



FIVB World Tour Finals 2021 - Sardinia

(October 06 – October 10, 2021)

BVB COVID-19 AND HYGIENE PROTOCOL

Version 17 September 2021

The FIVB and Volleyball World reserve the right to revise, update or supplement these Protocols at any time in the future based on new information that it receives related to COVID-19.

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1. Introduction

This Protocol sets possible foreseen mitigation steps to reduce the risk of infection for those involved in the Sardinia event during the COVID-19 pandemic, although the risk cannot be completely eliminated. Please note that all stakeholders participate in the competition at their own risk and shall cooperate by complying with these guidelines.

The fundamental principle throughout the events during the COVID-19 pandemic is to protect and be protected by wearing a mask, sanitizing, social distancing, following the event hygiene and COVID-19 protocols and respecting and applying the local government guidelines and regulations. All participants have the mutual responsibility and respect to protect one-another.

These guidelines should be read in conjunction with the remainder of [BVB Handbook](#), FIVB [Return to Beach Volleyball Guidelines COVID-19](#), [LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES](#) and the SPECIFIC EVENT REGULATIONS ([Link](#)) and must be considered as a material term for the participation in the event.

Each National Federation delegation member (athletes, coaches, team staff, physiotherapists, doctors, President, etc.) must have read and understood the latest version of the Protocol for resuming FIVB Beach Volleyball events during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Any event participant must strictly follow the event specific COVID-19 protocols and stay in the event areas as requested. Failure in doing so, may lead to the removal of the participant from the tournament.

Please note that this protocol is a dynamic document and will be updated if needed. Organiser and FIVB will monitor changes to local legislation, regulations and government and public health authorities' guidance and review risk assessments, policies, and procedure as appropriate to ensure that compliance with local health and safety law is maintained.

The COVID-19 Protocol hereafter elaborates the actions to be taken by the most important stakeholders of the event considering different phases of the event.

2. Before Travelling

2.1. Entry Visa and Other Important Documents

1. All individuals are required to verify if they need any entry document such as **Visa and/or Entry Exemption** to enter Italy. An **official invitation letter and/or Entry Exemption** will be provided, upon request, by Federazione Italiana Pallavolo – FIPAV (National Federation). Required information must be shared **no later than September 6th, 2021** through the registration platform (See Travel section, Question 1). If you have any question, please contact sardiniaeventops@volleyball.world. The required information to be completed in the registration platform for invitation letters are:
 - a. **Passport information**
 - i. **First name**
 - ii. **Last name**
 - iii. **Passport number**
 - iv. **Passport issue date**
 - v. **Passport expiry date**
 - vi. **Nationality**
 - b. **Function (e.g.: athletes / coach / scout)**

2. All participants are required to submit their team travel information through the online link received in communication done by sardiniaeventops@volleyball.world **no later than 10th September**. Athletes and team staff will have an event transport vehicle, provided by the organiser, for the airport pick-up. In order to mitigate the risk of close contact between different teams, it is important that the participants indicate clearly their travel information to enable the organiser to book this transportation from the airport to the hotel.
 3. All participants must stay in the official event hotels. To book your accommodation (All participating teams, team staff, officials, service providers, etc.) must submit the travel and personal information on the link received from sardiniaeventops@volleyball.world **no later than 10th September 2021**.
 4. **Please book your accommodation through the organiser and not directly with the hotels.**
6. In case of any questions regarding hotel booking, please contact marsaglia@federvolley.it and sardiniaeventops@volleyball.world.

2.2. COVID-19 Test Result and Other Required Documents

1. It is mandatory for all participants to provide local organiser with a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate. The PCR test must be done within a maximum of 72 hours prior to the arrival in Italy and entering the event. The certificate must be in English and be issued by authorised health laboratories. An SMS message is not considered as a valid certificate. The presentation of the negative test certificate is a mandatory pre-condition for participating in the competition. All participants must ensure that they will have the test result with them upon arrival in Italy and entering the event.
2. **Individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 or have been fully vaccinated** will still need to provide a **negative PCR test result** to participate in event. All participants must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result (done 72 hours before the travel to Sardinia). Airline regulations are not to be considered, according to the local health authorities and event regulations for the participation in the event. This test result must be presented upon arrival at the testing centre, located in the athletes and official's hotel, to be able to enter the event and perform the upon arrival COVID-19 PCR test. This rule also applies to:
 - a. Recently recovered from Covid-19 and vaccinated participants
 - b. Participants travelling from Italy
 - c. Participants driving from a neighbouring country
 - d. Any participant that is not required to present a PCR negative result upon entrance in Italy
3. Present upon arrival a **liability release waiver** on the absence of symptoms for at least 14 days per delegate.
4. Important Note: Please note that it is responsibility of each individual to verify specific regulations of the airlines which they will use to travel to Italy.

