



**HYGIENE PROTOCOL FOR THE EUROPEAN DEAF HANDBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP,**

June 18-27, 2021, ZAGREB, CROATIA

I. INTRODUCTION

The document was prepared by the Croatian deaf sports association (hereinafter: CDSA) with the aim of providing general recommendations and conditions that must be taken into account when planning the European Deaf Handball Championship (hereinafter: The Competition) and applied during the competition. The goal is to achieve a safe organization of the competition, because the Republic of Croatia and the world are facing a pandemic of the disease COVID-19 caused by the spread of the SARS-COV-2 virus (coronavirus). This Hygiene Protocol (hereinafter: The Protocol) is considered temporary and strictly related to the current situation and will be regularly updated. The CDSA is constantly monitoring the development of the global coronavirus pandemic situation, working closely with relevant international and national health and sports authorities. The Protocol is complemented by appropriate measures prescribing:

II. DEFINITIONS

European Deaf Handball Championship - men's handball competition for players with hearing impairment of 55 db to the better ear under the auspices of the European Deaf Sport Organization (EDSO)

Organizer- Croatian Deaf Sport Association with its official staff and resources

Hygiene Officer-a person appointed by the Organizer as a person responsible for all issues of hygiene and implementation of measures and recommendations against the spread of coronavirus.

Hygiene team delegate- Each team will, upon registration in the competition, designate one person from its own professional staff who will cooperate with the Hygiene Officer in the implementation of measures and recommendations against the spread of coronavirus.

Measures against the spread of coronavirus- prescribed procedures and standards of conduct by the Civil Protection Headquarters for the protection of the population from infectious diseases, which are mandatory for application, in accordance with the Law on the Protection of the Population from Infectious Diseases.

Recommendations against the spread of coronavirus- prescribed procedures and standards of conduct from the Croatian Institute of Public Health and other relevant sports and health institutions, which it is desirable to adhere to in order to reduce the risk of coronavirus transmission.

Condition: a standard that the relevant target groups must meet.

III. TARGET GROUPS

This document is intended for a number of target groups who participate in the competition in various ways. This framework must be respected by all identified target groups to ensure the implementation of measures and protocols in accordance with the different functions and responsibilities.

The target groups are the following:

- a) players and team officials
- b) officials of the CDSA and officials of the Competition
- d) Organizer
- e) all service providers associated with the Competition.
- f) spectators

The implementation of all measures must be in full compliance with the recommendations, regulations and laws of all relevant international and national institutions, especially the Civil Protection Directorate of the Republic of Croatia, the Croatian Institute of Public Health, the Ministry of Tourism and Sports and the Croatian Olympic Committee due to the development of the overall situation regarding the pandemic.

The goal of CDSA is to protect the health of athletes and all persons involved in the organization of the competition as well as spectators.

The presence of spectators and their number will be decided on the basis of valid decisions of the Civil Protection Headquarters (national, county and local) and in accordance with the recommendations of the Croatian Institute of Public Health and in cooperation with these bodies.

IV. GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE COVID-19 DISEASE PANDEMIC

IV. - 1. Transmission of viruses

People can get COVID-19 from other people who have the virus. The disease can be spread from person to person through tiny drops from the nose or mouth, which disperse when a person positive for COVID-19 coughs or exhales. These droplets come on objects and surfaces that are in that person's environment. Other people then become infected with COVID-19 by touching those objects or surfaces and then touching their eyes, nose or mouth. People can also become infected with COVID-19 if they inhale drops from a COVID-19 positive person who coughs or exhales.

IV. - 2. Symptoms

The most common symptoms caused by COVID-19 include:

- a) dry cough
- b) fatigue
- c) fever
- d) difficulty breathing

Other symptoms include:

- a) pain and discomfort
- b) stuffy nose
- c) runny nose
- d) sore throat
- e) loss of sense of smell
- f) diarrhea
- g) general discomfort
- h) rash

V. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with the principle of "protect yourself and others" from COVID-19, the recommendations below are considered the minimum standard for the organization of the competition. The implementation of the recommendations and conditions contained in this document should be ensured in cooperation with local authorities.

In order to ensure the proper implementation of the measures adopted by the decisions of the Civil Protection Directorate and general recommendations and special protocols, the CDSA will appoint a hygiene officer responsible for all hygiene issues and implementation of measures and recommendations against coronavirus spread. That person must have appropriate medical knowledge and experience to supervise and implement established procedures and protocols. This person should have extensive knowledge of national regulations, in particular the civil protection system and regulations on the protection of the population due to the declared epidemic, and cooperate with other staff of the competition organization and delegates of hygiene teams.

