

ADDENDUM TO IFSC RULES**TO BE USED DURING CORONA VIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) PANDEMICⁱ**

The aim of this addendum to the current rules is to define some measures to be adopted in international competitions during corona virus disease (COVID -19) pandemic.

This addendum has a strong impact not only on IFSC Rules but also on Event Organizer Handbook (EOH) and overrules, on the same subject, the current rules.

Due to the fast-evolving nature of the pandemic this Addendum will be reviewed and latest version of the file will be available on the IFSC website.

1. GENERAL STATEMENT**1.1. EVENT EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE PLANS**

The main point is understanding of the overview of the current COVID-19 situation by the Event Organizer (EO). IFSC staff, in the months preceding the event, will regularly check and analyse together with EO and local responsible staff:

- the latest available guidance on the COVID-19 outbreak;
- the global and local daily situation reports;
- the risks and transmission routes of COVID-19;
- the steps that event attendees can take to limit spread;
- the recognized best practices (including respiratory etiquette, hand hygiene, physical distancing, etc.);
- the travel restrictions adopted by different countries that may affect the mass gathering.

In the Information Sheet published on IFSC website shall be inserted all the information about how attendees should interact with the host country healthcare system, in particular:

- hotline/helpline telephone number;
- local health care system links and other useful information;
- medical teams and first-aid points for the mass gathering (if requested by the organizing country).

A doctor shall be appointed by the EO as Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator, it can either be the Competition Doctor or any another doctors, and their phone number shall be published on the info sheet, with a clear indication about the hours when they can be contacted by NFs for any need. Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor shall fluently speak English.

EO shall be encouraged to contact WHO and/or local public health authorities for support.

ⁱ The IFSC Executive Board, following the advice of the WHO World Health Organization, will declare when this addendum shall not be used anymore.



1.2. GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIALS, STAFF AND ALL PERSONNEL ATTENDING AN IFSC COMPETITION

Vaccines

If vaccines are available to you in your country, the IFSC strongly recommend you to accept it.

14 days prior to the competition

Try to limit use of public transport 14 days before your appointment;

If Covid-19 symptoms arise in the 14 days prior to your appointment, please inform the IFSC headquarters and get tested (following your countries' regulations);

[Depending on hosting country regulations] Provide proof of negative testing within the 72 hours before arrival at the competition by sending it to the Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor via email (as specified in the Information Sheet);

While travelling to the competition

Respect social distancing, wash hands frequently, and wear the mask properly at all times while travelling to the competition;

While at the competition

Respect social distancing, wash hands frequently, and wear the mask properly at all times;

While travelling back to your home country

Keep on paying attention to protect your family and friends.

1.3. PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

EO shall:

- provide personal protective equipment (e.g. masks, gloves, gowns, face shields etc.) for onsite medical personnel or ensure that they have it;
- provide hand sanitizer and alcohol rubs/gels, tissues, frequently replaced soap canisters and closed bins for safe disposal of hygienic materials (e.g. tissues, towels, sanitary products) in washrooms and changing rooms;
- provide hand sanitizers and alcohol rubs for all entrances and throughout the venue;
- contactless thermometers.

IFSC will provide:

- contactless thermometers;
- personal protective equipment for IFSC Officials and staff.

1.4. VENTILATION

COVID-19 viral particles spread between people more readily indoors than outdoors. When outdoors, the concentration of viral particles rapidly reduces with the wind, even a very light wind. When indoors, ventilation mitigation strategies help to offset the absence of natural wind and reduce the concentration of viral particles in the indoor air. The lower the concentration, the less likely some of those viral particles can be inhaled into your lungs; contact your eyes, nose, and mouth; or fall out of the air to accumulate on surfaces. Protective ventilation practices and interventions can reduce the airborne concentration, which reduces the overall viral dose to occupants.ⁱⁱ

ⁱⁱ <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/ventilation.html>

EOs must consider to improve ventilation by taking into account any or all following considerations for any indoor space of the competition venue:

- Increase outdoor air ventilation.
- When weather conditions allow, increase fresh outdoor air by opening windows and doors.
- Use fans to increase the effectiveness of open windows.
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and provide acceptable indoor air quality for the current occupancy level for each space.
- Increase airflow to occupied spaces when possible.
- Improve central air filtration:
 - Increase air filtration external icon to as high as possible without significantly reducing design airflow.
 - Inspect filter housing and racks to ensure appropriate filter fit and check for ways to minimize filter bypass.
 - Check filters to ensure they are within their service life and appropriately installed.
- Ensure restroom exhaust fans are functional and operating at full capacity when the building is occupied.
- Consider portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) fan/filtration systems to help enhance air cleaning (especially in higher risk areas such as a nurse's office or areas frequently inhabited by persons with higher likelihood of COVID-19 and/or increased risk of getting COVID-19).

