

ANNEX 4

MEDIA

Dear media representatives,

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure your wellbeing, the IBU has established media requirements and rules for the BMW IBU World Cup events and the Biathlon World Championships next season.

These rules have been developed based on guidance from the IBU's Medical Advisory Group and are intended to maximise opportunities for the media while recognising and respecting the difficulties presented by the current situation.

The IBU and its organisers will limit the number of media representatives for each event in accordance with national health regulations and the respective infrastructure setup at each venue. We will strive to balance this limited access and make it as fair as possible by ensuring representative selections of newswires, publications and freelancers at each event. In addition, we will consider the language and reach within this limited number of journalists and photographers.

If national regulations or advice by IBU's Medical Advisory Group requires, the IBU will close the events for media representatives and only personnel crucial to the operation of the competition and broadcast production will be granted access to the venue. This policy and the numbers will be reviewed regularly and the procedures will be adjusted according to the pandemic situation.

We do understand that this is a difficult situation for the media and journalists, who show so much passion for our sport and are vital to its promotion around the world. We of course, would wish there to be no restrictions on the media. However, the health and wellbeing of everyone in the biathlon family must be a first priority and in order to ensure the long-term viability of biathlon and of its flagship events in the COVID-19 pandemic, we must take these necessary steps.

We appreciate your understanding and thank you in advance for working with us to ensure that the IBU delivers its events to the safest standards possible.

Please find a detailed set of procedures below:

ACCREDITATION AND ACCESS TO ATHLETES

- ▶ Accreditation will only be handed out with proof of a valid negative COVID-19 test and signage of IBU's COVID-19 declaration (Annex 1). Those tests may not be older than 72h (finally depending on national regulations in the host country)

- ▶ In order to keep better track of contact between people at the event and to limit contact, every accredited person will be categorized into certain groups (see main document). The colour(s) of your group(s) will be visible on the accreditation card and will affect access areas and flow of movement.
- ▶ A fully filled in IBU membercenter profile and accreditation request is a precondition for eligibility. Media reps have to sign the COVID19 declaration (Annex 1) to agree with all measurements and restrictions taken to secure the event bubble.
- ▶ Media representatives physically attending the event will not be able to have direct access to athletes, competition areas or team zones (except Mixed Zone). Thus, almost all of the usual media activity and engagement at events will not be possible.
- ▶ Please note that the IBU COVID-19 protocols stipulate that there is no direct contact between the various groups at all - including outside the biathlon venue. Journalists cannot mingle with other groups and shall limit social contacts.

COVID-19 TESTS

- ▶ IBU will implement its own COVID-19 test system for athletes, teams and officials.
- ▶ Media are required to arrange their own test prior to arrival (see above).
 - a positive COVID-19 test-result must be reported **immediately** to the IBU and OC designated COVID-19 contact person

ZONES AND WAYS

- ▶ **Mixed Zone:**
 - There will be a mixed zone with the mandatory distancing corridor for athletes and media. Availability of mixed zone slots will depend on the space situation on-site.
- ▶ **Shooting range:**
 - There will be no media corridor at the shooting range (the way / path for photographers to get to priority positions will depend on venue layout)
- ▶ **Course:**
 - A decision about designated Photo areas on the course will be made closer to the event
- ▶ **Media Routes:**
 - The ways on the venue will change significantly and it is likely that longer ways have to be accepted since the various groups cannot mix on their way to certain zones.

► **Media Centre:**

- Services: The services in the media centre will be reduced (including catering, printing, information desk) and journalists attending the events will need to prepare in a way that they are self-reliant.
- Space: The media centre will be laid out in a way to ensure that social distancing regulations can be adhered to.
- Meals: There will be an area at the venue for meals but what will be offered will be significantly reduced from previous years. Drinks (sealed bottles) in the Media Center will be provided but again media are requested to bring their own supplies to ensure they are self-reliant.

IBU MEDIA SERVICES

► **Press Conferences:**

- There will still be the usual IBU press conferences after each competition. However, to facilitate social distancing the format will change and the athletes will not meet the media in the same room. All press conferences will be available via video. More specific details of the format and process for press conferences will be published closer to the events.

► **Access to live data:**

- The IBU Data Center will be available as normal and provide the usual live data.

► **Media content / interviews / photography:**

- The IBU is currently setting up a concept to provide pool audio content for signed-up written media. This will be free content that is not broadcast.
- The precise systems and processes for the gathering and distribution of such content will be defined closer to the events. It is planned to have a platform where all the content can be downloaded. Access to the platform will require login data which will be distributed by the IBU.
- A selection of still images will be made available free from editorial rights restrictions.

ACCOMODATION AND TRANSPORT

- Separate hotels for specified groups (Teams, Media, IBU) directly involved in the event are planned wherever the host regional hotel structure allows for it.
- Please check whether your own transport can be organised to the venue since this is considered the safest option by the medical experts.

GENERAL BEHAVIOUR

„Act as you want others to act“

We kindly ask that you take care of your behaviour and act as a role model during the whole event!

- ▶ **Daily health self-reflection** (If you feel sick: report it (procedure below) and stay in your room.)

- ▶ **Hygiene**

- Wash your hands regularly and properly
- Use provided disinfection dispensers regularly and properly. Have your own disinfectant with you for safety reasons
- **The wearing of masks/mouth-nose face covering is mandatory** in all areas and gloves are mandatory when in contact with other groups. These gloves need to be changed regularly

NOTE: Advertising space of max. 15 cm² in total for sponsors and/or Logos may be featured on masks/faceshields/gloves. National flags are exempt from this.

- Avoid handshaking at all times (also at ceremonies)
- Cover your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze

- ▶ **Avoid contacts**

- Direct contact should be limited as much as possible. **This applies also for your time off the venue.**
- In case of contacts the general rules and national regulations of distancing and wearing masks must be respected and followed.
- Maximise distance between you and the athletes as much as possible

- ▶ **Violations of these procedures will be treated strictly, in accordance with the declaration in Annex 1**

REPORTING

- ▶ In case you feel unwell, contact the OC & IBU designated contact persons immediately
- ▶ Self-isolate at the venue/in your hotel
- ▶ Wait for a test to be conducted
- ▶ Self-isolate while you wait for the test result and await further instructions from the OC & IBU designated contact persons.
- ▶ In case of a positive test result further measures and tests will be coordinated by IBU and local health authorities.