

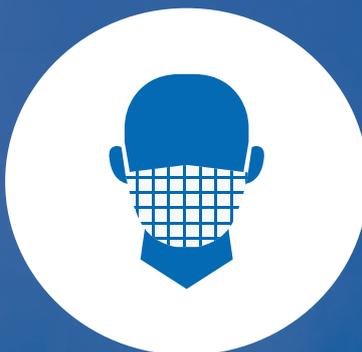
# TENNIS EUROPE JUNIOR TOUR



## COVID-19 RETURN TO COMPETITION PROTOCOLS FOR TOURNAMENT HOSTS/ORGANISERS



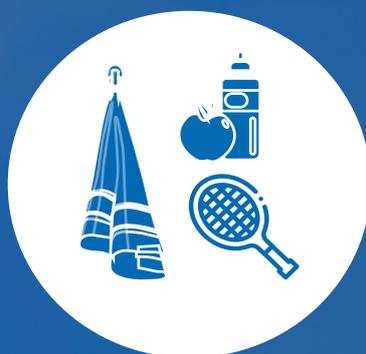
Maintain physical distancing  
at all times



\*Mask must be worn  
while off-court



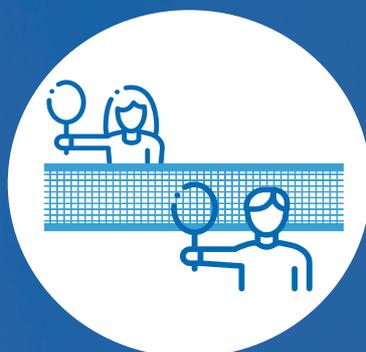
Have no physical contact  
on/off court



Persons must not  
share equipment



Follow public health  
guidelines for hygiene



Players go around  
opposite sides of the  
net at changeovers



Do not enter the tennis  
club if you have any  
symptoms of covid-19

*\*Wear masks (covering mouth and nose) at all times; The only exception for not wearing a mask, is while being outdoors and physical distancing measures are kept.*

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## INTRODUCTION

In order to support a safe return to Tennis Europe Junior Tour tournaments, Tennis Europe has devised protocols that all tournament hosts, organisers and participants must follow to mitigate the risk of exposure to - and spread of - COVID-19.

This document applies to all Tennis Europe Junior Tour tournaments with effect from 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

All Tennis Europe tournaments and participants (which includes players, officials, support personnel/coaches/accompanying persons, tournament staff and any other credentialed individual) must comply with the requirements set out in this document.

Information regarding COVID-19 is constantly changing. The information provided in this document is not intended to be a substitute for guidance provided by local, national or international government and health organizations. Tennis Europe makes no representation as to, and assumes no responsibility for, the accuracy or completeness of the information contained in this document in respect of its effectiveness in preventing or controlling the spread of COVID-19.

The Tournament Director is responsible for ensuring the welfare of all persons attending a tournament. This document provides Tennis Europe with the guidance regarding the minimum standards that a tournament must implement in order to safeguard the welfare of participants. A tournament may impose higher standards than those described in this document where it considers it appropriate to do so, or where so required by local legislation. The Tournament Director must ensure that each tournament is conducted in accordance with these protocols as published at the time of the tournament.

The National Association, in association with the Tournament Director, must make Tennis Europe aware immediately of any major issues (including but not limited to the current COVID-19 pandemic) that could impact the progress of the tournament or the health, safety or security of persons involved, whether they occur in advance of or during the tournament.

National Associations/Tournament Directors must be in regular contact (before, during and after the event) with their respective local, regional and/or national authorities.

Tennis Europe reserves the right to refuse approval of or to cancel any previously sanctioned tournament or series of tournaments at any time in case of force majeure and/or on the grounds of health, safety or security of any persons participating or due to participate in, attending or due to attend the tournament(s) or to the successful running of the tournament(s), without any liability on behalf of the Applicant, National Association, Tournament Organiser or Tennis Europe. In addition, Tennis Europe, Applicant, National Association, Tournament Organiser will not be liable to any players/accompanying persons/coaches or any other persons or entities for any costs that they might have incurred in relation to such cancelled Competitions, including but not limited to, any transport and/or accommodation costs. This decision will be made on behalf of Tennis Europe by the Tennis Europe Juniors Committee or its nominee.