3. Entering to Italy - Arrival

3.1. Necessary Documents

All regular border-crossing regulations must be followed regarding the validity of passports, visas, entry exemptions as applicable for each respective country.

All participants must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate. The PCR test must be done within a maximum of 72 hours prior to the arrival to Italy and entering the event. The certificate must be in English.

Certificate must be issued by authorised health laboratories, and an SMS message is not considered as a valid certificate.

Please check the link below regularly to understand which entry rule apply to your travel to Sardinia.

[COVID-19 Travelers, Italy](#)

3.2. COVID-19 Testing Upon Arrival

At least **one (1) PCR test per** participant will be performed immediately upon arrival at the official hotel.

All participants must stay in their hotel room until a negative test result is delivered.

The test result will be delivered in 6 (six) hours.

Important contact Information:

COVID-19 Officer & Medical Doctor

Dr. Sergio Cameli: +39 06 3334 9515 / +39 335 684 8974, medicofederale@federvolley.it

Hygiene Officer

Claudio Bucci: +39 335 639 5873, sogesi.mobile@gmail.com

Important note: individuals who do not respect this requirement will not be able to participate in the event. Refusal of PCR testing will result in removal of the participant from the tournament.

3.3. Symptoms After Arrival

Anyone who experiences symptoms after arrival must self-isolate in their hotel room and immediately contact COVID-19 Officer.

3.4. Procedures to Follow after The Test Result Delivery

The 'upon arrival' test results will be delivered within 6 (six) hours after the submission of the sample. During this time and until a negative test result is delivered, the participant must stay in the hotel room.

In case you are sharing the room, both negative results must be received before leaving the room.

Individuals **whose PCR test result is positive** will be isolated immediately and must follow the guidelines:

1. They will be retested immediately with a PCR test.
 - a. If the second test result is negative, the participant will be released from isolation.
 - b. If the second test result is still positive, the participant must stay in isolation in a single room for 10 days, independently if fully vaccinated or not. They must follow the COVID-19 Officer's and the official contact tracing instructions from the government thoroughly and inform the COVID-19 Officer should they need medical treatment.
 - c. The time of isolation is counted from the day of positive PCR test result unless otherwise decided by Hygiene Officer (=day 0).
 - d. No retesting during the isolation can be done to reduce the number of days of isolation.
 - e. After the 10 days of isolation, and only if no symptoms, the participant will perform another PCR test.
 - i. If negative, participant is released.
 - ii. Participant will only be allowed to perform this last PCR test if symptom free for 3 days.
 - iii. If symptoms free for the last 3 days but the PCR test is still positive, the participant must remain in isolation and if still symptom free another PCR test can be done 24 hours later.

Note: isolation room is a single room, at one of the event official hotels.

Note: Maximum period of isolation is 21 days

2. Anyone identified as a **close contact** must quarantine immediately.
 - a. In case the participant is fully vaccinated, then the quarantine period will be of 7 days only. An Antigen test will be performed after the quarantine period to release the participant.
 - b. In case the participant is not vaccinated, the quarantine period is of 10 days. An Antigen test will be performed after the quarantine period to release the participant.

Recognized Vaccines in Italy:

[Vaccini anti Covid-19 \(salute.gov.it\)](https://salute.gov.it)

3. Testing times are:

October 3rd – October 11th 08:00-20:00

4. Any participant that arrives after the working hours of the Testing centre, will have to stay in their hotel room until the next morning when they can perform their upon arrival PCR test
5. Players and team delegation are responsible to assist the COVID-19 Officer and the FIVB Medical Delegate on the establishment of "Contact Tracing".
6. In case of close contact, participants must cover the cost of the PCR test to be done and any other cost related to quarantine.
7. Teams are responsible for all other costs if a member of their team has to isolate (positive cases).

*For more information of local regulations, click [HERE](#)

Individuals whose COVID-19 PCR test result (upon arrival to the hotel) is negative will be able to leave their rooms and enter the event.

3.5. Entering the Event

Only individuals whose first PCR test (upon arrival to the hotel) are negative can enter the event (competition venue and training courts).

Participants are NOT allowed to leave the event areas or have any contact with anyone outside of the event as contamination could occur endangering the safety of the event and the health of the other participants.

Important note: Individuals who do not respect this requirement will be removed from the event.

3.6. Close Contact Definition

Close contact is defined as:

- a person living in the same room as a COVID-19 case
- a person who has had direct physical contact with a COVID-19 case (e.g. handshake). This definition does not apply to:
 - Medical services, if medical providers are using proper health equipment (face mask) during treatment.
 - Any physical contact during play (competition and training) in between athletes.
- a person who has had unprotected direct contact with secretions from a COVID19 case (e.g. touching used paper tissues with bare hands)
- a person who has had direct (face-to-face) contact with a COVID-19 case, at a distance of less than 2 meters, for at least 15 minutes without face masks
- a person who has been in an enclosed environment (e.g. classroom, meeting room, hospital waiting room) with a COVID-19 case without face masks
- a healthcare worker or other person providing direct assistance to a COVID-19 case or laboratory personnel handling samples of a COVID-19 case without the use of recommended mask or using unsuitable face mask

Please note that the following is considered as good practice for all medical provider (for example physiotherapists) to be followed during the treatment of the athletes and shall be implemented accordingly, to avoid being identified as close contact:

- Medical provider will provide treatment wearing surgical, KN95 or FFP2 face mask.
- Athletes being treated also wear a surgical, KN95 or FFP2 face mask during treatment.
- Massage tables and any equipment will also be thoroughly sanitised in between athletes' treatment.
- The medical provider regularly sanitises their hands/arms in between athletes' treatment.
- In case above criteria is respected, any athlete treated by medical staff/physiotherapist will not be considered as close contact in case the medical staff tests positive.
- The same can be applicable if an athlete treated by the medical provider tests positive, meaning that the medical provider won't be considered as close contact. However, depending on the circumstances, decision of the Medical Delegate and COVID-19 Office will prevail.
- Please note that it is responsibility of the athlete and medical provider to verify that each person is equipped with the above protection items and that facilities are well sanitized. The above measurements are promoted as good exercise for all physiotherapists and doctors at the event.

4. Competition Phase

4.1. General Principles

In view of the pandemic and to mitigate the risk, following policies will be implemented and must be respected by all participants.

- All individuals participating at the event must wear a surgical, FFP2 or KN-95 mask always and respect any other established prevention measures at any time during the competition phase.
- Athletes and referees are allowed to play/officiate without masks during the match as well as training.
- Team staff (coaches, physiotherapists, etc.) must always wear their mask, including during the treatment and during matches. Coaches can remove their masks only during training and warm-up and once on the court. Outside the court, all individuals are required to wear their masks.
- All participants must foresee and have enough number of masks with them.
- All individuals are required to wear a surgical, FFP2 or KN-95 mask at the hotel except for when they are in their own room or while seated and eating at dining area.

Tissue or fabric face masks are **NOT** accepted.

Please make sure you have access to enough face masks to last throughout your stay in Sardinia. Each participant is responsible for their own supply.

Failure in complying with such requirement will result in being removed from the tournament.

- Regular use of hand sanitiser is mandatory for everyone. Organiser will provide hand sanitiser stations in different areas of the event. All participants are requested to have their personal hand sanitisers and use it regularly, especially before entering public area such as restaurant, training courts and competition facilities.
- All team staff members are responsible for their team compliance with the COVID-19 protocol. They are responsible to inform their players about any possible changes and adjustments.
- Individuals participating in the event are only allowed to be at the official hotel, in the designated areas at the centre court, the side-court and other designated areas within the venue.
- No handshake, hug or any other physical contacts are allowed.
- All participants must always respect social distancing and maintain 1.5 m distance.
- All participants, including the athletes, officials, team staff, service providers, etc. are strongly advised to stay in their hotel rooms when not at the competition or training venue. Individuals must not gather in one room or share/switch their rooms at any time. Except members of the same team delegation.

Failure in complying with such requirement will result in being removed from the tournament.

- Sanitising hands before entering the transport vehicle is mandatory for all.
- Participants are required to respect the social distancing while waiting for or using transportation. Masks must be always worn. This includes while waiting for transport as well as when using the transportation.
- Athletes are strongly advised to avoid any activities with athletes from other teams. This includes having meals, leisure activities, etc. This also applies to the team staff.
- Contact with media is only allowed in the designated media zones and while maintaining 1.5m distance.
- This event will have a virtual mixed zone in order to mitigate the risk.

- **Important note:** In order to mitigate the risk, athletes and team staff are not allowed to eat/dine with members of other teams, unless otherwise approved prior by the Hygiene Officer and FIVB Medical Delegate for exceptional reason (such as being family members but in different teams). For such request, please submit to sardiniaeventops@volleyball.world no later than **September 29th**.

4.2. Testing

4.2.1 COVID-19 Testing at the event

In addition to the mandatory COVID-19 PCR test implemented upon arrival at the event, subsequent COVID-19 PCR tests will be performed **on all individuals, every 4 days after their upon arrival PCR test in Sardinia, which will start from the 3rd October.**

The PCR test will be performed at the official hotel.

- If the test result is negative, individuals can continue their activities in the event.
- If the test result is positive, concerned individual(s) must stay in isolation and follow the procedures as per above.

Both previously infected and vaccinated, must perform the “upon arrival” PCR test and also the during competition (every 4 days) test.

