



Lifesaving World Championships 2022, Riccione, Italy – 21 September to 2 October 2022

Covid-19 Update as at 6 May 2022

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Appendix 1 – Summary table of Covid-19 criteria to enter Italy and to enter LWC 2022

Introduction

There are two different sets of regulations that have to be observed when considering entry into the country of Italy and participating in LWC 2022.

The procedures for entering Italy are covered by the Italian Government regulations set out in sections 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 below. The procedures for participating in LWC are covered by additional regulations that the host organisation, FIN, has established for the safe conduct of lifesaving sport events in Italy set out in sections 3, 9, 10, 11 and 12. A summary of the criteria affecting entry to Italy and entry to LWC 2022 are shown in the table in [Appendix 1](#).

All risks have been considered and the measures listed below are designed to try to reduce the likelihood of infection. We will rely on all participants to strictly follow the procedures and measures that are being implemented to help deliver a safe event.

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

1. Current requirements to enter Italy

The current requirements for travellers to enter Italy are shown below. These may change in the coming months. Before making any travel arrangements, all teams and individual participants are advised to:

- A. Check the information provided by their own government on the requirements to travel to Italy from their country, including any measures required to make the return journey
- B. Check the information regularly provided by the Italian government on the requirements to enter Italy:
 - o [Italian Government Website Covid-19, Travellers Highlights](#)
 - o [Italian Government Website Covid-19, Travellers - Entry into Italy-Covid-19 green certificates, equivalents and exceptions](#)

- C. The ILS will endeavour to notify LWC 2022 participants of any changes required to enter Italy that are published by the Italian government.
- D. Participants are responsible for checking for any changes required by the government of their own country for outward and return travel.
- E. As from 1 May 2022, a traveller entering Italy is no longer required to complete a Passenger Locator Form. However, you must provide a Covid-19 Green Certificate or other equivalent Certificate that provides evidence of **one** of the following four conditions:
 - i. Completion of the primary vaccination series or booster dose – completion of the booster does provides unlimited validity, while completion of the primary series provides only 9 months. See below on the authorised vaccines that are accepted
 - ii. Recovery from Covid-19 infection – valid for 180 days from positive test
 - iii. Recovery after the administration of the primary vaccine or booster dose
 - iv. Negative Rapid Antigen Test (Lateral Flow Test– LFT, also known as RAT test in some countries) or Molecular Swab Test (PCR) taken within 48 or 72 hours respectively before entry into Italy
- F. If you cannot provide any of the above on arrival:
 - You will need to travel to your final destination by private transport
 - Remain in self-isolation for 5 days
 - Take another PCR or LFT test at the end of the 5 days of self-isolation. If negative, you can then leave the self-isolation

2. Authorised Vaccines for entry to Italy

The Vaccination Proof certificate needs to show vaccination by one of the vaccines approved by the European Medicines Agency:

- A. Pfizer-Biontech Comirnaty
- B. Moderna
- C. Vaxzevria
- D. Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)
- E. Nuvaxovid (Novovax), or
- F. A vaccine considered equivalent by the Italian Legislation – including Astra Zeneca

A list of authorised vaccines is available through the following link (page 4 onwards)

Source: [Italian Ministry of Health Authorised Vaccine List](#)

If your vaccine programme is not included in this list then you need to provide evidence of one of the other measures B, C or D listed above.

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

The criteria for entry into Italy are set by the Italian Government for visitors to their country. However, because the participants are entering Italy for the purposes of participating in an international sport event being hosted by an Italian organisation, there are additional criteria that apply for those attending or participating in LWC 2022.

- A. These state that FIN requires a negative PCR test within the 48 or 72 hours (depending on where you are travelling from) before attendance at the Accreditation Centre to go through the Accreditation and Check in process. This applies to **every participant**, whether they are a competitor, team official, technical official, spectator, ILS meeting delegate or staff member.
 - **Travellers from European countries:** the test must be done within 48 hours of arrival at the Accreditation Centre
 - **Travellers from non-European countries:** the test must be done within 72 hours of arrival at the Accreditation Centre
- B. This regulation is designed to enable the host organisation to welcome participants from all over the world and look after the health and safety of all participants. By checking the condition of all participants before they enter any competition or meeting venue this reduces the subsequent risks of becoming infected with Covid-19.

- C. Depending on the arrival date into Italy before attendance at the Accreditation Centre, this test may need to be taken after arrival in Italy (the host organisation will provide details of where the test can be taken in Riccione close to the Pool complex). Otherwise it will be taken in the participant's home country before departure to Italy. The participants are responsible for the costs of such tests being conducted, whether in their country or in Italy.
- D. The test result will be part of the Accreditation process which all participants are requested to follow as soon as they have arrived in Riccione. These regulations are set by the Medical Committee of the Italian Swimming Federation, so that they are compliant with both FINA and the European section of FINA, LEN, and at this current time are still in force. They may change later in the year before teams travel to Italy. If they do the ILS will endeavour to advise all participants as soon as any change is officially published in Italy.
- E. Once the participant is cleared by the Accreditation centre and received their accreditation, there are not expected to be any further mandatory Covid-19 tests to be undertaken during the time of LWC 2022, unless an individual develops symptoms of Covid-19.