**Tennis Europe, the relevant National Association and the Tournament Organiser will immediately cancel any Tennis Europe Junior Tour tournament in case of a positive COVID-19 test on site.**

All participants (which includes players, support personnel/coaches/accompanying persons, officials, tournament staff and any other credentialed individual) are strongly recommended to seek advice from their relevant government agencies, travel and medical providers regarding travel to any destination country and any restrictions in place. This advice can change at short notice. It is the responsibility of the participants, if underaged parent and/or legal guardian to take the decision to travel to Tennis Europe events. As such, particular attention should be paid to local governmental measures and decisions.

The tournament organiser is required to have adequate insurance cover for the event.

All participants (which includes players, support personnel/coaches/accompanying persons, officials, tournament staff and any other credentialed individual) are required to have adequate medical, travel and liability insurance, which is not provided by either Tennis Europe, the host National Association or the local organiser.

**Tennis Europe, National Association, Tournament Organiser, applicant cannot be held liable for (and as such are not responsible for reimbursing) any expenses that might occur to the players, coaches/accompanying persons and any other persons or entities due to any potential COVID-19 issue which may occur (i) while travelling to or from Competitions and (ii) onsite before, during and after the event.**

This document is subject to change and may be amended from time to time at the discretion of Tennis Europe. Tennis Europe will make the latest version available on its website: [www.tenniseurope.org](http://www.tenniseurope.org).

Any questions regarding this document should be addressed to Tennis Europe at [juniors@tenniseurope.org](mailto:juniors@tenniseurope.org).

## KEY PRINCIPLES AND CONCEPTS APPLIED THROUGHOUT THIS DOCUMENT

- The overall objective of this document is to describe the measures that are necessary to protect the health and safety of participants in Tennis Europe Junior Tour tournaments. By setting out those measures, participants in all tournaments covered by this document can be confident that the appropriate measures are being taken and have the benefit of a consistent approach.
- Local government authority approval of sporting events. If movement restrictions or other national measures that preclude the organization of competitions have been imposed (or re-imposed) in a country, then these should be followed, and no tennis competitions should be organised.
- Physical distancing protocols organized and mandated throughout tournament venues to optimize the safety and well-being of all participants.
- Additional hygiene and sanitary precautionary measures to be delivered and available prior to, during, and upon completion of each event.
- Increased strict fragmentation and partitioning of all areas (example: arrows) to reduce the risk of groups of people forming inside the same area and potential virus transmission.
- Constant communication by the Tournament Organisation and on-call doctor.
- On-site content distributed with strict physical distancing and hygiene regulations in place.

### MEASURES FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS ON-SITE:

- Maintain physical distancing at all times.
- Wear masks (cover mouth and nose) while off-court for all participants. The only exception is while being outdoors and observing physical distancing measures.
- Wash/sanitize your hands regularly.
- Avoid touching surfaces where possible.
- Cough into a tissue and discard it immediately.
- Do not touch your face.
- Do not share any personal items.
- Do not attend the venue if you experience COVID-19 symptoms.

