot enter).

* Spectators must stay within the blue zone.

* Spectator seating should allow for social distancing, as per local country regulations.

* Retail/refreshment shops should follow social distancing measures.

* Steps should be taken to ensure social distancing for all queues at the arena entrance or in the retail area, in line with local country regulations.

#  LEGAL CONSEQUENCES

If one fails to comply with the rules of the Hygiene Concept, the violator will be removed from the event with the immediate effect. Such violation shall be reported to the EHF Tournament Management with regard to the initiation of further steps.

The Hygiene Concept shall form an integral part of the EHF Beach Handball Events Regulations and have the same force and effect as set out in the EHF Beach Handball Events Regulations. The non-compliance of one or more of the provisions stated in the Hygiene Concept, shall be sanctioned according the applicable EHF regulations, including the EHF Legal Regulations.

EHF Officials, participating teams and federations shall reimburse all damages occurring in connection with a non-obedience of any of the provisions.

#  APPENDIX 1 - SAMPLE HEALTH DECLARATION FORM

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Health Declaration Form **Match Day**: **Date**: **Venue**: The information you provide here may be used by the public health authorities, in accordance with local legislation, in the context of the public health response to COVID-19. The form must be completed by all spectators over the age of 13. One form can be used for a group with members of the same household.  Name(s): Email address: Phone number: Seat number(s):

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Yes**  | **No**  |
| Do you (or anyone else for whom you are completing this form) currently have symptoms or have symptoms, or have been diagnosed with Coronavirus disease (Covid-19) within the last 14 days?  |   |   |
| In the past 14 days have you (or anyone else for whom you are completing this form) been in contact with someone who is or could be infected with Coronavirus (Covid-19)  |   |   |
| **In the past 24 hours have you (or anyone else for whom you are completing this form) had any of the following symptoms**  | **Yes**  | **No**  |
| Fever  |   |   |
| Cough  |   |   |
| Runny nose  |   |   |
| Sore throat  |   |   |
| loss of smell or taste  |   |   |
| Shortness of breath  |   |   |

 If you answered ‘Yes’ to any of the questions above, you and members of your household will not be granted to the event area.  I confirm that the information given in this form is correct to the best of my knowledge.  Signed: Dated:   |

APPENDIX 2 - REGISTRATION OF THE TEAM COVID-19 OFFICER

Registration of the Team Covid-19 Officer

**COMPETITIONS:**

Men:

Women:

Federation/Team:

Covid-19 Officer:

Name:

Mobile number:

Email address:

Please

transmit

this

registration

form

to

:

pisani@eurohandball.com

Signature of the Covid-19 Officer: