



**FIVB**  
**BEACH VOLLEYBALL**  
**WORLD TOUR**

**Swatch Major Gstaad**

*(July 06– July 11, 2021)*

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**BVB COVID-19 AND HYGIENE  
PROTOCOL**

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**Version 29 June 2021**

*The FIVB reserves 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

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This Protocol sets possible foreseen mitigation steps to reduce the risk of infection for those involved in the Gstaad 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 officials, 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 be removed from the tournament.

Please note that this protocol is a dynamic document and will be updated if needed. Organizer 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

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### 2.1. Entry Visa and Other Important Documents

1. All individuals are required to verify if they need a visa to enter Switzerland. VISA requirement can be found here ([LINK](#)). Check if you need an **official invitation letter**, and if yes request it from Swiss Volley (National Federation), with the documents/information required, **no later than Thursday June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021**. Please send all information to [info@volleyball.ch](mailto:info@volleyball.ch), [karin.spychiger@volleyball.ch](mailto:karin.spychiger@volleyball.ch) and [gstaadeventops@volleyball.world](mailto:gstaadeventops@volleyball.world).  
Required documents/Information:
  - a. Good quality passport copy
  - b. Booked flight
2. Please click [HERE](#) to see the current list of risk countries that will need to quarantine upon arrival in Switzerland.
3. Submit your team travel information in the online link received in communication done by [gstaadeventops@volleyball.world](mailto:gstaadeventops@volleyball.world) **no later than 15<sup>th</sup> June**. For Main Draw teams the organizer will organize dedicated vehicle for the airport pick-up per team 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 organizer to book this dedicated transportation to the hotel.

4. All participants must stay in the official event hotels. To book your accommodation (All participating teams, teams officials, service providers, and early arrival teams, etc.) must submit your travel and personal information on the link received from [gstaadeventops@volleyball.world](mailto:gstaadeventops@volleyball.world)), no later than 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
  5. **Please book your accommodation through the organizer and not directly through the hotels.**
6. In case of any doubt regarding hotel booking, please contact [gstaadeventops@volleyball.world](mailto:gstaadeventops@volleyball.world) and [office@beachworldtour.ch](mailto:office@beachworldtour.ch) .

## 2.2. COVID-19 Test Result and Other Required Documents

1. It is mandatory for all participants to provide local organizer with a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate. The PCR test must be made a maximum of 72 hours prior to the departure and entering the event. The certificate must be in English and be issued by authorized 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 travelling and taking part in the competition. All participants must ensure that they will have the test result with them while entering Switzerland.
2. **Individuals who have recovered from COVID-19 as well as the ones who have been fully vaccinated** and their PCR test 72 hours before travel is still positive must verify with the airlines which they use to travel to Gstaad, Switzerland about the respective airline regulations. If authorized by the respective airlines to travel to Switzerland, these individuals will still need to quarantine upon arrival until **a negative test result** is delivered. Such individuals will be responsible for all costs related to their quarantine and COVID-19 test.
3. Only individuals who can present a negative COVID-19 PCR test (72 hours before departure to Switzerland/Gstaad) are able to enter the event and perform the upon arrival COVID-19 PCR test. This rule also applies to:
  - a. Participants travelling from Switzerland
  - b. Participants driving from a neighboring country
  - c. Any participant that is not required to present a PCR negative result upon entrance in Switzerland
4. Present upon arrival a [liability release waiver](#) on the absence of symptoms for at least 14 days per delegate.
5. 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 Switzerland.

## 3. Entering to Switzerland- Arrival

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### 3.1. Necessary Documents

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

All participants must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test certificate. The PCR test must be made a maximum of 72 hours prior to the departure to Switzerland. The certificate must be in English. Certificate must be issued by authorized 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 Gstaad.

[Entering Switzerland \(admin.ch\)](#)

### 3.2. COVID-19 Testing Upon Arrival

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

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

The test result will be delivered in 24 hours.

#### **Important contact Information:**

##### **COVID-19 Officer & Medical Doctor**

Dr. Gery Büsser: +41 44 385 74 53 / +41 79 644 24 02, gery.buesser@kws.ch

##### **Hygiene Officer**

Mägi Kunz, [margot.kunz@bluewin.ch](mailto:margot.kunz@bluewin.ch), +41 79 277 64 13

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 from participation in 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.

