



## 2021 WORLD TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS FINALS

23 - 29 NOVEMBER 2021, HOUSTON (USA)

### Pre-Event COVID-19 Process – updated 27 October 2021

- According to the new entry regulations of the United States of America, the vaccination status of every member of the delegations must be uploaded by 24 October 2021 in the ITTF Online Entry System (OES). Depending on vaccination status different guidelines will be applied. The LOC will provide further information in due time.
- Pre-event testing regime:
  - Fully vaccinated individuals (based on the information provided via the OES): One (1) PCR test within 72 hour prior to flight must be conducted
  - Not vaccinated or incomplete vaccination status: 2 PCR test must be conducted
    - 7-days before departure
    - 72 hours prior to flight
- Each PCR test certificate (in English language) must be sent to [wttccovid@ittf.com](mailto:wttccovid@ittf.com) immediately after the test certificate is received.
- Without the required test certificate(s), delegation members will not receive accreditation or hotel accommodation. It's advisable to have the certificates on site at the accreditation center in Houston.
- In case a test result is positive, it's impossible to attend the WTTC. The certificate still has to be mailed to [wttccovid@ittf.com](mailto:wttccovid@ittf.com). No hotel reimbursements will be made by the organization.
- In case one of your delegation members recovered recently from COVID-19 infection, the certificate of recovery (in English language) must be sent to [wttccovid@ittf.com](mailto:wttccovid@ittf.com).
- Please note that the above described testing regime is necessary to protect the health of delegation members before and during the sports event. Further documents should be needed upon arrival to the country at the Immigration Checkpoints.
- Monitor your health and take your temperature daily 7 days before traveling.
- Maintain high level of personal hygiene and check for any symptoms of COVID-19. If you experienced any symptoms before your travel, please seek medical help. and inform ITTF Staff immediately.
- Avoid crowded places and public transport and minimize any unnecessary social activities 7 days before your flight.
- Face masks should be worn at all times.
- After arriving in Houston, there may be a COVID-19 PCR test conducted. The LOC will inform the participants on the date, time and location in due time.





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## Basic COVID-19 Countermeasures

- Wear a face mask.
- Wash your hands regularly and use hand sanitiser where available.
- Keep two metres' distance.
- Avoid physical contact, such as hugging, high-fives, handshakes, etc.
- Disinfect your hands when entering each area and room.
- Do not share towels, drinks bottles or other equipment.
- Disinfect your hands before and after using equipment.
- Keep your stay at the venue as short as possible.
- It is the responsibility of each person to monitor their health daily. Should there be any symptoms of COVID-19 during the WTTC, it must be reported to the organizing committee and ITTF staff.

## COVID-19 Countermeasures for Athletes and Technical Officials (TOs)

- Hand sanitizer available.
- Number of people restricted in different areas.
- Massage Areas and the lockers of the Changing Rooms will be disinfected by volunteers at regular intervals.
- After every match, match tables, chairs of benches, Umpires' and Assistant Umpires' tables and chairs as well as the balls used in the match will be disinfected by volunteers.  
The same towel stand should be used for the player/pair/ throughout the match. And it will be cleaned/sprayed with disinfectant after each mixed doubles/singles match.

## Warm-up Area

- Mask is mandatory for players and coaches except during players' practice at the table. The mask must cover the nose and the mouth of the participant.
- Training schedule on a daily basis.
- Player number per table will be limited and specific table allocation will be introduced for the National Associations.
- All other participants must remain outside of the training hall.
- No hand wiping on table surface.
- No breathing on the ball.
- Spitting should be avoided.





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## Before Competition (Call Area – Ball Selection)

- Players and coaches must wear masks at all times in the call area.
- Players must sanitize their hands before selecting the balls.
- Technical officials on duty must wear masks at all times in the call area.

## Before Competition (March-In)

- Players should remove their mask and place it in their bag at the march in area before marching in.
- For march-in procedures, umpires will always enter the FOP before players.
- Technical officials on duty must wear masks at all times in the call area.

## During Competition (FoP)

- Players- always wear a mask except during the match.
- Coaches - always wear a mask even during the match.
- Players must not use their own towels to wipe the match table. Players may indicate to Umpires if the match table needs cleaning. A designated person will be asked to clean the table.
- No breathing on the ball.
- No hand wiping on table surface.
- Spitting should be avoided in the FOP.
- Players must maintain physical distance when moving during interval or breaks after each game and changeovers.
- Players shall not shake hands with umpires. They can choose to have a racket touch, a bow or a "hand-raising" acknowledgement, whichever is more comfortable while maintaining physical distance.
- Umpires should wear a mask even when they are on duty in the FOP.
- Coin toss to be done by Umpire in front of the umpire's table and with players remaining on their sides while maintaining an appropriate physical distance.

## After Competition

- Players and umpires should leave the venue and return to the hotel as soon as all match procedures are over.
- Delegates and players in the players lounge should wear their mask unless drinking or eating.
- Technical officials lounge should wear their mask unless drinking or eating.





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### Stay in Houston

- Based on the discussions with the LOC and Local Health Authorities of Houston and considering the local and federal health regulations of the United States of America, Texas and Houston, as well as the unique layout of the event, the ITTF along with the LOC would like to inform all delegations that during the event the members of the delegations will be allowed to leave the premises at any time without penalization.

Although it is not going to be mandatory to remain inside the official event infrastructure (Hotel and Venue), considering the pre-emptive measures the ITTF and the LOC will implement together; we are highly advising all delegation members not to leave the premises during their participation on the World Table Tennis Championships Finals.

