



Lifesaving World Championships 2022 – Important Covid-19 Update

Introduction

This is an update to the information that was originally posted on 6 May 2022 regarding the Covid-19 restrictions and impacts for the Lifesaving World Championships (LWC 2022). Please read the contents of this notice in conjunction with that notice: [Covid-19 restrictions update 6 May 2022](#)

Recent changes to Italian Government legislation, and revised procedures regarding mandatory Covid testing prior to accreditation that were agreed on 19 August can now be published.

1. Current requirements to enter Italy

The current requirements for travellers to enter Italy are that there are no restrictions on foreign nationals entering Italy, other than through the normal visa arrangements appropriate to each nation. It is not necessary to show proof of vaccine status or provide any testing data on entry to Italy.

2. Mandatory Testing for Covid-19 prior to Accreditation/Entry to the Competition

The notice issued on 6 May advised that all LWC 2022 participants were required to provide a negative PCR test within the 48 or 72 hours (depending on country of departure) before attendance at the Accreditation Centre.

This has now changed as of Friday 19 August following intensive negotiations with the FIN Medical Commission regarding the procedures for the safe conduct of international lifesaving sport events:

A. LWC 2022 Masters and the FIN Rescue World Cup participants:

It is no longer necessary to provide any testing data on arrival at the Accreditation Centre, nor is it necessary to provide proof of vaccination status.

B. LWC 2022 National Teams Championships for Open and Youth participants:

For the National Teams Championships, the term “participant” covers

- All competing athletes
- All team officials for that team
- All appointed Technical Officials for these Championships

There is still a requirement for **all** participants in these events to provide a negative test result as described above on arrival at the Accreditation Centre with proof of vaccination status.

However, if the participant is fully vaccinated with an approved vaccine(s), then **the test only needs to be an Anti-Gen/Lateral Flow/RAT test standard and not the more costly PCR test standard.**

If the participant is not vaccinated with an approved vaccine, a negative PCR test taken in the participant’s home country as described above must be provided.

Where the Anti-Gen/PCR test falls outside the 48/72-hour window between the test and arrival at the Accreditation Centre, this needs to be backed up by a locally taken test as previously described in the notice of 6 May.

C. ILS Meeting Delegates, Spectators

No tests or proof of vaccine status are necessary for ILS Meeting Delegates or Spectators.

All participants should ensure as usual that they have suitable travel and personal health insurance arrangements in place before they travel to Italy.

3. Access to the Riccione Pool and Beach by Spectators

A limit will be placed on the number of spectators that will be able to access the Riccione Pool during the events. This limit will be regularly reviewed but will be between 400 and 500.

During the accreditation process, each competitor will be given 2 passes for use by their family/friends etc to enter the pool and sit in the areas set aside for spectators. Those with passes will be granted access first. If there are any seats left unoccupied they may be allocated to other spectators/the public who wish to attend.

All people entering the pool, including spectators, athletes, team officials, technical officials, pool operators etc must wear a mask at all times, except when an athlete is preparing to start their race.

Masks must be of FFPS/N95 standard.

There is no limit on the number of spectators that will be allowed to visit the Beach/Ocean venue. A spectator viewing platform will be built on the beach to provide spectators with excellent views of the beach and ocean competition areas. Spectators are not permitted to access the field of play competition areas.

Masks may be worn but are not compulsory at the beach venue. However all participants are requested to be careful and avoid getting too close to others whenever possible.

4. Impact on Entry Closure dates for the LWC 2022 events – extended to 31 August 2022

The ILS Event Management Committee (EMC), at the request of the Local Organising Committee (LOC) has urgently reviewed the closure date for entries, given the significant change in the testing requirement. It is recognised that some teams/individuals may have decided not to participate because of the strict PCR testing requirement that was in place until now. As a result the ILS EMC has agreed to **extend the final entry closure date until 31 August 2022** to give those people the opportunity to participate if they wish.

It is recognised that we are in a unique one-off situation, managing a return to a global international level lifesaving competition, and need to give everybody an opportunity to participate in view of the change of testing regulations.

Given the significant surge in entries that has been experienced in the last few weeks, this extra time allows for all pending entries to be successfully managed through the entry procedures. All entries therefore will now need to be finalised, completed and paid for without exception **by 23:59 CET on 31 August 2022**.

5. Managing a positive Covid-19 case

The arrangements for managing positive Covid-19 cases have not changed and can be found in Sections 4 and 5 of the notice published on 6 May 2022: [Covid-19 restrictions update 6 May 2022](#)

Please address any questions on the content of this update to John Martin MBE, ILS Event Director, j.martin@ilsf.org

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