# TENNIS EUROPE JUNIOR TOUR

## COVID-19

### RETURN TO COMPETITION PROTOCOLS

#### Tournament hosts/Organisers:

##### **General information:**

1. Government legislation must permit a tennis event to be held in the host country.
2. The host nation's borders must be open to international visitors, giving sufficient and reasonable access to that nation to players.
3. Each host organiser must, on application to host a tournament, confirm that it will implement the minimum standards set out in the 'risk mitigation' section of this document.
4. Assess the risks of organising competitions in your location. Only organise events when permitted also by local and/or regional authorities.
5. Ensure that local governmental measures and decisions are complied with at all times;
6. Be in regular contact with your respective local, regional and/or national authorities.
7. Play 'behind closed doors', no spectators
8. Methods of identifying potential cases of COVID-19 prior to entry to the tournament site and of identifying participants who may have been exposed to COVID-19 during a tournament must be implemented.
9. Consideration must be given to additional protection for vulnerable individuals.
10. The minimum number of participants required for the tournament to operate should be permitted on-site.
11. Effective implementation of the minimum standards for hosting tournaments requires a programme of monitoring and, where those standards are not met, enforcement.
12. Risk mitigation:  
The COVID-19 virus presents an elevated health risk to all participants. Steps to reduce that risk must be taken by all Tennis Europe tournaments and participants.  
Note: nothing in this document precludes tournaments from going beyond the minimum specified standards where it considers it appropriate to do so, or where so required by local legislation.
13. It is strongly recommended to check the latest World Health Organisation advice here: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public>
14. Take all necessary action, including isolation, in case an athlete is presenting with COVID-19 symptoms.
15. Isolation room in place.
16. Devise a business continuity protocol (in case of infection). Establish protocols if COVID-19 symptoms are developed on-site.
17. Report all confirmed COVID-19 cases to Tennis Europe ([juniors@tenniseurope.org](mailto:juniors@tenniseurope.org)).
18. Tennis Europe, the relevant National Association and the Tournament Organiser will immediately cancel any Tennis Europe Junior Tour tournament in case of a positive test confirmation on-site.

### **Pre-event**

19. A COVID-19 Officer must be appointed and identified to Tennis Europe and is responsible for all matters related to COVID-19 before, during and after the event. The officer must be in constant contact with the on-call doctor before, during and after the event.
20. Assign an on-call Tournament Doctor, who must have knowledge of dealing with COVID-19 patients and have the means to conduct a COVID-19 test within 24 hours.
21. A risk assessment, relevant to the context of the tournament, and describing the COVID-19 risk factors and mitigation measures that will be taken to protect the health of participants, must be completed in advance of the tournament.
22. Details of a local venue (i.e. hospital, testing center etc.) that provides COVID-19 testing services at participant's expense must be made available to participants.
23. Tournament hosts should make reasonable efforts to obtain insurance to cover cancellation of the tournament due to COVID-19.
24. Tournament hosts should make available to participants via the tournament fact sheet relevant information about local requirements and restrictions.
25. Tournament hosts are strongly encouraged to liaise with the relevant authorities to explore ways in which any quarantine requirements for participants upon entry to the host country can be relaxed, or alternative less time-consuming access methods applied.

### **Off-site**

26. Official tournament accommodation must be suitable for players and must meet the requirements of the Tour Regulations, Minimum Standards and Tennis Europe Player Welfare Policy.
27. Such accommodation must be screened prior to it being proposed on the tournament factsheet; it is recommended that a tournament representative personally conducts a check of the hotel.
28. Where possible, tournaments should propose/offer a hotel that is dedicated (or has a dedicated section) for tournament participants, located close to the tournament venue.
29. Health, Safety and security must be the key factors in the selection of official accommodation, in terms of its physical location, transportation and access.
30. The COVID-19 protocols of official hotels must be made available if requested.
31. The maximum capacity of tournament vehicles, for tournaments offering them, must be as dictated by the appropriate physical distancing requirements. Face coverings must be used by the driver and all passengers. Tournament-provided transport that is used by participants must not be available for use by any other person.
32. Physical distancing must be maintained prior to entry to the site by all participants (which includes players, support personnel/coaches/accompanying persons, officials, tournament staff and any other credentialed individual). Hand-washing with soap and water or sanitiser must be made available at all entry points.

### **Site access**

33. All participants must complete a daily self-declaration of being COVID-19 symptom-free and not having had any high-risk contacts in the last 14 days and be subject to a daily temperature screening. Only those participants who comply with, and meet the requirements of, screening are permitted on-site.
34. Case management and notification protocols must be implemented if a participant does not meet the requirements of the screening, or if any person reports COVID-19 symptoms during or within 7 days of the date on which they left the tournament venue.
35. Tournament hosts must retain contact details (email address and mobile phone number) of all participants for 21 days after the tournament, to facilitate the identification and/or notification of those who have or may have been exposed to an affected individual.

### **Monitoring/Controlling:**

36. Accreditation for all participants (which includes players, support personnel/coaches/accompanying persons, officials, tournament staff and any other credentialed individual) involved in the Tournament.
37. Maintain contact details of all persons entering/involved in the tournament and players, accompanying persons/coaches and any other persons entering the venues.
38. Mandatory temperature screening every day (Fever 38°C or above) by Tournament personnel for players, accompanying persons, coaches, tournament staff, officials daily at controlled entrance points (contactless infrared thermometer).
39. Trace contacts in case on-site infection found.

