

WTT FEEDER DÜSSELDORF - COVID-19 GUIDELINES

All participants are required to adhere to the following COVID-19 guidelines and the direction of the LOC and WTT staff at all times.

Before Arrival

- All participants other than players will be required to be vaccinated with a Covid-19 vaccination when attending a WTT event.
- Mandatory Vaccination for players **will not** be required, unless it is a condition of entry into the host country or territory, as stipulated by Government authorities at any time.
- Unvaccinated players will continue to be required to undertake a COVID-19 PCR swab test seven (7) days before departure for the Event **and** within **48** hours of arrival at the Event and/or in accordance with the local regulations of the host country, whichever is stronger (i.e. if the local government requires within 24 hours) and send a copy of the result to WTT via covidprotocol@worldtabletennis.com.
- Any participant with a Covid-19 Vaccination and proof of vaccination of a WHO EUL approved vaccine will only be required to only undertake a COVID-19 PCR test within **48** hours of arrival at the event, and/or in accordance with the local regulations of the country of the event, whichever is stronger (ie if the Government requires within **24** hours).
- Any participant who is vaccinated but not with a WHO EUL approved vaccination (list available here) will be required to undergo 7-day and within **48** hours of arrival testing as per the current regulations (or the stronger government regulations of the host if applicable).
- Any participant who tests positive in either test shall not be permitted to attend the Event and players will be withdrawn from the Event, no WTT cancellation penalties will be applied, however all participants must pay the amount equal to the room cancellation policy.
- On-Arrival ART testing of all participants (or the stronger government regulations - i.e., PCR testing - of the host, if applicable) is required at all events.
- Participants are strongly advised to wear a **FFP2/KN95** face mask when travelling to the Event and to maintain social distance and good hygiene practices, regardless of vaccination status.

Upon Arrival

- All participants must wear a **FFP2/KN95** face mask upon arriving at the Airport and before taking official transport.
- **FFP2/KN95** face masks must cover the nose and mouth at all times.



- All participants (regardless of vaccination status) will be requested to undertake an Antigen Rapid Test (ART) before proceeding to the official hotel.
 - ART is rapid diagnostic test that detects the presence or absence of the COVID-19 antigen and commonly used to identify positive cases.
 - Refusal to follow any testing requirements required by the LOC will result in instant removal from the Event.
- The LOC will only contact participants who test positive.
- Any participant who tests positive will be placed in isolation and will be required to undertake a COVID-19 PCR test. Any participants identified as a close contact of the positive case will also be required to undertake a COVID-19 PCR test. The cost of the testing will be at the expense of the participant.
- Should the PCR test confirm a positive result, the participant shall be required to follow the Covid-19 Positive rules, and any associated costs shall be at the expense of the participant.
 - If the participant is a player then they shall be withdrawn from competition.

During Event

At the hotel:

- FFP2/KN95 face masks, covering mouth and nose, must be worn at all times at the hotel (except while eating or drinking)
- To avoid the spread of infection (if any), participants should always maintain 1.5 meters distance, and particularly when queueing at entrances or dining rooms.
- It is recommended to restrict group sizes to no more than 5 people and to avoid mixing with participants from other member associations or entourages.
- All meals shall be served at the official Event Restaurants. Participants should dine with their own entourage and avoid dining with participants from other member associations or entourages. A maximum of 6 people should dine at one table at any one time subject to proper physical distancing.
- Participants may order deliver services to the hotel if approved by hotel management.
- In case participants will be able to use the gym at the official hotels and FFP2/KN95 masks are encouraged to be worn when moving between stations. Please disinfect every piece of equipment and sanitize hands between exercise stations.
- A welcome desk at the reception shall be the only contact channel between participants and the WTT/LOC. Please check the notice boards for any Event communications.



- Participants who experience any COVID-19 related symptoms or have a body temperature above 37.4 degrees, please inform WTT or LOC staff immediately to organize any necessary medical attention.
- Any participant who is feeling ill/sick is strictly forbidden to go to the venue or use any other hotel facilities.
- It is strictly advised to not leave the hotels and venues for any reason without prior approval of the Event Supervisor.
- **FFP2/KN95** face masks must be worn at all times when moving between the venue and the hotel(s).

At the Venue:

- Before travelling to the venue – any participants experiencing any COVID-19 related symptoms or a body temperature above 37.4 degrees, must not travel to the venue and inform WTT or LOC staff immediately to organize medical review and treatment if required.
- **FFP2/KN95** face masks, covering mouth and nose, must be worn at all times except during practice and competition.
- Participants should not mingle/interact with others and keep to their own participant groups.
- Organisers will ensure safe distancing measures are in place.
- Hand sanitizer, handwashing amenities with soap and water, non-contact air hand dryers or paper towels in toilets shall be provided.
- It is strictly advised to not leave the venue for any reason without prior approval.
- Participants are encouraged to shower at the hotel instead of the venue.
- Physical distancing of 1.5 meters should be maintained between all individuals.
- Participants not involved in competition or practice are strongly encouraged not to stay at the venue and go back to the hotel room.