1.5. RESPONSE PROTOCOL IN CASE OF (SUPPOSED) POSITIVITY

The Information Sheet shall contain the protocol to follow in case a person feels unwell and/or shows symptoms of an acute respiratory infection during the event:

- The relevant Team Manager or the athletes shall inform by phone the Technical Delegate (TD);
- TD will coordinate with EO and Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor on how to treat the case (treatment will depend from country to country);
- Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor shall decide what to do with the other members of the team;
- The information will be published on the virtual Official Board, without the name of the person, but only the nationality.

1.6. DECISION PROCESS IN CASE OF (SUPPOSED) POSITIVITY

In case a person feels unwell and/or shows symptoms of an acute respiratory infection during the event, after having applied the protocol sub 1.3:

- TD will organize an online meeting with IFSC President, IFSC General Director, Sport Director, Jury President, Event Organiser and Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor in order to decide if the competition shall be suspended, postponed, or cancelled;
- IFSC President has the final decision about the competition; in case IFSC President, for any reason, is not reachable, the final decision will be taken by IFSC General Director;
- TD will inform all the participants and Team Managers about the final decision and this decision will be immediately published on the Official Board and on the website.
- The management of close contact of a tested positive case will depend on the host country healthcare system and local regulations.

2. GENERAL RULES, TECHNICAL MEETING, OFFICIAL BOARD AND VIDEO DEMONSTRATION

2.1. CALENDAR EVENTS

A Calendar Event should be confirmed at least 8 weeks before the first day of the event.

2.2. OFFICIALS' NOMINATIONS

In case of changes in schedule or team participation, more flexibility with the nomination's criteria is permitted (i.e. Officials' nationality).



2.3. OFFICIAL INFORMATION SHEET

Official Information Sheet, containing information about the competition and also the specific information sub 1.1 (interaction with the host country healthcare system) and sub 1.3 (protocol to follow in case a person feels unwell and shows symptoms of an acute respiratory infection during the event) should be published on IFSC website not less than 30 days before the first day of competition.

2.4. CONFIRMATION

The participation of all team members must be confirmed to the TD at the arrival to the event’s location in the 2h time period preceding the Technical Meeting. In order to keep social distancing, Eos must ensure all the necessary measures.

2.5. TECHNICAL MEETING

The Technical Meeting, as defined by the rules, will be replaced by

- a) an online-only Technical Meeting held 10 days before the event to prepare teams, ahead of travel, with COVID-19 related measures; and
- b) a on-site Technical Meeting one day before the first day of competition.

Information will be included in the Information Sheet.

2.6. STARTING LISTS

The Starting Lists will be published on IFSC website the day before the first competition day of the event.

2.7. OFFICIAL BOARD

In order to guarantee social distancing the Official Board will be only virtual as a WhatsApp chat.

2.8. VIDEO DEMONSTRATION FOR LEAD QUALIFICATION

In order to guarantee social distancing no video demonstration will be provided in the isolation area. Demonstration videos will be published on a reserved YouTube channel the day before the competition at 18:00 Local time or as announced on the virtual Official Board.

2.9. TIMELINE

D -56:	23:59	CET	Confirmation that the Calendar Event is not cancelled/rescheduled
D -30:	23:59	CET	Publication of the Information Sheet
D -10:	TBC	CET	Online Technical Meeting
D -1:	TBC		Confirmation
D-1:	TBC	Local	On-site Technical Meeting
D -1:	18:00	Local	Publication of video demonstration
D -1:	18:00	Local	Publication of Starting Lists

Where D is the first competition day of the event.