V. - 1. Safe distance

- a) Application of preventive measures such as physical barriers at the points of interaction of the organizing team and spectators (if any) (ticket stands, checkpoints at the entrance, etc.).
- b) Each delegation must avoid close interaction with other indoor delegations (abolish pre- and post-match handshakes, avoid long indoor meetings, etc.).
- c) Maintain a minimum distance of 1.5 meters between persons when possible.

V. - 2. Testing

- a) The organizer will provide testing of all participants during the competition, as follows:
 - i. rapid test at arrival in hotel and two rapid test during championship
 - ii. at the end of the competition PCR test
- c) In case of a positive test, the person will be given an isolation measure in the hotel room and the PCR test will be repeated, if the positive result is confirmed, the isolation in the hotel room will be determined in accordance with the instructions of the Croatian Institute of Public Health.

V. - 2. Participants

- a) All persons involved in the organization of the competition must wear protective equipment (masks / face shields) from the moment indoors and outdoors where it is not possible to maintain a sufficient physical distance of at least 1.5 meters.
- b) All persons involved in the organization of the competition must undergo a measurement of body temperature as set out in this document.

V. - 3. Disinfection and cleaning procedures

a) The organizer will ensure the disinfection of all areas at the competition venue and training facilities before, during and after each training and match, including:

i. the grounds on which the Competitions are held

ii. Common rooms

iii. sports equipment

iv. Toilets

v. all other spaces and objects that are frequently touched (elevators, handles, coffee tables, etc.).

b) The organizer will provide all entrances / exits with a sanitary place where there is an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (minimum 70% alcohol).

c) The Organizer will establish a plan for quick cleaning during the Competition and deep cleaning outside the time of the Competition, taking into account:

i. spaces and objects that need to be cleaned

ii. frequency and schedule (several times for frequently touched objects and spaces used several times)

VI. COMMUNICATION AND TRAINING

Communication and training are two key factors in ensuring the best execution of the tasks of different target groups. Based on the different target groups participating in a Competition, the following procedures need to be carried out:

VI. - 1. Before the competition / event

VI. - 1. - A Constant and regular communication

a) The organizer must be regularly informed about the development of the situation and coordinate all steps in close cooperation with the competent local authorities. During the competition, the organizer will update daily on the official website of the competition changes

in the procedures under this protocol and measures and recommendations, if any. All changes will also be notified to the delegates of the hygiene team via the e-mail they submit earlier.

b) Regular communication with different target groups is necessary in order to be informed and informed about the latest developments in the situation (via e-mail, websites, social media pages, etc.).

VI. - 1. - B On-site training

When organizing the competition, the organizer will conduct special training and on-site training for all persons participating in the organization (organizational team, volunteers and field staff to perform the necessary actions), which is supervised and coordinated by the Hygiene Officer.

VI. - 2. During the competition / event

Put up signs in Croatian and English with hygiene instructions at all competition venues (hall, hotel, official competition office and other official premises) to inform all persons involved about different ways to prevent and avoid the spread of the virus (entrances, corridors, common areas, etc.).

VII. EVENT PLANNING

The common goal of CDSA and Event Organizers is to ensure the health and well-being of all athletes, officials and fans. When planning and organizing the competition, the Organizer will, in addition to the conditions specified in the General Recommendations, adhere to the following conditions:

a) The organizer will be in constant communication with the manager of the hall and the staff of the hall before the competition and during the competition in order to comply with all hygiene protocols in the sports hall and accompanying rooms.

b) Prior to the competition and during the competition, the organizer will be in constant communication with the Management of the official hotel of the competition and with the hotel staff in order to comply with all hygiene protocols in the hotel premises.

c) When determining access to the site, different entrances and checkpoints will be provided for:

- i. delegations and team officials
- ii. officials of the Competition organization
- iii. accredited media (if any).

c) The Organizer will ensure that the entrances / exits at the venue of the Competition for the specified groups of accredited persons are completely separate from the entrances / exits for spectators (if any) and ensure that the flows do not cross.

d) In all facilities (venue, training hall, hotel, etc.) a room for temporary isolation will be designated in case a person shows suspicious symptoms and for the management of symptomatic cases.

e) Measure the body temperature of all members of the team delegation, CDSA officials and officials participating in the organization upon arrival at the official hotel / accommodation. The procedure is performed by the Hygiene Officer.

f) Measure the body temperature of all members of the team delegation, CDSA officials and officials participating in the organization at the competition venue and in all other facilities used (eg training / recreation facilities). The procedure is performed by the Hygiene Officer.

g) Make a daily list of people who enter the venue, training / competition facilities:

- i. name and surname
- ii. phone number for faster response if needed / official team email
- iii. arrival and departure times
- iv. body temperature data.