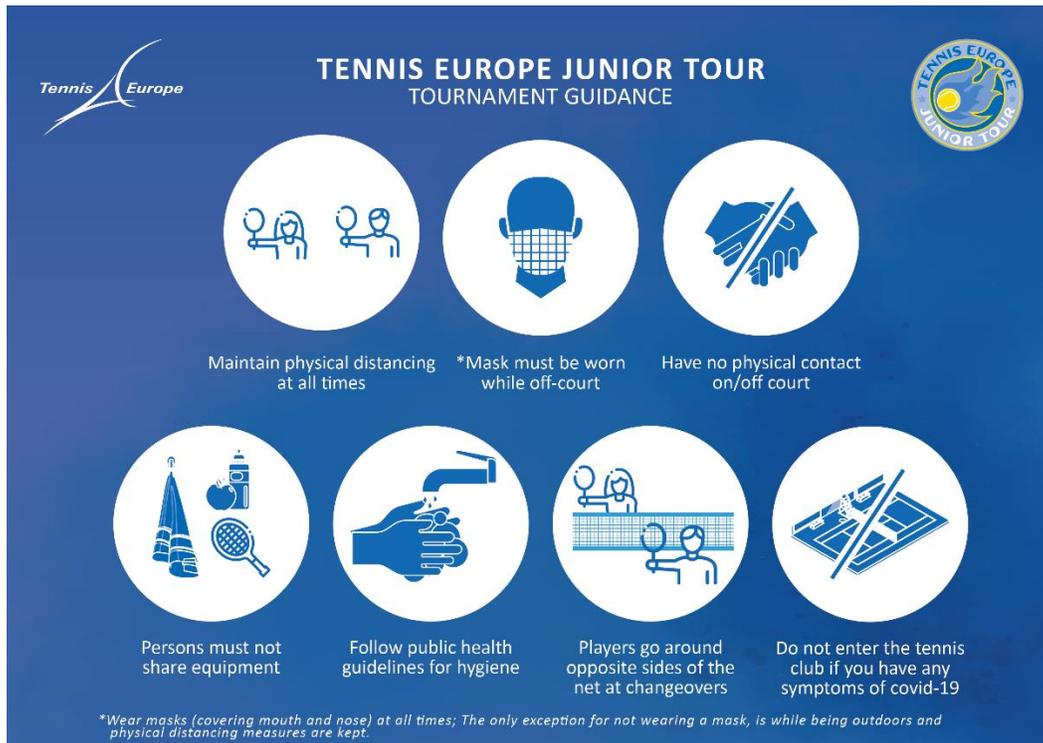
### **On-site**

40. Tournament staff/security must be trained to implement COVID-19 procedures, including the use of thermometers and Personal Protective Equipment (known as 'PPE') at all relevant times, including site entry and exit and indoors.
41. All sign-in must be remote (online/telephone TBC)
42. The fewest number of on-court officials required to provide the appropriate level of officiating must be used (as per Tennis Europe Officiating Requirements).
43. Play must take place 'behind closed doors', no spectators
44. Only essential staff movement around the site must be permitted.
45. Adequate ventilation must be provided in all high-use, multiple-occupancy indoor spaces, where possible.
46. All additional activities (opening/closing ceremonies, player's parties, site visits, additional sports, etc.) must be cancelled. At award/prize giving ceremonies, physical distancing must be respected throughout, including face coverings.
47. In all on-site amenities (hospitality, player dining; player/team lounge, tournament offices), physical distancing and hygiene must be respected at all times.
48. Media are permitted on-site (including journalists, TV camera operators, live scoring etc.), but must comply with physical distancing, hygiene and screening requirements.
49. No visitor may enter the site perimeter boundary, within which access is controlled, unless they are subject to the same screening requirements as participants.