2.10. TEAM MEMBERS

It is the responsibility of all Team Members participating in any Calendar Event to ensure that they are fully informed and that every athlete in their teams are fully informed of all details relating to the competition, particularly about all the COVID -19 related measures.

3. ATHLETES' COMMON AREAS

According to the size of the isolation area and the number of participants TD can decide that, in order to keep social distancing, isolation area shall be arranged in two separate zones: holding area and warm up. If isolation is not necessary (i.e. in Speed and in Lead qualification) the same rules (temperature check, hands sanitizing etc.) will apply at the entrance of the warm up area.

In the holding area there shall not have a climbing wall: athletes can warm up only with their personal equipment. They are allowed, if possible, to use their personal hang board.

In order to guarantee the same stay in warm up area to all athletes, a detailed timetable will be provided. On this timetable, the time of entrance and exit from the warm up area will be mentioned for each athlete. The isolation area shall be checked by the IFSC officials.

Volunteers working in common areas (isolation area, call zone, after climbing area, etc...) shall always wear a mask.

Athletes shall wear mask in isolation area when social distancing measures cannot be applied.

3.1. ISOLATION: HOLDING AREA

Isolation / holding area shall guarantee a minimum of 2 meters distance at all times between persons. In order to reduce the total number of people in isolation, only 1 (one) Team Official per team will be allowed. TD may decide to change such restrictions depending on room capacity.

For extra coach or physio who wants to stay at the disposal of an athlete, another waiting room will be organised. This room will be under the same rules as isolation. When athletes would need their physio, then the coach in isolation will swap and go to the waiting room.

Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor shall test all the registered Team Members before they are allowed to enter isolation / holding area: in case of body temperature (checked with a contactless thermometer) > 37.5 C° or in case of symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of taste/odour, sore throat, cold, aching limbs) Team Members shall not be allowed in.

After having been checked all the Team Members shall wash their hands using an alcohol-based gel. The EO shall provide alcohol-based gel dispenser in isolation / holding area but a personal gel dispenser is recommended.

All the persons inside isolation (team members, volunteers, officials etc.) will respect social distance (minimum 1 m).

At the end of the round, points that are touched frequently (i.e. doors, chairs, WC etc.) shall be cleaned with alcohol or disinfectant by EO staff.

3.2. WARM UP AREA

Warm up wall should be not less than 60 square meters. In order to reduce the total number of people in warm up area, no Team Official will be allowed in. TD may decide to change such restrictions depending on room capacity.

When moving from isolation to warm up every athlete will bring all their personal belongings in a box.

EO shall provide alcohol-based gel dispenser in warm up but a personal gel dispenser is recommended.

At the end of the round, points that are touched frequently (i.e. doors, chairs etc.) shall be cleaned with alcohol or disinfectant by EO staff.

3.3. CALL ZONE

When moving from warm up to call zone every athlete, possibly helped by a volunteer, will bring all their personal belongings in a box.



In call zone every athlete shall have a personal alcohol-based gel dispenser.

When the athlete goes out from call zone to climb a volunteer, wearing mask and gloves, will pick up the box and will move it to rest area (in Boulder) or to after climbing zone (in Lead).

At the end of the round points that are touched frequently (i.e. doors, chairs etc.) shall be cleaned with alcohol or disinfectant by EO staff.

Athletes are allowed to take off their mask just before leaving the call zone.

3.4. AFTER CLIMBING AREA

EO shall provide alcohol-based gel dispenser in after climbing area but a personal gel dispenser is recommended.

Athletes shall pick up their personal belongings, leaving the box.

At the end of the round points that are touched frequently (i.e. doors, chairs etc.) shall be cleaned with alcohol or disinfectant by EO staff.

4. COMPETITION AREA

4.1. LEAD

Exclusively in the Open Sport Class during qualifications and semi-finals, every athlete will climb using their personal rope, ideally provided by their NF. It is a decision of every NF to choose between one rope/one athlete and one rope/one team. Every rope shall have a 9-10 mm diameter and 60 meters length and shall be in rope bag clearly identifying country and name of the athlete. In case the rope is not judged appropriate by the TD, in consultation with other officials, the EO will provide an alternative rope. In all other cases, ropes are provided by the EO.

