



World Relays Silesia 2021

Medical Clearance Protocol for Media representatives

(as of 14 April 2021 – [Updates in blue font](#))

General rules and principles

To be able to host sport events during the actual pandemic situation, the organisers, in agreement with the local government and World Athletics, have decided to design and implement this set of procedures:

- Wearing a mask covering the mouth and the nose is mandatory in all public areas at all time, except for these two situations:
 - o While consuming food or beverages;
 - o For athletes only: once in the track and field stadium, racecourse, warm-up before taking part to the competition, and training areas (mask will have to be worn during transfers between these areas and the hotel).
- [All participants are required to wear FFP-2 type masks, that will be provided by the LOC. In case participants have branded masks, these can be worn on top of the FFP-2 mask.](#)
- [The use of disposable FFP-2 type masks is strongly recommended while travelling. Masks should be disposed on a regular basis according to the type of mask.](#)
- Any interaction, which constitute a significant risk of virus transmission, with an individual who is not accredited or directly involved in the organisation of the event is prohibited at all times.

Different types of vaccines against COVID-19 are available in 2021. Nevertheless, as vaccines availability scheme, duration and nature of the conferred immune protection are unknown, all subjects taking part to this event, regardless of the fact that they have been vaccinated or not, will have to adhere to these procedures with the objective of protecting all other participants and the local community.

The sanitary procedures described in this document, are subject to change according to the local and global COVID-19 pandemic situation.

1. Medical Clearance Protocol

The Medical Clearance Protocol contains two stages.

All accredited Media and Broadcast staff involved in the World Athletics Relays will have to comply with the Medical Clearance Protocol, Stage 1 and Stage 2.



1.1 BEFORE TRAVELLING: Medical Clearance Protocol – STAGE 1

Once an accreditation application is approved, and a few days before the event a separate e-mail will be sent to the e-mail address of the media to provide the following information:

- a) COVID-19 Symptoms Self-Report
- b) Medical Information Release agreement
- c) Provide a negative results of a naso/oropharyngeal swab test to detect SARSCoV2 genetic material (Polymerase chain reaction – PCR) performed in the **48 hours prior to departure**. The same test will be required by the Polish border control authorities to enter Poland at the port of entry. Please note that airline companies might request the result of the PCR test to allow boarding. The cost of this test is under the individual's responsibility.

NATIONAL MEDIA (Polish) will be allowed to collect their accreditation badge after having complied with one of the following two options:

- Provide a negative PCR test result, performed no later than 24 hours before arrival at the stadium;
- LAMP test performed at the Main Testing Center in the 3 hours before entering the stadium

Participants are strongly encouraged to check with their own Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the travelling airline company, if the rules for entering Poland have changed or if specific conditions apply when travelling from their country.

Results from blood serological or antigenic tests will NOT be accepted as a part of the Medical Clearance Protocol. The PCR test result must be uploaded to this specific platform.

Once the information is provided, you will receive a confirmation email if all the information and documents have been uploaded correctly.

If there is any issue, you will be contacted by the World Athletics Health & Science Team **on the personal email address provided when applying for accreditation.**

1.2 Travel to Poland (airport, railway station, buses, and car)

Everyone must comply with travel regulations in force at the time of the journey and must have enough masks and hand sanitizers for the entire journey duration. Under standard condition a surgical mask should be changed every 4 to 5 hours to keep its protective effect optimal. The purchase of personal protective equipment is under the responsibility of each individual.

Transfers from the Airport to the Main Testing Centre and /or Official Hotels will take place respecting the sanitary rules in force at the time. Furthermore,

- Vehicles used for transfer will run at 50% of their maximum capacity, to keep social distancing;
- Vehicles will be disinfected before and after each trip;
- Masks must be worn at all times, in buses or shuttles, for the entire duration of the transfer;
- Passengers are requested to use the hand sanitizer provided before entering the buses and shuttles;



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Individuals arriving directly to the Official Hotels or not staying in the Official Hotels, with their own means of transportation, should inform World Athletics and the LOC about the expected arrival date and time, so that testing procedures can be planned accordingly.

1.3 ARRIVING TO POLAND: Medical Clearance Protocol – STAGE 2:

The Local Organising Committee (LOC) Medical Team in coordination with World Athletics Medical Delegate will organise a naso/oropharyngeal swab test upon arrival to detect SARS CoV2 genetic material (PCR or LAMP) for everyone involved in the event in any capacity. Busses will directly take participants from the official ports of entry to the Main Testing Center.

