This document is based on the local regulations in Slovenia as of 24/08/2021. Any changes to these regulations might result in updates of the protocol.

Violation of the Covid-19 protocol can lead to an exclusion/withdrawal from the tournament as well as exclusion from the tournament’s green bubble. Such decision will be taken by the Committee of Management of the 2021 European U17 Championships.

General rules
Masks are always mandatory except:

- In your room
- When outside
- For players while on court
- For the umpire during a match

Contacts
Organisation committee: info@payandplay.si
Badminton Europe: events@badmintonurope.com

Travel protocol
If participating in the team event (3-7 September):
- Participants must arrive on Monday 30 August 2021
- People who have been fully vaccinated or infected with Covid-19 in the last 6 months can arrive on Thursday 2 September 2021 before 16h

If participating only in the individual event (7-12 September):
- Participants must arrive on Friday 3 September 2021
- People who have been fully vaccinated or infected with Covid-19 in the last 6 months can arrive on Monday 6 September 2021 before 16h

Details about the approved certificates of vaccination are available here: https://www.gov.si/en/topics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/border-crossing/
Covid-19 testing protocol

The requirements to enter Slovenia depend on where you are coming from and can be found here: [https://www.gov.si/en/topics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/border-crossing/](https://www.gov.si/en/topics/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/border-crossing/) but it is a requirement from Badminton Europe that all participants must send a proof of negative PCR test done maximum 72h hours before arrival (people who have been infected with Covid-19 in the last 6 months are exempted due to the chances of a “false positive” test result). The proof of the negative Covid-19 test MUST be sent before arrival to events@badminton europe.com.

Please note that if you are arriving to Zagreb Airport (ZAG), you must also comply with the entry regulations of Croatia. Entry regulations to Slovenia and Croatia might be different and therefore it is very important that you check BOTH to avoid any issues.

Entry regulations to Croatia can be found here: [https://mup.gov.hr/uzg-covid/english/286212](https://mup.gov.hr/uzg-covid/english/286212)

It is currently required that everybody participating in an indoor sport event in Slovenia is tested every 48h (people who are fully vaccinated or have been infected with Covid-19 in the last 6 months are exempted) which means that the testing days will be as below for the participants of the:

- Individual event: 04/09 – 06/09 – 08/09 – 10/09 – 12/09

Tests will have to be done in the morning before entering the venue. Access to the venue will be denied if you don’t have the sticker corresponding to the test that must be done on that day (more information under the “accreditation” part).

All tests will be conducted at the tournament venue.

Please note that it is still required that vaccinated people get tested upon arrival hence why the latest arrival time at the airport is 16h on the day of the TMM so tests can be arranged before the TMM. Please also note that if arriving after 16h on the day of the TMM or another day, it is not yet sure when it will be possible to get tested. Vaccinated people will have to remain in isolation until receiving the negative result of the test made upon arrival.

Certificates of vaccination/infection in the last 6 months must be sent before the event to events@badminton europe.com.

All tests made on site will be quick antigen tests. Test schedules will be made in advance and shared with all Team Managers before the event.

Prices for Covid-19 tests:
- PCR: 100€ per test
- Antigen: 20€ per test

Tests on site will have to be paid for by the federations in cash on site or via bank transfer after the event.
Positive Covid-19 test on site

In case of a positive antigen test, a PCR test will be made to confirm the result. If a member of the team (player/official) has a confirmed positive PCR Covid-19 test, the whole team will be excluded from the competition (team and individual) to ensure a safe badminton bubble for the others.

It can take up to 24h to receive the result of a PCR test.

Possible scenarios are:

- 1 positive antigen test: the player/official and his/her close contacts are put in quarantine while waiting for the result of the PCR test of the player/official testing positive via the antigen test. The rest of the team is allowed to play.
- More than 1 positive antigen test on the same day within a team: the whole team is put in quarantine while waiting for the result of the PCR tests of the players/officials testing positive via the antigen tests.

No matches will be rescheduled in case of positive antigen tests. In case all PCR tests come back with a negative result, the team is allowed to play remaining ties. Tie(s) in which they are not able to play will be considered as a 5/0 loss. Forced Withdrawals will not be imposed during the individual event in case of a positive antigen and subsequent negative PCR.

A person who is infected with Covid-19, will have to go into immediate isolation for 10 days:

- from the onset of illness
- after the positive test if it is an asymptomatic infection

This person will be placed in a single room (if this was not already the case) and will not be allowed to leave the room or have anyone else entering the room.

In case further care is needed, this person will be transported to the hospital.

Isolation is expected to end after 10 days if the person has been without fever for the last 48 hours and 48 hours have passed since the onset of remission of symptoms and signs of the disease. If illness or fever lasts longer, isolation is prolonged (and lasts more than 10 days) until 48 hours have passed since normalization of body temperature and the onset of remission of symptoms and signs of the illness. Isolation can also be extended if the course of illness is more severe, requires hospitalization, and in the case of an immune disorder. No further tests are required, unless needed to travel back home.

The quarantine imposed on those who have been in close contact with persons infected with Covid-19 is 10 days.
A close contact is defined as the following (based on 48h before the test has been conducted):

- Anyone who shared a room/apartment with the infected person
- Anyone who had physical contact with the infected person (f.e. shaked hands, hugged, physio treatment, used the same objects...)
- Anyone who has been within 2m distance of the infected person without a mask for minimum 15 minutes (f.e. sitting close to each other while eating, doubles partners on court during training,...)

Players/officials who fall under the definition of a close contact of a positive case, will need to quarantine themselves for 10 days before they can fly home, as mentioned above. It is up to each positive case to honestly inform the organisation of who has been in close contact with him/her.

We recommend everybody who has not been tested regularly within the last 6 months to take an antibody test before coming to Slovenia, as this could help, should this person be tested positive during the tournament.

**Covid-19 tests needed before returning home**

The organisation can assist in getting a Covid-19 test before returning home. Please keep in mind that you might need additional/other tests in case you have a transfer of flights. We recommend to also check the regulations of the country/airport where you have your transfer.

Prices for Covid-19 tests:
- PCR: 100€ per test
- Antigen: 20€ per test

Tests on site will have to be paid for by the federations in cash on site or via bank transfer after the event.

Antigen tests will not need to be booked in advance. The results will be available in 15/20 min.

PCR tests will need to be booked latest 24h in advance. The results will be available in 24 hours.

For both tests, it will be possible to receive the result via email or printed. More details about those tests will be sent in due time.

**BEC Covid-19 guidelines**

The BEC Covid-19 guidelines will be applied at the 2021 European U17 Championships and can be found here:

Everyone is asked to bring their own face masks to the event.
Accommodation

The official tournament accommodation will be mandatory for all players and officials participating in the 2021 European U17 Championships. This will enable us to create a ‘badminton bubble’, which will be safer for everyone.

Full board accommodation in the official tournament accommodation will cost:

- **Hotel Breza:**
  - Double/twin room: 90€/person/night (+ tourist tax)
  - Double room for single use: 115€/person/night (+ tourist tax)

- **Village Lipa:**
  - Room/apartment for 2/3/4/5 people: 65€/person/night (+ tourist tax)

Due to room availabilities, some participants will be accommodated in hotel Sotelia and aparthotels Rosa.

Everyone will be brought from the airport straight to the tournament accommodation in buses with enough free space to keep distance. Masks MUST be worn at all times from arrival at the airport until entering the room.

At the accommodation everyone MUST stay in quarantine until the negative test result from the first test is received. During this quarantine, the following applies:

- You are not allowed to be in contact with anyone outside of your team.
- You need to stay in your room except when going to eat.

After receiving your negative test result from the first test:

- You are not allowed to be in contact with anyone outside of your team.
- You are allowed to go to practice or to the gym, but keeping a safe distance from as many people as possible.
- You are allowed to go for a 10/15 min walk outside of your room, but keeping a safe distance from as many people as possible.
- You are not allowed to be in contact with other customers who are not part of the bubble.
- You are not allowed to go to grocery stores / restaurants / …
- You are not allowed to visit the hotel reception except in case of emergency.

After receiving your negative test result from the 2nd test or for vaccinated/previously infected people from TMM onwards:

- You are allowed to interact with other people within the bubble who are also tested negative, but of course still taking the necessary precautions.
- You are allowed to go to practice or to the gym, but keeping a safe distance from as many people as possible.
- You are allowed to go outside, but keeping a safe distance from as many people as possible.
• You are not allowed to be in contact with other customers who are not part of the bubble.
• You are not allowed to go to grocery stores / restaurants / …
• You are not allowed to visit the hotel reception except in case of emergency.

Please note that other guests will be present around the accommodation, it is therefore forbidden to use the Saunas, swimming pools, restaurants, hotel lobbies or bars. It is allowed to order from the bar Lipa and consume outside/in your room but not to sit in the bar.

Food
All participants will eat in our dedicated restaurant in Hotel Breza which will be open as below:
• Breakfast: 6h to 9h
• Lunch: 12h to 15h
• Dinner: 18h to 21h

On the day of arrival, the first meal available will be dinner. If arriving after 21h at the hotel, dinner boxes will be arranged for you.

Meals will be organized as below:
- 30/08 to 02/08: meal schedule organized per team
- From 02/08: buffet for all participants (except players/coaches coming for the individual event and who have not been vaccinated/infected in the last 6 months who will need to order meal boxes)

If you will not make it on time for a meal (lunch or dinner), it will be possible to order a meal box at the reception of the Hotel Breza or by calling this number: +38638297835.

Sport snacks will be sold in the hall. It will be possible to order some food from a grocery store. A pre-selection of products (snacks, fruits, drinks, …) will be made by the organizers. If you have special needs/requests, please make to bring those products with you

Transport
Transport will be arranged from/to Ljubjana and Zagreb Airport or Podcetrtek train station based on the travel details submitted in advance. Someone will be waiting for you at the arrival gate in the airport. If there is any issue during the trip, please contact Janez Kovac (+386 40 456 869).