The organizer ensures that the collection, processing, storage and storage of personal data (including medical data) is carried out in accordance with data protection legislation and regulations and the GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation).

h) Limit the number of persons present in different areas at the same time in order to ensure the implementation of preventive measures. It is necessary to determine the exact number and functions of persons for all areas of the Competition:

- i. playing field (field)
- ii. medical services and staff
- iii. media and television area (press forum, commentator seats, camera seats, etc.).

i) Establish a clear schedule for all activities carried out, such as trainings, set-ups, rehearsals, in order to avoid all major gatherings and reduce the passage through the premises and the joint stay in the premises of different target groups.

j) For enclosed spaces / spaces: avoid the use of air-cooled heating and cooling devices when possible.

VIII. TRANSPORT

For the transport of delegations of teams, officials and organizational teams of the Competition, the following conditions must be met:

- a) Ensure the availability of disinfectants based on alcohol and masks in buses, vans and cars.
- b) All passengers must wear masks / visors (these are deaf people who need to have a free view of the speaker's lips to communicate)
- c) Cleaning and disinfection procedures must be carried out after each ride.

IX. ACCOMMODATION

a) The members of the organizing committee of the competition (CDSA officials) together with the appointed Hygiene Officer should cooperate with the hotel in order to coordinate the procedures that must be carried out.

b) With regard to directing the flow of traffic, the use of premises and common areas, it is necessary to adhere to local recommendations.

c) Avoid gathering in common areas and maintain a safe distance at all meeting places.

d) Separate food consumption areas by teams and ensure a safe distance (rows, tables, etc.). Interaction between members of different delegations as well as interaction with other hotel guests should be avoided.

e) Meals shall be served in accordance with the guidelines of local health authorities for communal meals, taking into account the standards set out in this Protocol.

X. OTHER ACTIVITIES

When holding the Competition and performing related activities, the following special recommendations for the Competitions must be taken into account.

X. - 1. Meetings

a) A safe distance must be observed at all scheduled meetings, and the maximum number of persons is determined in accordance with the area of the room.

b) Provide flexibility in terms of location (if possible given the weather conditions, hold meetings in open spaces, such as a terrace or hotel park, etc.).

c) Establish a clear schedule for technical meetings.

d) The organizer prepares and upon arrival submits to the team delegation the schedule and protocol which must be followed for all scheduled meetings.

X. - 2. Trainings

The following conditions must be met:

a) when using all sports facilities, it is necessary to comply with the recommendations / regulations of the Civil Protection Headquarters of the Republic of Croatia, the Croatian Institute of Public Health, the Ministry of Tourism and Sports, the Croatian Olympic Committee and the Croatian Sports Association of the Deaf.

b) towels and water bottles are intended exclusively for the individual use of one person

- c) measuring the body temperature of all persons involved on arrival
- d) field, indoor or outdoor training is planned for each team in accordance with a well-defined schedule in order to avoid overlapping teams
- e) disinfection of the gym and equipment after each training
- f) minimize the use of changing rooms and showers on site before and after training and matches.

X. - 3. Match / competition

a) Arrival at the venue / departure from the venue

- i. to determine the exact schedule of arrival and departure for each accredited group (teams, officials, organizational team)

- ii. measurement of body temperature upon arrival of all persons participating in the Competition, including service providers.

b) Use of equipment

- i. individual towels and individual water bottles

- ii. do not exchange or share personal items

- iii. disinfection of equipment after each training session and match

- iv. ensure the availability of an adequate amount of cleaning and disinfection agents in the area where the Competition is held.

c) Match protocol

- i. to avoid physical contact such as hugs, handshakes, giving a high five or interacting with fans

- ii. not to establish physical contact with officials, volunteers, guests.

d) Field staff

- i. limit the number of persons in the field in order to reduce, as far as possible, the number of persons participating in the organization of the Competition
- ii. the organization's staff in the field must wear masks / visors (these are deaf people who need to have a free view of the speaker's lips to communicate).

e) Media and photographers

- i. limit the number of media and photographers
- ii. identify areas where they can move and where they can work
- iii. photographers and the media must wear masks / visors.

f) Cleaning and sanitary procedures before and after matches.

g) Extend the time between two matches in order to properly clean and disinfect the place and equipment.

h) For post-match media activities (media zone interviews), ensure adherence to social distancing.

The content of this document is interpreted by the Executive Board of the CDSA.