50. All areas of the tournament venue that are used by participants should be subject to regular and sufficiently frequent disinfection.
51. Adequate on-site signage must be provided as an aid to compliance with physical distancing and hygiene precautions at all key points around the venue, but particularly in the toilets and areas where surfaces are likely to be touched.
52. Physical separation at locations where people tend to gather (plexi glass, arrows).
53. There should be a clear separation between restricted access areas for tournament personnel/officials and players/player support teams, such as private player only areas (i.e. the player locker rooms and treatment areas). Non-public areas of the venue (such as the tournament offices, player lounge and on courts) should be clearly separated and marked. Provision of on-site public facilities, such as portable event toilets, which are separate from player locker rooms is highly recommended.
54. Reliable communication systems must be in place, such as mobile telephones, walkie-talkies or other devices, capable of operation in an emergency.
55. "First aid" medical services must be provided on-site.
56. Masks (covering mouth and nose) compulsory for personnel and officials on and off court. The only exception for not wearing a mask, is while being outdoors and physical distancing measures are kept.
57. Each player must be provided with their own bench/chairs, placed at opposite sites of the court.
58. Plan for staff absences. Maintain all staff contact details for contact tracing.
59. Officiating requirements are according to existing regulations. The exceptions are that there will be no lines people or ball kids.
60. Balls must be used for one match only.
61. Increase frequency of official transportation, if provided. Cars or buses must be thoroughly cleaned and check the passenger numbers permitted according to the local authorities.
62. The following World Health Organization hygiene notices must be printed and displayed in a prominent position on site:



63. The following Tennis Europe Junior Tour guidance must be printed and displayed in a prominent position on site:



(available for download on our website here:  
<https://tenniseurope.visualclubweb.nl/file/868904/?dl=1&a=1>)

## **Competition**

64. Tennis Europe practice and match protocols must be implemented.
65. Use of locker rooms (including for players and officials) must be determined by the available space, ensuring that physical distancing can be maintained at all times. No player support personnel are permitted in locker rooms.
66. Non-COVID-19 medical treatment will be limited to the reasonable time necessary for completion.
67. Anti-doping staff (where present) must comply with physical distancing, hygiene measures and daily screening.

## **Hygiene**

68. Ensure that tournament surfaces are cleaned and sterilized throughout the day and regularly disinfect high-touch surfaces.
69. Make hand sanitizer (disinfection bottles) and soap available throughout your tournament facilities (toilets, changing rooms, restaurant, club, entry/exit points etc.) at all time during the event.
70. Ensure that food services meet appropriate hygiene standards, with all individuals handling food wearing personal protection equipment including aprons, gloves, and masks.
71. Players or Tournament staff must clean the bench and/or chair after play (with latex gloves, soap and paper provided by the club).
72. Provision of containers for all disposable items.

## **COVID-19 Officer and the on-call tournament doctor\*:**

73. Monitoring on-site health protocols.
74. Visitation daily at the club mandatory by the on-call doctor. The doctor will need to be in constant contact with the COVID-19 Officer, tournament staff and local authorities.
75. Have a plan in place to quickly and efficiently implement a mass quarantine procedure if necessary.
76. Take all necessary actions, including isolation, medical screening, communication flow in case any person involved in the tournament is presenting symptoms of COVID-19.
77. The on-call Tournament Doctor must have knowledge of dealing with COVID-19 patients and have the means to conduct a COVID-19 test within 24 hours.
78. Report all confirmed Covid-19 cases to Tennis Europe to [juniors@tenniseurope.org](mailto:juniors@tenniseurope.org)

*\*These roles may be carried out by the same person, subject to qualifications.*

## CONCLUSION

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, additional regulations and precautions are required and may be introduced at any time by Tennis Europe in order for Junior Tour events to proceed in a safe manner. The health, safety and security of all persons involved in the tournament are of principal importance.

Tennis Europe, the National Association, Tournament Organiser, applicant cannot be held liable for (and as such are not responsible for reimbursing) any expenses that might occur to the players, coaches/accompanying persons and any other persons or entities due to any potential COVID-19 issue which may occur (i) while travelling to or from Competitions and (ii) onsite before, during and after the event.

Failure to meet any of the minimum standards in is subject to sanction under the relevant Tennis Europe Junior Tour regulations.

Every individual present on site at a tournament also bears a personal responsibility to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. To plan for a safe return to Tennis it is important to carefully follow the above measures. Our actions will speak far louder than words.



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