##### **COVID-19 Officer & Medical Doctor**

Dr. Gery Büsser: +41 44 385 74 53 / +41 79 644 24 02, gery.buesser@kws.ch

### 3.4. Procedures to Follow after The Test Result Delivery

The 'upon arrival' test results will be delivered within 24 hours after the submission of the sample. During this time and until a negative test result is delivered, all participants must stay in their hotel rooms.

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

1. They must stay in isolation single room for 10 days and until 48h after last showing symptoms. They must follow the COVID-19 Officer's and the official contact tracing instructions from the government thoroughly and inform him/her should they need medical treatment.
  - a. The time of isolation is counted from the day of positive PCR test result or when first symptoms appears (=day 0).
  - b. No retesting during the isolation can be done to reduce the number of days in isolation.

- c. After the 10 days of isolation, participant will be released of the official contact tracing of Canton de Bern, if symptoms free for 48 hours (without any further testing).

**Note:** isolation room is a single room, part of the event official hotels, but separated from other participants area.

- 2. Anyone identified as a close contact must quarantine immediately and perform another Antigen and PCR test.
  - a. If any of the test results is positive, the same procedure as positive cases will be applied.
  - b. The local contact tracing authorities will decide if a close contact that obtains a negative test result have to stay in quarantine for 10 days. Day 1 of quarantine will be the last day of contact with the positive tested person. At day 7, participant can be released of quarantine, if both test results are negative.
  - c. In Switzerland if a close contact is fully vaccinated or has recovered from COVID-19 (max. 6 months), there is no need to quarantine. Documentation for both exceptions must be presented.
  - d. Testing times are:

July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	14:00-22:00
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	08:00-22:00
July 5 <sup>th</sup>	08:00-18:00
July 6 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup>	08:00-12:00
July 10 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>	08:00-10:00

- 3. Players and team delegation are responsible to assist the COVID-19 Officer and the FIVB Medical Delegate on the establishment of “Contact Tracing”.
 

**Note:** As a general principle, the person should be symptom free for at least 2 days to enter or reenter the event. Other situations require individual decisions undertaken by FIVB Medical Delegate, COVID-19 Officer/Local Authorities.
- 4. In case of close contact, FIVB will cover the cost of the PCR test to done by the participant. Any additional test for early release of quarantine will be responsibility of each participant.
- 5. 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, training courts).

**People 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 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:**

Being within 1.5 meter of a COVID-19 infected person for more than 15 minutes without face mask or having direct physical contact.

Please note that following is considered as good practice for all medical provider (for example physiotherapists) to following during the treatment with the players and shall be implemented accordingly to be avoid being identifying 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 sanitized in between athlete's treatment.
- The medical provider regularly sanitized their hands/arms in between athletes' treatment.
- In case above criteria is respected, an athlete treated by medical staff/physiotherapist will not be considered as close contact should medical staff test positive.
- The same can be applicable if a player 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 players 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 in the event to follow.

## 4. Competition Phase

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### 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 to the event must wear a surgical, FFP2 or KN-95 mask at all times and respect any other established prevention measures at any time during the competition phase, apart from players and Referees who may play/officiate without masks during the match as well as training. Players must wear masks also at the indoor gym. Team Delegations (coaches, physiotherapists, etc.) must wear their mask at all times, including training at the indoor gym, during the treatment and during matches, and coaches can remove their masks only during training and warm-up. 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 Gstaad and everyone is responsible for their own supply.**

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

- Regular use of hand sanitizer is mandatory for everyone. Organiser will provide hand sanitizer stations in different areas of the event. All participants are requested to have their personal hand sanitizers and use it regularly, especially before entering public area such as restaurant, gym, training and competition facilities.

- All team's members are responsible for their team's compliance with the Covid-19 regulations. They are responsible to inform their players about any possible changes and adaptations.
- Individuals participating in the event are only allowed to be at the hotel, in the designated areas at the centre court and the surrounding area of the side-courts.
- 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 delegates, service providers, etc. are strongly advised to stay in their hotel rooms when not at the competition or training venue or training gym. 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 may 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 worn at all times. This includes while waiting for transport as well as when using the transport.
- Athletes are strongly advised to avoid any activities with players of other teams. This includes having meals, leisure activities, etc. This applies to the team delegations too.
- Contact with media is only allowed in the designated media zones and while maintaining 1.5 m distance.
- **Important note:** In order to mitigate the risk, players and team officials 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 [gstaadeventops@volleyball.world](mailto:gstaadeventops@volleyball.world) no later than **June 25th**.