Belayers shall wear mask properly.

During observation time all athletes and officials shall wear their mask properly.

4.2. BOULDER

EO shall provide alcohol-based gel dispensers in rest area, to be used before and after every boulder.

Brushers will be allowed to access the mat exclusively during the Rotation Period in all rounds. During the Climbing Period athletes shall brush boulders by themselves.

Brushes will be provided by the EO and will be sanitized between each athlete's use. Athlete's scorecard will not be used. To let every athlete check their score, EO will provide boards for Boulder Judges to show athletes and coaches the results.

During observation before final round all athletes and officials when on the mat shall wear the mask.

After every round mat will be cleaned.

4.3. SPEED

Volunteers connecting athletes to autobelay shall wear mask properly.

5. PERSONAL EQUIPMENT AND HEALTH CHECKS

All athletes, Team Members, IFSC Officials, National officials, volunteers will be tested by Emergency COVID-19 Outbreak Response Coordinator Doctor: in case of body temperature (checked with a contactless thermometer) > 37.5 C° or in

case of symptoms (i.e. cough, shortness of breath, loss of sense of taste/odour, sore throat, cold, aching limbs) they shall not be allowed in any part of the venue.

Before travelling to competitions, it is recommended to check that Athletes and Team Officials insurance covers COVID-19 travel and health support.

Sharing materials (bottles, towels, masks, glasses, shoes etc.) is strictly forbidden.

The EO shall offer the possibility to perform paid tests in the vicinity of the competition venue in the event that any participant needs to do it, for example to come back the own country.

5.1. ATHLETES

National rules and regulation provided by the organizing country will be respected. In addition to their normal equipment, athletes will have their personal:

- mask (to be used when necessary).
- gel dispenser
- hang board (if needed)
- towel (brandless): minimum 150 x 70 cm (recommended)

5.2. TEAM MEMBERS

National rules and regulations provided by the organizing country will be respected. In addition to their normal equipment, team members will have their personal:

- mask (to be used when necessary);
- gel dispenser.

All team meetings shall comply with the relevant national rules. In any case every meeting will be held respecting 1 m social distancing.

5.3. IFSC OFFICIALS

National rules and regulations provided by the organizing country will be respected. In addition, in any period of the competition IFSC official shall wear a mask when social distancing measures cannot be applied.

Every IFSC Officials meetings shall comply with the relevant national rules. In any case every meeting will be held respecting 1 m social distancing.

5.4. NATIONAL OFFICIALS

National rules and regulations provided by the organizing country will be respected. In addition, in any period of the competition NF official shall wear a mask when social distancing measures cannot be applied.

Every National Officials meeting shall comply with the relevant national rules. In any case every meeting will be held respecting 2 m social distancing.

5.5. VOLUNTEERS

National rules and regulation provided by the organizing country will be respected. In addition, in any period of the competition volunteers shall wear a mask when social distancing measures cannot be respected.

Every volunteers meeting shall comply with the relevant national rules. In any case every meeting will be held respecting social distancing measures.

6. AWARDING CEREMONY

The protocol used in the awarding ceremony will be the usual protocol with some small modifications:

- Athletes shall wear the mask during all the awarding ceremony (except for some minutes to take pictures after the prizegiving)
- Prizegivers shall wear the mask
- Medals, trophies and flowers will be directly picked up from the tray by the athletes
- No handshakes, no hugs, no kissing from athletes or prizegivers shall be allowed

7. INTERVIEWS

Video interviews of Gold medallist and any other selected person shall be arranged preferably outdoor and ensuring the respect of social distancing at all times. In particular:

- Interviewee shall not wear the mask during all the interview;
- Interviewee shall speak to a microphone mounted on a tripod;
- Interviewer shall stand at a minimum 2 m distance from the athlete;
- Interviewer shall wear the mask during all the interview.

For interviews other than with video, when social distancing cannot be respected, then both interviewee and interviewer shall wear the mask.

8. RESERVED AREAS

EO shall provide alcohol-based gel dispenser in all these areas.

8.1. MEDIA AND PHOTOGRAPHERS

A special area will be reserved for all accredited media and photographers. All national rules and regulation provided by the organizing country will be respected. In addition, when in this area they will wear the mask and will respect social distance. Any infringement of this rule will be sanctioned with a verbal warning and, in case of repetition, with the withdrawal of the accreditation.