No local transport is needed as the venue, accommodation and restaurant are in walking distance.

If coming by car/bus, please make sure to go to the venue to pick up your accreditations before going to the hotel. The address of the venue is Multipurpose sport hall Podčetrtek, Zdraviliška cesta 23, 3254 Podčetrtek, Slovenia.
Practice
Practice will be possible from 31 August 2021. Access to the venue will only be possible after a negative result on the first Covid-19 test.

A practice schedule will be made by Badminton Europe and will provide an equal amount of practice time for all teams.

For players only participating in the individual event, it is yet to be confirmed if/when practice will be possible before the competition.

Guidelines:
- You must bring your own shuttles for practice.
- You must clean and leave nothing on the floor when leaving your practice session, including used shuttles.
- Start time: this is the time when you are allowed to enter the venue, no entrance will be allowed before this time
- End time: this is the time when you must be out of the venue.
- No changing rooms are available in the venue. Please use your room to change/shower.
- Water: Bring your own bottle, tap water will be available in the venue.
- It is mandatory to sanitize your hands when entering/exiting the venue.

Gym
A gym is available in Termalia.

Each gym session will be 55 minutes as it is needed to include a 5 minute break between 2 sessions for cleaning purposes.

A gym schedule will be made by Badminton Europe and will provide an equal amount of training time for all teams.

Accreditation
Accreditations will be mandatory at all times during the event. You will need to scan the QR-code from the accreditation when entering in or exiting from restaurant, competition venue, practice hall… You can collect the accreditation passes in the tournament venue upon arrival.

As previously mentioned, it is currently required that everybody participating in an indoor sport event in Slovenia is tested every 48h (people who are fully vaccinated or have been infected with Covid-19 in the last 6 months are exempted).

People who are fully vaccinated will receive 1 sticker after their test done upon arrival, this will mean that they tested negative and don’t need to undergo further tests.
For those requiring a test every 48h, they will receive a sticker after each test (up to 7 in total). Tests will have to be done in the morning before entering the venue. Access to the venue will be denied if you don’t have the sticker corresponding to the test that must be done on that day.

Please note that there will be 10 EUR fee to replace a lost or stolen accreditation.

Meetings

**Team event:**
The Team Managers Meeting will be held virtually on Thursday 2 September 2021 at 20.00.
The Umpires Briefing will be held virtually on Thursday 2 September 2021 at 21.00.

**Individual event:**
The Team Managers Meeting will be held virtually on Monday 6 September 2021 at 20.00.
The Umpires Briefing will be held virtually on Monday 6 September 2021 at 21.00.

All meetings will be held online via Zoom.

Physio

It will be possible to book a time with a physio on site. For availabilities and prices, please ask at the reception of the Hotel Breza or call +386 3 829 7802.

For teams who are bringing their own physios, it will be possible to put your table in the venue.

Information during the event

During the event, all relevant information will be published on [https://european-u17.badminton-zveza.si](https://european-u17.badminton-zveza.si) and push emails will be sent when key information are added. Please make sure to check your emails regularly.

All nominated Team Managers and Technical Officials have been added to the distribution list by default but please contact info@payandplay.si if you would like to be added to that list.

Stringing

YONEX will provide the official event stringing service. The stringing team is located in the entrance of the tournament venue. The stringers will start on Tuesday 31 August 2021 in the afternoon.

Players must sanitize their hands and put a plastic bag over their grip when delivering the rackets for stringing.
This service will be free for YONEX players. For others, payments will have to be made in Cash (20€).

If you need some items from YONEX (equipment, printing, shuttles, …) please contact Damjan Rugelj damjan.rugelj@yonex.si.

Venue

Who is allowed in the venue?

- **Team event:**
  - Until the SF: teams who are playing in the current session
  - Final: teams who are playing + all coaches/team managers

- **Individual event:**
  - Until the QF: players who are still active in the tournament and playing soon
  - SF + Finals: everybody
Laundry
It is possible to do laundry on site:
- At the camp: buy laundry tokens and do your own laundry (3€ per washing and 3€ per drying)
- at the reception of the hotels: laundry done for you (around 1€ per piece)

Battle cry procedure (team event)
1) 15 minutes before the ties are due to start:
   - Music to be played
   - Umpires + LJ of the first matches to go to the meeting point
   - players of the first matches are called to the meeting point to be checked by the umpires
2) 10 minutes before the ties are due to start:
   - announcer to ask all the teams to go on their respective court
3) When all teams are gathering on courts:
   - Welcome words from the announcer
4) When all teams are settled on court:
   - Announcer introduces teams on each court in the order: 4 – 1 – 3 – 5 – 2 – 6
   - After announcement team does their battle cry/wave to the public (mask can be removed when the team is doing their battle cry and must be put on again immediately after)
   - When all teams are done, players of the first match go to meeting point, rest of the team takes seat in the stands.
5) After last court is presented:
   - announcer starts calling the matches in the order: 4 – 1 – 3 – 5 – 2 - 6
   - Players, umpires and LJ to walk on their respective court