At the Practice Area:

- In the practice area, wearing a **FFP2/KN95** mask (covering nose and mouth) is mandatory unless physically engaging in practice.
- Each Player is permitted one (1) accompanying person in the training area. All other participants must remain outside of the training hall.
- Physical distancing of 1.5 meters must be maintained at all times and intermingling with other participants is prohibited.
- Any player who tests positive for COVID-19 having used the practice hall will require:



- Any other player(s) and/or close contacts will be required to undertake a COVID-19 test and isolate until the result is advised, any further decisions shall be taken based on the result and local health authorities.
- WTT may elect to implement a daily training schedule if participants do not adhere to social distancing. If implemented, practice will be according to the schedule with player number per table limited and specific table allocations for Member Associations.
 - In case Open Slots are available up to four (4) players/table could have practice until the next slot.

Before match:

- Tables in call area will be spaced at a minimum distance of 2m (6 feet 5 inches).
- At the call area players, coaches and officials must wear masks covering their mouth and nose.
- Players must sanitize their hands before selecting the balls.
- At the call area, players must always ensure that they maintain a safe social distance of minimum 1m (3 feet) between match officials and other participants.
- Where an umpire is required to choose balls on behalf of the players, the umpire shall sanitize their hands before and after the selection process.

Field of Play (FoP) / During Match:

- Umpires will enter the FoP before players and wait for players to enter.
- Coin toss will be done by the umpire in front of the umpire's table and with players remaining on their sides while maintaining a social distance of at least 1m (3 feet);
- During match, umpires and players must maintain an appropriate social distance of at least 1m (3 feet).
- Umpires and players shall not shake hands. They can choose to bow, visually acknowledge or touch bats, whichever is most comfortable while maintaining social distance.
- Ball kids (if in operation) and player's entourage shall sanitize their hands before entering the FoP and must wear a **FFP2/KN95** mask at all times.
- Players must not use their own towels to wipe the match table.
 - Players may ask the umpires to clean tables if it is required. Either the umpire or a designated person will clean and sanitize the table.
- No breathing on the ball for tackiness.
- Balls cannot be wiped on any part of a player's clothing.
- No hand wiping on table surface.



- Spitting is forbidden.
- Players must maintain physical distance when moving during interval or breaks after each game and changeovers.
- Match shall be paused in the following cases:
 - Any of the players have been tested positive in the last COVID-19 test.
 - The player who has been tested positive will be removed from competition via retirement and shall follow the local health protocols (testing, quarantine, medication etc.).
 - The other player(s), coaches and officials shall be required to get a COVID-19 test as soon as possible and further decisions shall be taken based on the results and local health authorities.
 - Officials that have tested positive in their last COVID-19 test:
 - The official who has tested positive will be replaced and shall follow the local health protocols (testing, quarantine, medication etc.)
 - The player(s), coaches and other official(s) shall complete the match and then be required to take a COVID-19 test upon match competition and further decisions shall be taken based on the results and local health authorities.
 - Any of the volunteers/ball kids assigned for the specific table have been tested positive in the last COVID-19 test.
 - The volunteer/ball kid who has been tested positive will be replaced and shall follow the local health protocols (testing, quarantine, medication etc.)
 - Identified close contacts of the positive volunteer/ball kids shall be required to get a COVID-19 test as soon as the match is over and further decisions shall be taken based on the results and local health authorities.
 - In case of any player/coach/official/ball kid feels ill/sick or developing any symptoms:
 - The medical team shall be called and based on their decision the above actions shall be taken.

End of Match:

- Umpires and players shall not shake hands. They can choose to bow, touch rackets or a visual acknowledgement, whichever is more comfortable while maintaining physical distance.
- The umpires of the next match or a local hygiene team shall quickly enter the FoP once the players and umpires have departed the FoP and disinfect and sanitize the following areas:
 - Match Table



- Coaches' benches
- Flooring in the FoP
- Umpires' tables and chairs
- Players and umpires who have no further matches or post-match media commitments should leave the venue and return to the hotel.

Mixed Zone:

- FFP2/KN95 masks shall be worn by all personnel entering the mixed zone and be separated with an appropriate social distance of at least 1m (3 feet). Entry to the mixed zone will be denied if a FFP2/KN95 mask is not worn.
- Members of the media shall always stand at least 2m (6 feet 5 inches) away from the player, and floor markings must be placed.
- Players may remove their FFP2/KN95 masks for interviews where safe distancing is maintained, and must place them on as soon as their media commitments are completed.

Important Notes:

- All restrictions are to be strictly enforced and any breach by any participant may result in removal from the Event at the discretion of the Event Supervisor.
- Participants are not allowed to leave the premises (Hotel(s), Venue).
- In all above cases whenever a participant will be tested positive the Event Supervisor will liaise with the LOC and Local Health Authorities to identify close contacts of an infected participant.
- Participants must, if required, sign a consent form Local Health Authorities confirming that their ART or PCR test results will be released to a third party.
- Credential holders are required to follow the guidelines and regulations indicated on their Accreditation Passes. Entering any unauthorized areas could lead to a breach of protocol investigation.
- Any close contacts of the person who was tested positive will remain in the Event, until the result of the test (not more than 24 hours after the testing) is confirmed, the participant shall be treated and individually with a strictly managed participation schedule to avoid any cross contamination.

Disclaimer:

- WTT and LOC reserve the right to change or update the COVID-19 Guidelines. Participants will be advised if any changes or updates are made.