



Protection Concept ISF Biel / Bienne (Version 0.8 22.07.2020)

Introduction

All requirements listed in this protection concept are binding for all stakeholders who are involved in any way in the International Chess Festival 2020 (a.k.a ISF Biel / Bienne). Non-binding guidelines are explicitly marked as recommendations.

The protection concept is valid for the entire duration of the International Chess Festival Biel Bienne. Persons who do not adhere to the guidelines can be sanctioned by the Organisation Committee (OC) accordingly - including exclusion from the tournament, ban from the Congress Center.

Starting position / Basics

In accordance with the requirements of the authorities, the ban on assembly in public places due to the COVID 19 epidemic will be further relaxed, with consistent implementation of distance and hygiene rules and traceability of close contacts (contact tracing).

This protection concept is based on the specifications of the Swiss BAG, Swiss Olympic and FIDE listed below and the latest officially announced governmental information:

- BAG: [Measures, Ordinances and Explanations on Corona](#)
- Swiss Olympic: [Framework requirements Protection concepts from 6 June 2020](#)
- FIDE: [Medical security policy and protocol for upcoming over-the-board events](#)

According to the federal regulation, protection concepts are no longer checked for plausibility individually, but only submitted to the health authorities on request.

Objectives

With this protection concept, the OC of the ISF Biel / Bienne pursues the following objectives:

- The overall aim of all measures is to protect the participants, the OC team and the facility management team from infection by the corona virus.
- Despite COVID-19, the tradition of ISF Biel / Bienne is to be continued and an attractive chess event is to be offered to the various chess-playing stakeholders - top players, amateur players and young players.

¹ For reasons of readability, the masculine form is chosen for personal names, but the feminine form is always included.

53. INTERNATIONALES SCHACHFESTIVAL BIEL
53^e FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL D'ÉCHECS DE BIENNE
53rd BIEL INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

www.bielchessfestival.ch

18.- 29.07.2020



Responsibilities

The OC of the ISF Biel / Bienne as a whole is responsible for the measures listed in the protection concept.

A COVID-19 person responsible for the efficient implementation is defined during the tournament, who ensures the operational implementation and documents it on the basis of a checklist (Appendix: COVID-19 Controls during the tournament).

Responsible: Paul Kohler, Deputy Peter Bohnenblust

General Principles

The following general rules apply to all participants - participants, OK Team, Facility Management Team and spectators:

- Social Distancing / Keep your distance - if possible 1.5 meters distance
- Hygiene regulations: regular hand guarding and disinfection
- Particularly endangered persons protect themselves additionally at their own discretion - e.g. with hygiene masks or gloves.
- Persons with COVID-19 symptoms are not allowed to enter the tournament hall or leave it immediately. In addition, they report the result of further investigations to the OC of ISF Biel / Bienne.
- On request - e.g. in suspicious cases - body temperature controls may be carried out or requested.

Playing conditions

Over the board chess games are possible, provided that a distance of 1.5 meters is maintained. Accordingly, the following adjustments must be made to the game.

Grand Master Tournament:

- Use of a plexiglass partition wall between the players. This allows the players to sit 'normally' opposite to each other at the board.
- After each round, all clocks, boards and pieces are cleaned and disinfected.
- Electronic boards are used for this tournament.

For tournaments with players older than 16 years

- The board and the clock are in the middle of an enlarged table.
- For some moves, as well as for pressing the clock, a player may have to get up from his seat. As a compensation for this constraint, the players get an extra 45" per move instead of the usual 30".
- For players who are not able to stand up from their seat, a few plexiglass panels are available as a protective device
- After each round, boards, pieces and clocks are cleaned and disinfected.
- Games are not played on electronic boards for these tournaments.

U16 tournaments (starting on 25/07/2020)

- Are played in a second playing zone ("Vereinsaal")
- Are using a dedicated entrance and exit (on the right of the building) and have their own toilets
- The organization will clean and disinfect clocks, pieces and boards each evening.
- Players are kindly asked to disinfect their hands before and after the game.

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Impact on players

As a result of the adjustments to the game and the hygiene regulations of the BAG, the following behavioral adjustments apply to players:

During the tournament:

- Application of all general requirements in the protection concept (this document).
- Application of the requirements resulting from the adapted playing conditions listed above.
- Avoidance of handshake before and after the game.
- The wearing of masks and gloves remains at personal discretion.
- No post game analysis at the tournament hall.
- Recommendation: In the open tournaments, during the game the seat should only be left in relevant cases.

Before and after the tournament:

- During the tournament check in, each participant signs a discharge acknowledging that he understands and fully agrees to apply the protection concept during the whole duration of the festival.
- As a result, each participant receives a personal badge that has to be worn at all time when inside the playing hall.
- Participants consent that in the event of a COVID-19 case, any prescribed quarantine regulations by the Swiss authorities will be observed.
- Recommendation: Payment of entry fees and prize money with electronic means of payment instead of cash.

Impact on spectators

In principle no spectators are admitted at the tournament hall. Apart from directly involved persons such as players, the OC team and the facility management team, no persons are allowed on the tournament hall. This applies during the whole tournament, including functions such as the opening ceremony and prize giving.

In case there are less than 300 people in each tournament zone, the following exceptions may be applied:

- Coaches of participating players
- Journalists and press representatives
- Parents of young players under 16 years of age in the youth tournaments
- People officially invited by the organizer

Requirements:

- These people must also be known by name. A formal registration at the reception office is required.
- These people agree to comply with the general requirements by signing the discharge acknowledging that they understand and fully agree to apply the protection concept during the whole duration of the festival.
- As a result, each accredited spectator receives a personal badge that has to be worn at all time when inside the playing hall.

Recommendation:

- Wearing a protection mask is advisable for all spectators.

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Impact on organizers – Chess

Conceptual impact

- Developing a protection concept - this document.
- Daily control of the implementation of the measures of the protection concept - see appendix: COVID-19 Controls during the tournament
- Ensure that no more than 300 people per day are in each tournament zone.

Concrete impact / measures

- After each round all clocks, boards and pieces are cleaned and disinfected.
- Make sure that any person entering the tournament hall is known by their name.

Impact on organizers - Facility Management

The additional measures concerning facility management for the ISF Biel / Bienne 2020 are:

- Station with disinfectants at all entrances - main entrance, entrance to tournament areas
- Regular airing of the playing venue is guaranteed
- Cleaning of WC facilities: ongoing
- Emptying the waste bins / waste bags: ongoing

Final remarks

The OC of the ISF Biel / Bienne will do its best to protect the health of all participants and involved people. However, all participants must be aware that there is a residual risk of infection and must therefore decide on their own responsibility whether they wish to take part in the festival.

The OC of the ISF Biel / Bienne as well as the Swiss Chess Federation decline any responsibility for any possible infection with COVID-19.

COVID-19 controls during the tournament

Checkliste with regular check points:

ID	Check point	Periodicity
1	Cleaning chessclocks, boards and pieces	After each round
2	Availability and replenishment of disinfectant at the defined locations	As required (CTS)
3	Control of WC facilities and waste bins / waste bags	Permanent (CTS)
4	Control that only accredited people are inside the tournament hall.	permanent

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