## 4.2. Testing

### 4.2.1 COVID-19 Testing in the event

In addition to the mandatory COVID-19 PCR test implemented upon arrival at the event, subsequent COVID-19 Antigen tests will be performed **on all individuals, every 4 days after their upon arrival PCR test in Gstaad. For the Antigen testing, following exceptions will apply:**

- **Fully vaccinated participants (Certified certificate of the two vaccine doses at least 14 days before, must be presented)**
- **Participants that have recovered from COVID-19 within the last 6 months (Most recent COVID-19 positive test result from a certified laboratory, written in English, with date of the test and date of the result).**

**The above-mentioned exceptions will not have to perform the Antigen test.**

The antigen test will be performed at the testing station.



- 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 for 10 days and until 48 hours after last showing symptoms. In addition, this person will undergo a COVID-19 PCR test immediately to confirm the result. If result of the PCR test is negative, individuals can leave the isolation and continue their activities in the event. If test result is positive, individual must stay in isolation and follow COVID-19 Officer instructions.

Both previously infected and vaccinate, must perform the ‘upon arrival PCR test’ but will be exempted the regular Antigen tests.

In situations when a participant needs to leave the event areas for necessary medical treatment, an antigen test must be conducted on such individuals before re-entering the event. They can join the event only if the antigen test result is negative.

If the result is positive, the same procedure described above will be followed.

In addition to the above, a mandatory COVID-19 PCR test will be performed before you exit the event. In principle, this PCR test is conducted 48 hours before your scheduled departure flight. Please confirm the test time with the testing station at your arrival, and if any change of departure flight occurs, please keep the testing station informed in due time. If you are coming by car or going to a country that does not require a PCR negative result as a mandatory entry regulation, you will be able to perform your exit PCR test and leave Gstaad immediately.

If your PCR test result is negative, a certificate will be given to you and this can be used for your departure. And should the test result be positive, individual 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 the event hotel.

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

Quarantine facility will be dedicated rooms located in the event hotels but separated from the other participants.

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.**

\*Further information regarding procedure and local regulations is available [HERE](#)

### 4.4. Test Cost Coverage

Please refer to the below information regarding test cost coverage:

<b>PCR Testing Cost</b>				
	Pre-event	PCR Upon arrival in Gstaad	Antigen test (Every 4 days)	Exit PCR
Main Draw Teams	their cost	LOC	LOC	LOC
Qualification teams	their cost	LOC	LOC	LOC
Team Delegation (MD & Quali)	their cost	their cost	their cost	their cost

Please note that for all individuals being identified as close contact, FIVB will cover the cost of the confirmation PCR test to be done by the participants. All other cost related to quarantine, isolation (positive cases) or quarantine early release will be covered by the participant.

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

However, individuals who arrive in Switzerland before 3 July 2021 must perform a COVID-19 PCR upon arrival in the laboratory designated by the organizer, 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 authorized health laboratories, and an SMS message is not considered as a valid certificate.

#### **Cost scheme of Test:**

- PCR test: 135CHF - per sample (result expected within max 24 hours)
- POC antigen test: 15CHF - per sample (result expected within 15 minutes)
- **Payment method:** Payment must be done onsite in cash or with credit card.

## 5. Insurance

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It is the responsibility of athletes, team delegations 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 organizer of the event and the FIVB 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.

## 6. Departure

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FIVB and local organiser will perform a PCR test on all participants to exit the event. If needed, 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 24 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 center. The result will be delivered in 24 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). through an online Booking system. Training must not take more than one (1) hour per session. If there is available session during the day for training. 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.
- Physical training at the gym must be pre-booked by the participants (athletes only). Training in the gym must not take more than one (1) hour. If there is available session during the day for gym training, it is possible to book a second session through training online booking system. The masks must be worn all time during indoor gym training and for everyone including athletes, coaches, trainers, and other team member staff.
- Meals at the hotel: Meals at the hotel will be provided during specific time slots communicated by the hotel.

Note: players 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 officials 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 [Gstaadeventsops@volleyball.world](mailto:Gstaadeventsops@volleyball.world) no later than **June 25th**.

Above regulations are applicable to all including players and team officials.