8.2. TEAM MANAGERS AND COACHES

A special area will be reserved for all accredited team members. All national rules and regulation provided by the organizing country will be respected. In addition, when in this area they will wear the mask and will respect social distance. Any infringement of this rule will be sanctioned according to current discipline procedure.

All the seats will be reserved and clearly identified by the name of the country.

8.3. PUBLIC

The decision to have public and the rules for the public will depend on organizing country rules and regulations.

9. RESULTS AND RANKING

9.1. EVENT QUOTA STRUCTURE

The implementation of the Event Quota Structure, as voted by the General Assembly in 2020, is postponed to 2022 season as collection of points and postponed to 2023 as new determination of quotas.

9.2. WORLD CUP RANKING POINTS



For the 2022 season, a minimum of 10 (ten) countries from 3 (three) continents shall be registered to a World Cup in order for such event to be counting towards the World Cup Ranking. A minimum of 3 (three) World Cup (counting towards the World Cup Ranking) shall take place in a season in order for the World Cup Series trophy being awarded.

APPENDIX – USE OF MASK

Use of mask	Holding Area	Warm Up Area	Call Zone	Observation	Climbing Area	Rest Zone	After Climbing Area	Kiss and Cry Area	Awarding Ceremony	Video Interviews	Other Interviews
Athletes	YES except when training	YES except when training	YES until the last moment to leave	YES	NO	NO except if shared	YES	YES	YES	NO but social distancing	YES unless social distancing
Team Officials	YES									NO but social distancing	YES unless social distancing
Event Organizer									YES	NO but social distancing	YES unless social distancing
Volunteers	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		
NF Officials				YES	YES		YES	YES			
IFSC Officials	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO but social distancing	YES unless social distancing
Belayers			YES		YES						
Prizegivers									YES	NO but social distancing	YES unless social distancing

HOW TO WEAR A MEDICAL MASK SAFELY

who.int/epi-win

Do's →

- Wash your hands before touching the mask
- Inspect the mask for tears or holes
- Find the top side, where the metal piece or stiff edge is
- Ensure the colored-side faces outwards
- Place the metal piece or stiff edge over your nose
- Cover your mouth, nose, and chin
- Adjust the mask to your face without leaving gaps on the sides
- Avoid touching the mask
- Remove the mask from behind the ears or head
- Keep the mask away from you and surfaces while removing it
- Discard the mask immediately after use preferably into a closed bin
- Wash your hands after discarding the mask

Don'ts →

- Do not Use a ripped or damp mask
- Do not wear the mask only over mouth or nose
- Do not wear a loose mask
- Do not touch the front of the mask
- Do not remove the mask to talk to someone or do other things that would require touching the mask
- Do not leave your used mask within the reach of others
- Do not re-use the mask

Remember that masks alone cannot protect you from COVID-19. Maintain at least 1 metre distance from others and wash your hands frequently and thoroughly, even while wearing a mask.

HOW TO WEAR A NON-MEDICAL FABRIC MASK SAFELY

who.int/epi-win

Do's →



Clean your hands before touching the mask



Inspect the mask for damage or if dirty



Adjust the mask to your face without leaving gaps on the sides



Cover your mouth, nose, and chin



Avoid touching the mask



Clean your hands before removing the mask



Remove the mask by the straps behind the ears or head



Pull the mask away from your face



Store the mask in a clean plastic, resealable bag if it is not dirty or wet and you plan to re-use it



Remove the mask by the straps when taking it out of the bag



Wash the mask in soap or detergent, preferably with hot water, at least once a day



Clean your hands after removing the mask

Don'ts →



Do not use a mask that looks damaged



Do not wear a loose mask



Do not wear the mask under the nose



Do not remove the mask where there are people within 1 metre



Do not use a mask that is difficult to breathe through



Do not wear a dirty or wet mask



Do not share your mask with others

A fabric mask can protect others around you. To protect yourself and prevent the spread of COVID-19, remember to keep at least 1 metre distance from others, clean your hands frequently and thoroughly, and avoid touching your face and mask.



World Health Organization