4. Managing a positive Covid-19 case

Any individual who develops symptoms of Covid-19 must report this immediately to the host organisation (contact details will be provided). The individual must immediately undertake a test for Covid-19.

A. Individual Tests positive

If a positive test is returned the individual is then subject to the following isolation measures contained in [Decree-Law 24 March 2022, n.24](#). The same guidance is contained also in: [Circular No 60136, December 20](#)

- The individual must undergo at least ten days of isolation from the first positive swab of which the last three are symptom-free (excluding loss of taste and smell).
- The number of Isolation days are reduced to seven for those who have received the vaccine cycle and booster dose, or for those who have completed the vaccine cycle (without the booster dose) less than 120 days ago.
- An individual can only come out of isolation after a negative test is provided. If they are still positive on the test and have had no symptoms for at least 7 days (excluding loss of taste or loss of sense of smell) they may be able to stop isolation at the end of 21 days.
- Team Managers will need to manage the isolation arrangements within their team and work with the owners/managers of the accommodation in which their team is staying to ensure that the regulations are followed.
- They will be given further advice by the Medical experts of the host organisation on what further actions are to be taken.

B. Individual does not test positive

- If the individual with the symptoms does not test positive, they may continue to participate in the LWC 2022 events.
- They must wear an FFP2 mask indoors or in crowded locations until the tenth day following the date that the symptoms were first identified.

5. Management of Close contacts of a positive case

If there is a positive case identified there will naturally be concerns about whether their close contacts may also develop into positive cases. It does not always happen so the following procedures must be adopted:

- A. Members of the same team or of other teams, or other participants, who have had close contact with the individual who has tested positive are not required to isolate or take a test unless they develop symptoms themselves.
- B. They must then test, and if positive self-isolate described in the regulations above.
- C. If they test negative, they should continue to take additional tests until the fifth day following the last date of contact with the infected individual.
- D. If they do not develop symptoms themselves, the close contact must wear an FFP2 mask indoors or in crowded locations until the tenth day following the date of the last close contact.

6. Mask Wearing

Wearing a mask is mandatory in the following situations

- A. Passengers flying to or from Italy must wear an FFP2 mask at all times while on board the aircraft
- B. Passengers entering Italy from a ship or ferry must wear an FFP2 mask at all times while on board
- C. Passengers travelling by train within Italy must wear an FFP2 mask at all times while on the train
- D. Everyone over the age of five must wear a high-grade FFP2 mask:
 - **on all forms of public transport,**
 - in cinemas,
 - **at indoor sporting events and competitions,**
 - theatres,
 - concerts,
 - hospitals,
 - schools and universities.

No other setting, including shops and workplaces, is included in the most recent announcement though it does still "strongly recommend" masks continue to be worn in all indoor public spaces.

It is also recommended to wear respiratory protective equipment in all public indoor places or places open to the public. However, the obligation to wear masks is not foreseen for:

- E. children under 6 years of age;
- F. people who, due to their disability or pathology, cannot wear the mask;
- G. operators or people who, to assist a person with disabilities, cannot in turn wear the mask (for example: who has to speak in the LIS with a deaf person).

Furthermore, it is not mandatory to wear a mask:

- H. while doing sports activities;
- I. while eating or drinking, in the places and times in which it is allowed;
- J. while dancing in discos, dance halls and similar places;
- K. when, due to the characteristics of the places or the factual circumstances, isolation from non-cohabiting people is continuously guaranteed.

Source: [Italian Government Website - FAQs - When and where should masks be worn and what type](#)

7. Mask quality standard

- A. All masks worn **must be FFP2** standard (Filtering Face Piece 2) – the equivalent in Australia, New Zealand, Korea, Brazil, USA, China, Japan is often N95 Respirator. FFP2 filters at least 94% of airborne particles.



- B. It is the responsibility of participating teams and individuals that they ensure their masks meet the required FFP2 standard. Custom-designed masks for teams may not be of the standard required. The ILS will not be responsible if a participant is denied entry to the swimming pool in Riccione, or other venue because of a non-compliant mask.

8. General behaviour to reduce the likelihood of positive cases

The Italian Government requires all participants to adopt the following precautionary behaviours at all times to help reduce the likelihood of positive cases occurring.

- A. **Social Distancing:** Avoid overcrowding, even through the use of reservation systems, especially inside closed places, maintaining an adequate distance in reference to the type of activity carried out.
- B. **Hand hygiene:** Make hand solutions available at the entrance and at various points of the premises, in order to facilitate frequent sanitization by users.
- C. **Surface hygiene:** Frequent sanitization of all areas, with particular attention to common areas and surfaces touched more frequently.
- D. **Aeration:** Reinforce natural or mechanized air exchange in enclosed spaces (e.g., keep doors, windows and glass open unless weather conditions or other necessities allow).