Exit COVID-19 PCR test is mandatory for athletes, international referees and delegates. Their testing schedule will be informed to the participant during his “upon arrival” PCR test and it needs to be aligned with the arrival date and departure flight.

For all other participants the Exit COVID-19 PCR test will be performed, upon request, before you exit the event. Please confirm the test time and date with the testing centre at your arrival, and if any change of departure flight occurs, please keep the testing centre informed in due time. If you are going to a country that does not require a PCR negative result as a mandatory entry regulation, you won't need to perform the exit test.

If your PCR test result is negative, a certificate will be provided and this can be used for your departure. Should the test result be positive, individuals must isolate at their own cost, and follow COVID-19 Officer instructions and local health regulations.

4.3. Procedure Regarding Positive Test Results

All individuals who have a PCR test result positive must be in isolation and follow the COVID-19 Officer's instructions.

Such individuals will be transferred to their isolation room located at one of the event official hotels.

All further steps after a positive PCR test will be communicated through the COVID-19 Officer.

As explained, all close contacts will be identified and tested accordingly. **All close contacts must follow the above procedure as well as the COVID-19 Officer's instructions.**

4.4. Test Cost Coverage

Please refer to the below information regarding test cost coverage:

PCR Testing Cost				
	Pre-event	PCR Upon arrival in Sardinia	PCR test (Every 4 days)	Exit PCR
Players	Their cost	LOC	LOC	LOC
Team Staff	Their cost	Their cost	Their cost	Their cost
Officials	Reimbursed by FIVB	LOC	LOC	LOC
Service Providers	Their cost	Their cost	Their cost	Their cost

Please note that individuals identified as close contact, must bear the cost related to quarantine, isolation (positive cases) and extra testing.

Participants are strongly advised against arriving in Sardinia before October 3rd, 2021. Should there be specific reason to arrive to Sardinia earlier than October 3rd, 2021, it requires the approval by the FIVB/VW and further hygiene advice will be given to the participants concerned should this be approved.

However, individuals who arrive in Italy before October 3rd, 2021 must perform a COVID-19 PCR upon arrival in the laboratory designated by the organiser, prior to entering the event areas. Negative result of such a test must be presented to the COVID-19 Officer. Certificate must be issued by authorised health laboratories, and an SMS message is not considered as a valid certificate.

Cost scheme of Test:

- PCR test: 80 € per testing
- Antigen test: 15 € per sample
- **Payment method:** Payment must be done onsite in cash or with credit card.

5. Insurance

It is the responsibility of athletes, team staff and National Federation to ensure that in addition to their normal health and travel insurance they have sufficient insurance in place to cover any COVID-19-related costs. The organiser of the event, FIVB and Volleyball World accept no liability for any claims relating to cancellation of the event due to COVID-19 or medical costs for any COVID-19 related illness as well as isolation/quarantine cost that may affect a National Federation delegation member during the event.

FIVB has also purchased additional insurance for the participating athletes limited to certain costs incurred due to covid-19 positive case. For details, please contact FIVB at worldtour@fivb.com.

6. Departure

Local organiser will perform a mandatory Exit PCR test on athletes, international referees and officials. All other participants can also perform this test, if needed upon request, to exit the event. Participants may request the result of such test to the Local COVID-19 Officer, for travelling matters. Upon arrival, please communicate your departure schedule to the Local COVID-19 Officer, to schedule the exit test.

Ps: Please note that 6 hours are needed to receive the above-mentioned test result.

Appendix 1:**HYGIENE PROTOCOL FOR TOURNAMENT ARRIVALS****A. Upon arrival to the event PCR test**

A PCR test will be conducted on all participants upon their arrival at the testing centre located at the official hotel. The result will be delivered in 6 hours. During this time and until a negative test result is delivered, individuals must stay in their hotel rooms. Room service will be available.

B. Procedure to follow upon receipt of a negative test result for the Upon Arrival Test

Once a negative test result for upon arrival test is delivered, participants can leave their hotel rooms with limited movement allowed and as per the below guidelines:

- Trainings must be pre-booked by the participants (athletes only) in the event information desk, in the athlete's official hotel. Training must not take more than one (1) hour per session. Should you train with other teams in the same court, it shall be mutually agreed and please stay in distance and respect good hygiene protocols.
- Meals at the hotel: Meals at the hotel will be provided during specific time slots communicated by the hotel and dedicated area for the event participants only.

Note: Athletes of different teams are not permitted to eat together at the same table. This is to reduce the risk of being identified as close contact in case of a positive COVID-19 test. This applies for the team staff as well. The above is applied unless otherwise approved prior by the COVID-19 Officer and FIVB Medical Delegate for exceptional reason (such as being family members but in different teams). For such request, please submit to sardiniaeventsops@volleyball.world no later than **September 29th**.

Above regulations are applicable to all including athletes, team staff, local staff and service providers.