The Main Testing Center will be located inside the “Upper Silesian Ethnographic Park” (address: Parkowa 25, 41-500 Chorzów)

Each bus will be escorted by one LOC volunteer that will coordinate with LOC Testing Center volunteers, to regulate the entrance to the testing facility based on the people’s flow. Entrance to the testing center will take place through the eastern (lower) gate. In busy hours, participants might be requested to wait inside the buses. Participants will leave all their belongings (luggage and bags) inside the bus, as this will be the same to take them to their respective Official Hotels. Volunteers will inform participants when they can enter the testing facility and the pre-test waiting area. **Participants will need to take their ID/passport with them.** LOC and World Athletics healthcare staff will identify participants by ID/passport before they will proceed with the sample collection.

Once the test is done, the medical team on site will inform participants if they need to wait for results there or they are allowed to be transferred to the official accommodation (based on category group). In case participants have to wait for the results on site, they will be accommodated in the Museum Auditorium.

In case participants are allowed to leave the facility before the results, they will exit the testing facility through the western (upper) gate and be sent back to their bus. After all participants staying on the same bus will have provided the sample (confirmed by the LOC volunteer), the bus will take them to their respective Official Hotel.

In this case participants will be required to wait for the results in their own room. While waiting for the test result, if they are sharing the room with someone else, they are strongly encouraged to maintain social distancing and wearing the mask. This to reduce contact with a potential positive case. Such case will require isolation and quarantine of others. The results will be communicated in approximately 90 minutes to the individual’s email.

See below the test results possible scenarios:

a) The test returns negative result:

If the person is still waiting in the Main Testing Centre, he/she will be transferred to the requested Official Hotel and will be able to complete the hotel check-in procedures and collect the accreditation.

If the person is already in his/her room, he/she will be able to collect the accreditation.



b) The swab returns positive result:

If the person is still waiting in the Main Testing Centre, a second nasopharyngeal swab will be immediately taken and sent to a different laboratory for confirmation of the positivity through PCR test. The test results will be available in approximately 8 hours. While waiting to be transferred to the allocated hotel to be isolated, the potential positive case will be accommodated in the small room next to the sample collecting room in the Main Testing Centre.

If the person is already in his/her room, he/she will need to stay in the room, avoiding any contact with other participants. LOC and World Athletics Medical teams will immediately contact the person and organise a second confirmatory test with PCR and inform of the next steps. The test results will be available in approximately 8 hours.

The positive case will be accommodated in the dedicated isolation room in the same hotel.

The negative roommate (if any) will stay in the same room after this has been properly sanitized. Negative contacts of a positive case (provided that all basic sanitary measures have been maintained the whole time) will be required to provide reporting symptoms form daily to the LOC Medical Director or World Athletics Medical Delegate. The negative roommate of a positive contact will not share the room with anyone else for the duration of stay. They will be re-tested every 24 hours as according to the re-testing plan.

A specific team to collect samples for confirmatory PCR test will be available 24h. During day hours the team will be located at the Main Testing Center.

Failure to comply with either STAGE 1 or STAGE 2 of the Medical Clearance Protocol will prevent the person from accreditation and access to any official venue and/or taking part to any competition-related activity.

The cost of the test to detect SARS CoV2 genetic material (PCR or LAMP) onsite will be covered by the LOC. This also includes costs related to confirmatory PCR test (if needed).

1.4 Procedures for individuals staying in the competition location more than 48 hours

In case the duration of stay in the competition location is more than 48 hours, further additional procedures should be implemented.

1.4.1 Re-testing

Regardless of the accredited category, all individuals staying in the competition location more than 48 hours, will need to be re-tested to detect SARS CoV2 genetic material (LAMP test).

Re-testing will be organized on appointment every 48 hours, starting from the test performed upon arrival. Sample collection scheduling will be planned according to the category's schedule and possibly in the evening and provide results by the following morning.

[All Media representatives will have to go through the re-test procedure at the Main Testing Center.](#)



Failure to comply with the re-testing procedure or missing the given appointment, will cause the immediate deactivation of the accreditation badge and participants will be denied access to all official venues.

1.5 Leaving Silesia

For public health purpose, the following aspects should be considered prior leaving the hosting city:

Media who, for compliance with their national sanitary rules, should provide a **negative PCR test to enter back in their home country**, must inform World Athletics, when registering on the accreditation system.

Costs for these additional tests must be covered by the media representative.

Media representatives will provide sample for the PCR test to leave from Silesia in the Main Testing Centre.

Costs for these additional tests will be carried by the participant or sending organization. The test cost is approximately 100€ per test and this must be paid on site by card before performing the test.

All COVID-19 positive cases occurring within ten days following the end of the event should be notified to the World Athletics Medical Delegate. This information will be dealt confidentially and will be used only for both epidemiological and contact tracing purposes.

1.6 Financial liability

The Medical Clearance Protocol, Stage 1 (paragraph 1.1) is under the full responsibility of:

- International and National Media for their respective staff and freelancers
- Broadcasting companies for the non-World Athletics Productions broadcasting staff

The Medical Clearance Protocol, Stage 2 (paragraph 1.3) and the Re-testing (paragraph 1.4.1) are under the shared responsibility of the LOC and World Athletics.