Source: [Italian Sports Department Notice dated April 2022](#)

9. Removal of other Covid-19 restrictions

- A. From 1 May almost all Covid-19 restrictions have been removed in Italy. However, at this time it is likely that there will still be some restrictions required within the Riccione Pool complex.
- B. Access to spectators at present is not yet allowed, and there may still be some additional space restrictions that will have to be followed. As stated above masks of FFP2 standard must be worn inside the pool except when a competitor is taking part in a race.
- C. These issues remain under discussion and negotiation. The ILS will provide a further update on what restrictions remain and any changes made within the pool complex.
- D. There will be no space restrictions in place at the Ocean/Beach venue, and masks will not be required to be worn except where previously indicated in any indoor areas. However, the general principles shown at Section 8 should be observed by all participants to help a safe event to be run.

10. Covid-19 testing for participants who require a test to be able to return to their country

For those requiring testing to be able to return to their country, further details will be provided on how those participants can get the appropriate tests before they return at a site close to the Riccione Pool complex.

11. Local Transportation Plans

The removal of Covid-19 restrictions also impacts the local transportation plans that had been developed to move teams and officials to and from the two venues. These are now being reviewed and will be confirmed in due course.

12. Catering arrangements and Social Functions

The impacts of any restrictions that remain on the proposed catering arrangements at the venues and any social functions are still being worked through. Catering in some form will be permitted at both venues, although it is expected no self-service functions will be permitted with attended/waiter service at all locations. The outcomes of this review will be announced soon.

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

Appendix 1

Covid 19 measures that impact on attendance at LWC 2022			
Topic	Issue	Can I enter Italy?	How long is certificate valid
Entering Italy	1. I have been fully vaccinated with a booster dose	Yes, if the vaccine is on the approved list	Unlimited
	2. I have been fully vaccinated but not with a booster dose	Yes, if the vaccine is on the approved list	9 months from last injection
	3. My vaccine is on the list approved by the Italian Government	Yes	With booster unlimited, without booster 9 months
	4. My vaccine is not on the list approved by the Italian Government	No, see next option	
	5. I have recovered from Covid-19 in the previous 180 days	Yes	180 days from positive test
	6. I have not had Covid-19 or recovered from it in the previous 180 days	No, see next option	
	7. I am in possession of a negative PCR test in the previous 72 hours	Yes	For entry to LWC 2022
	8. Are you in possession of a negative LFT test in the previous 48 hours	Yes	For entry to LWC 2022
	9. If none of the above applies	Yes, but immediate self isolation for 5 days required, and only private transport can be used. A test must be taken at the end of 5 days. If negative you can leave the self-isolation	
Topic	Issue	Can I participate in LWC 2022	Next action I must take
Entering the LWC 2022 Accreditation Centre to be accredited to participate in LWC 2022	I travelled from outside Europe and I am in possession of a negative PCR test taken in the previous 72 hours	Yes	Participant must present this at the Accreditation Centre
	I travelled from inside Europe and I am in possession of a negative PCR test taken within the previous 48 hours	Yes	Participant must present this at the Accreditation Centre
	I arrived in Italy more than 72 hours ago but have a negative PCR test taken in Italy within 48 hours of attending the Accreditation Centre	Yes	Participant must present this at the Accreditation Centre
	I do not yet have a negative PCR test taken within 72 (outside of Europe) or 48 (inside Europe) hours	Not until a negative PCR test has been taken in Italy	Participant must await until the negative result is obtained and then present this at the Accreditation Centre

Topic	Issue	an I continue to participate in LWC 202	What other actions must I take
I have developed symptoms of Covid-19 since arrival in Italy	I have notified the LWC 2022 Italian Medical Committee and taken a test which is negative	Yes	Wear a FFP2 standard mask at all indoor locations and in a crowded outdoor location
	I have notified the LWC 2022 Italian Medical Committee and taken a test which is positive	No	1. Undergo at least 10 days of isolation from the first positive test, of which the last three days are symptom free (excluding the loss of taste or smell) 2. The number of days may be reduced to seven for those who have been fully vaccinated with a booster, or who have been fully vaccinated without the booster within the last 120 days
Topic	Issue	Can I participate in LWC 2022	How long is certificate valid
I am a close contact of somebody who has tested positive for Covid-19 since arrival in Italy	I have not developed symptoms of Covid-19 since the last close contact	Yes	Wear an FFP2 standard mask indoors or in crowded locations until the tenth day following the date of the last close contact
	I have developed symptoms of Covid-19 since the last close contact	No, until a negative test is provided	1. Notify the Italian Medical Committee, take a test immediately. 2. If positive, follow the same process for isolation as above 3. If negative, wear an FFP2 standard mask indoors or in crowded locations until the tenth day following the date of the last close contact