



FAI Guidance Protocol for Covid-19 affected events

Valid during 2021

Organisers of FAI championship events should observe the following guidelines at all times. They have been formulated to ensure that competitors and other attendees to FAI sporting events during the period affected by the Covid-19 virus are offered comprehensive information regarding key Covid related topics, and that appropriate facilities are reported on the championship website and available at the event to resolve all related matters of importance.

These guidelines should be applied in conjunction with other available national and international advisory notices from Health and Government resources.

The protocol is divided into 4 main sections –

1. Websites and Bulletins

These are your first-lines of information management:

- Websites represent the vital primary resource through which you should provide advice and information concerning local / national and travel related Covid matters to competitors and officials. Make sure that your published advice is available as early as possible to advise potential attendees, and updated whenever key information, health directives or other items of importance change or are expected to do so in the future.
- Bulletins issued prior to championships normally provide detailed information regarding operational and financial aspects of the event. These should be extended and updated to include key information regarding Covid affected activities or facilities at your event to provide competitors and officials with clear guidance on matters that may affect their travel to and attendance at your event, that their own insurance should cover Covid related costs, and that restrictions on the transport of personal equipment may apply.

2. On-Site Facilities and Services

You should publish information (as above and also at a designated Updates Location at the event) regarding the need the any of following:

- Details of Covid related **Passport** and **Visa** restrictions when travelling into your country from other nations, and when departing during or after the event.
- Details of Covid and health related instructions and restrictions that may affect your competitors and officials.
- Attendance at Covid related briefings and distribution to Team members of information.
- Details of exit restrictions or conditions that must be observed by competitors and officials when departing for their home countries until the end of your event, whether related to Covid or of a more general nature.
- **At your event the following matters are particularly important –**
 - Advice regarding any requirement for mandatory testing before and/or after arrival, and the need for evidence such as proof of vaccinations where demanded.

- On-site Covid testing facilities, the feedback process and any costs applicable.
- How people who test positive for the virus must respond, the quarantine facilities and medical services available and any costs that may be incurred.
- The need for Contact Tracing and rapid testing to limit spread of the virus. Note that for this a comprehensive register of all Officials and Competitors will be essential.
- Management of out-landing incidents and the associated protocols to be followed.
- Contest site preparation for socially isolated management of teams and officials throughout the event, including separated facilities for food provision.
- Facilities available for socially isolated local transport into and away from the event.
- Local Smart-Phone applications associated with Covid testing and reporting.
- Opening, closing and awarding ceremony instructions and restrictions.
- The availability of anti-Covid hand and clothes cleansing facilities.
- The availability of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and any associated costs.
- Facilities available for disinfecting and cleaning competitors aircraft and equipment.
- The presence of trained Critical Incident Stress Managers (CISM) who may be required to assist and resolve Covid related fears in some circumstances.
- Any other specific instructions or regulations associated with Covid.

3. Post-Infection medical treatment and repatriation

In the event that Covid testing leads to mandatory local isolation and/or subsequent restrictions on homeward travel, you must have researched and quickly make available:

- Details of appropriate hospital facilities, and costs if appropriate.
- Details of available isolated accommodation and the cost cover available.
- Details of assistance and cost cover available to manage an individual's delayed homeward travel.

4. Matters eligible for national / government support

In many countries there is government support and/or funding available for organisers who prepare and manage their event in accordance with national regulations, especially where Covid protocols and virus related procedures must be followed. Event organisers should therefore closely review published government regulations and instructions that provide access to practical help and monetary support, noting that these may demand adherence to guidelines and protocols established in the light of the Covid pandemic.