



Covid-19 protocol Central American and Caribbean Swimming and Open Water Championships

The Puerto Rico Swimming Federation recognizes that we are living extraordinary times due to the world pandemic caused by the SARS Covid-19 virus, furthermore we understand the complexity of running an event that is safe for all of its participants. Taking into consideration all these mentioned circumstances the FPN (Federación Puertorriqueña de Natación) and the CCCAN 2021 Organizing Committee (OC) have created the following directives in order to have a safe and successful championship. We have used the FINA “Guidelines for the Organization and Management of FINA Competition During Covid-19 Pandemic” and the recommendations from the Puerto Rico Health Department.

The purpose of these directives is to ensure that all health measures are established to minimize a possible transmission of the virus to all participants in the event understanding that there is always the possibility of a contagion. Participation is voluntary for the event and all involved parties with the event have the commitment to ensure the compliance of these rules by all involved with the event. FPN and the Puerto Rico Health department both promote personal hygiene practices though proper hand washing as well as the use of face masks, maintaining proper distance and continuous monitoring of symptoms amongst all participants. National federations and/or participating clubs of this event have no cause to proceed with a legal claim in the event a participant is infected with the virus of Covid-19.

General Rules

- The event will be held without any public or spectators, unless the local ordinance is modified
- Only persons on the registration list will be able to access the pool facilities, this includes: athletes, coaches, assistants, trainers, officials and volunteers.
- Everyone attending the event must wear a face mask at all times, athletes may remove the mask only at the moment they enter the pool. We promote the use of surgical mask.
- The use of “neck gaithers”, bandanas, or masks with valves are not authorized for use during the event.
- Social distancing of 6 feet must be observed at all times
- Showers in the bathroom area may not be used, bathrooms may only be used for sanitary purposes. The bathroom capacity will be limited to observe social distancing.
- Every delegation will have a designated area assigned by the OC. Attendees are not allowed to gather outside their assigned area. Social distancing and masks must be observed at all times. Only athletes that will participate on the day events may be on the pool deck.



- The OC will have a Covid-19 officer. Every delegation must have a Covid-19 leader. The Covid-19 leader must inform the Covid-19 Officer daily a review of symptoms of members of their respective delegation.
- It is imperative that all participants have personal disinfection kits which should include additional mask and hand sanitizing solution.
- All delegations must have medical insurance with Covid-19 coverage and all related medical expenses.
- All athletes, coaches, officials or any other person that will participate in the event must conduct a Molecular PCR test 72 hours prior to arriving to Puerto Rico as per the current Executive Order
- Test results must be presented to the Covid-19 officer during event registration. Upon arriving for registration a Molecular PCR test and an Antigen test will be administered on site before entering any of the host hotels. The OC will report to each delegation their test results.
- All athletes must conduct a Molecular PCR test upon departure of Puerto Rico to their home countries 48 hours prior to departure. The cost for such test is the sole responsibility of each country's delegation.

Meet

- On the day of the event all participants must enter the facilities with a face mask and wearing their delegations' designated uniform.
- All participants must comply with the established security measures including proper hand washing hygiene, social distancing and disinfection.
- Athletes may only remove their mask upon entering the water.
- The OC recognizes that social distancing and other safety measures are not always possible due to unforeseen circumstances. The pool and chlorinated water create a safe environment from a viral transmission perspective and if all other preventive measures are followed, the probability of contagion is reduced.
- Athletes are not permitted to share water bottles or other such items with any other person.
- Athletes may not share their swimming equipment such as goggle, snorkels, nose clip with any other person.
- All meet results will be collected electronically and reported online through the Meet Mobile application.

Travel & Lodging

- All delegations must use the assigned transportation from host hotel to the swim facility.
- The OC will inform the delegation which host hotel they will be assigned.



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- Each host hotel rules and regulations need to be followed.
 - All athletes should try to avoid contact with other guest at the hotel
 - There will be labeled designated areas for food consumption. The meals will be served in a Grab and Go concept unless the Executive Order changes to provide other methods of delivering food items. Participants must observe social distancing at all times
 - Any violation to these rules may constitute ground for dismissal of the event.

Pool Facilities

- Athletes will have a designated entrance where they need to present the athlete ID. At this entrance a representative of the OC will take the athlete's temperature and provide hand sanitizing solution before entering the facilities.
- A separate entrance will be used by officials and volunteers to minimize exposure between them and athletes or training staff.
- Alcohol hand dispensers will be available at different locations at the pool facilities.
- Signs detailing rules and other Covid-19 safety requirements will be available and visible at different areas of the pool facilities.
- The pool facilities will be disinfected and cleaned once every session is completed.
- There will not be any food or merchandise vendor at the facilities unless the current Executive Order is amended at the time of the meet.

Protocols in the event of a suspected or positive Covid-19 case

- A suspected case is one that present any of the associated symptoms of Covid-19 or has had contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19. The most commons symptoms are fever, difficulty breathing, chest pain, persistent cough, diarrhea, vomiting and loss of smell and/or taste.
- If you suspect any member of your delegation may have contracted Covid-19 or is presenting symptoms related to Covid-19, you must report it immediately to the Covid Officer. The suspected individual should be placed in isolation until more information is collected.
- The Covid Officer and the competition's medical personnel will make arrangements for an Antigen and/or Molecular PCR test to be administered. If the test results are negative, the medical personnel will evaluate the situation and inform the delegation assigned Covid-19 leader.
- If results are positive, the Covid Officer will report to the local health department and will proceed to do contact tracing and perform additional testing to those athletes identified to have been possibly exposed. These persons will remain in isolation until the results are received.



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- If the suspected case is positive and the person is experiencing Covid-19 symptoms they will be transported to the medical facility appointed by the health department for further evaluation.
 - If the suspected case is an asymptomatic case the person must remain in isolation and monitored by the medical staff.
 - If there is only one positive case in a specific group or delegation the complete group or delegation will be evaluated. If all results come back negative the group or delegation may be able to come back to the meet with the approval of the medical staff.
 - If there are two positive cases it will be handled as an outbreak. The complete group or delegation will be administered antigen or molecular PCR test and remain in isolation until test results are received. If there are only two positive cases in the group or delegation, the two cases must remain in isolation and the other athletes may return to the competition.
 - If in the event that there are three or more positive cases it will be considered an outbreak and the team will be removed from the competition.

If the personnel (volunteers, medical team and press) and officials, on their respective duties and functions can maintain social distancing and other Covid-19 protocols will not require a Molecular PCR test. They will still need to present a negative Molecular PCR or Antigen test 48 hours prior to the meet completing the registration information for the meet.

Personnel that has already received vaccination for Covid-19 will still need to present a negative Molecular PCR or Antigen test 48 hours prior to the event and complete the registration form for the meet. Remember that vaccination does not prevent contagion.