The PCR tests conducted to leave Silesia (required by media's country regulations) or/and to be released from quarantine on a COVID-19 positive subject or a contact subject (see below paragraph 2) must be paid by the person undertaking the test(s).

2. Management of a positive COVID-19 PCR test

According to the Polish Public Health Authority, each person who is tested positive (PCR) for COVID-19 while staying on the Polish territory, will have to be isolated for a period of 10 days. The place where the positive case will be isolated is the hotel where the person is



accommodated at the moment of diagnosis. The costs for the extended staying due to isolation or quarantine are to be covered by the participants or the sending organization.

If symptoms-free for a period of 10 days, the person will be released from isolation, without performing an additional PCR test. The person has the possibility to try to shorten the duration of the quarantine/isolation, if he/she can provide two consecutive negative PCR test results (own expenses), after having agreed with the World Athletics Medical Delegate and the Local Sanitary Authorities.

All persons who had prolonged and close contact with an infected person (e.g. roommate, contact without mask and/or no respect of social distancing) have to be isolated as described above. Determination of the “contact persons” will be done by both the Local Sanitary Authorities and the World Athletics Medical Delegate.

3. Media Operations on site

3.1 Media Centre and Media Tribune

There will be a seating plan prepared for Media Centre, **respecting social distancing**. Printing and distribution of **printed materials will be kept at a minimum** to limit risk of indirect contamination.

3.2 Interview possibilities

There will be **only limited possibilities for media to speak with athletes**:

- Pre-Event Official Press Conference and Post-Event Winners Press Conferences
- Mixed Zone

3.2.1 Pre-Event Official Press Conference and Post-Event Medalist Press Conference

Only accredited Media will be allowed to attend.

The Press Conference room will accommodate seated media, respecting social distancing.

Photographers and TV personnel will have a limited possibility to move to get the coverage needed. Selected athletes will attend, schedule to be prepared so one athlete will be present at a time. Each athlete interview will be maximum 10 min.

The head table for the speakers will be 2.5-3 m away from the 1st row of seats. On the head table no extra microphones will be allowed except the one from the audio system. At the back of the room a platform for cameras (broadcasters, live streaming,...) will be in place. TV cameras will get the audio from an audio splitter at the back, where the platform will be. A microphone on a tripod in the middle of the room will be placed (2-3 m away from the seats around it). Media intending to ask questions, should cue one by one in front of the microphone, respecting social distancing.

The Pre-Event Official Press Conference will be live streamed.



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One-to-one interviews although not recommended will be planned in advance and in cooperation with World Athletics.

3.2.2 Mixed Zone

A physical distancing of **2 metres will be applied between the interviewer and the athlete**. The interviewer and its assisting staff will have to wear a mask, as the athlete will likely not wear a mask to answer questions.

3.3 Photographers

3.3.1 Photographers Head-On

The positions on the Head-On platform will be preassigned if needed. Photographers can take their positions 30 minutes before the particular session start and they will not be able to leave the position till the end of the session, while they will always have to wear a mask.

3.3.2 Other photo positions (infield, outfield)

Photographers can use the pre-defined photo positions, including the infield positions and outfield level positions behind LED boards or elevated ones. There will be the entrance, people flows and exit points to the positions clearly defined. A detailed map and information about the ceremonies will be presented to photographers during the photo briefing.

4. Broadcasting

4.1 Rights Holding Broadcasters

Broadcasting staff should comply with the health protection procedures outlined in this document. Broadcasting staff is required to limit contact with athletes, team officials, other media, LOC and World Athletics staff, to a strict minimum. Should interaction with the above-mentioned groups occur, broadcasting staff should follow a minimum social distancing of 1.5 metres (2 metres with athletes in mixed zone or post event).

The RHB Staff are permitted to work at the following areas only:

- Pre-Event Official Press Conference
- Media Centre
- Mixed Zone
- Medallists Press Conferences
- Specific dedicated areas upon RHB requests, defined and agreed prior travelling to the event with the LOC and WA.

4.2 Host Broadcaster Compound

The Host Broadcast Compound will solely be accessible by the HB accredited Staff, no RHB Staff can access it and will have to contact the HB Liaison to coordinate the productions.



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The Host Broadcast should be supervised by dedicated security personnel provided by the LOC and have dedicated toilets and washroom. Wearing mask is mandatory at all times.

5. Data Protection

The personal information provided to World Athletics and the LOC in accordance to this protocol will be held and managed in accordance to the Medical Clearance Protocol Privacy Policy and/or Event Management System Privacy Policy. These privacy policies will be made available to you at the time of registering on the accreditation system and completing the COVID-19 Symptoms Self-Reporting information