



## **MEDIA INFORMATION SPECIFIC TO COVID-19 (v6)**

The health and safety of the WEC media has always been a priority since the pandemic began. As part of the fight against the spread of COVID-19, specific preventive measures are being rolled out in addition to our Rules and Regulations, with a view to the protection of public health and the personal prevention of risks associated with the epidemic.

This media protocol document aims to clarify the COVID-19 guidelines for travel and stay in Belgium in order not to endanger the organisation of the Event and to assure a safe stay in Belgium in accordance with the Belgian Federal Law. This plan will be adapted to comply with the current regulatory and health situation in the relevant country in order to minimise the risk of COVID-19 and their variants exposure and spread.

LMEM reserves the right to change, update or modify this protocol at any time before or during an event. As a reminder, this event will be held behind “closed doors” which means that no spectators will be allowed at the circuit and only a limited number of media will be permitted.

- 1 General Health Advice
- 2 Travelling to and from Belgium
- 3 Arrival at circuit / Accreditation
- 4 COVID testing
- 5 Media Centre
- 6 Media and Photographers' briefings
- 7 Access to WEC competitors within the circuit
- 8 Press Conferences
- 9 Additional information for media not onsite
- 10 Media Shuttles
- 11 General recommendations
- 12 Belgian government advisory notice to all visitors/nationals
- 13 Post-event

# 1 General Health Advice

## What are the symptoms of COVID-19? \*

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, dry cough, and tiredness. Other symptoms that are less common and may affect some patients include aches and pains, nasal congestion, headache, conjunctivitis, sore throat, diarrhoea, loss of taste or smell or a rash on skin or discoloration of fingers or toes. These symptoms are usually mild and begin gradually. Some people become infected but only have very mild or no symptoms.

## How to properly wear a mask? \*

1. Before touching the mask, clean hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water
2. Take the mask and inspect it for tears or holes.
3. Orient which side is the top side (where the metal strip is).
4. Ensure the proper side of the mask faces outwards (the coloured side).
5. Place the mask to your face. Pinch the metal strip or stiff edge of the mask so it moulds to the shape of your nose.
6. Pull down the mask's bottom so it covers your mouth and your chin.
7. Do not touch the mask while you are wearing it for protection.
8. After use, take off the mask with clean hands; remove the elastic loops from behind the ears while keeping the mask away from your face and clothes, to avoid touching potentially contaminated surfaces of the mask.
9. Discard the mask in a closed bin immediately after use. Do not reuse the mask.
10. Perform hand hygiene after touching or discarding the mask – Use alcohol based hand rub or, if visibly soiled, wash your hands with soap and water.

In order to guarantee optimal safety and to minimize the risks of virus transmission, wearing a face mask (surgical or washable state homologated) will be mandatory in all areas inside the circuit during the whole event duration.

Remember that masks are not a substitute for other, more effective ways to protect yourself and others against COVID-19 such as frequently washing your hands, covering your cough with the bend of elbow or tissue and maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from others.



# HOW TO WEAR A NON-MEDICAL FABRIC MASK SAFELY

[who.int/epi-win](https://www.who.int/epi-win)

## Do's →



Clean your hands before touching the mask



Inspect the mask for damage or if dirty



Adjust the mask to your face without leaving gaps on the sides



Cover your mouth, nose, and chin



Avoid touching the mask



Clean your hands before removing the mask



Remove the mask by the straps behind the ears or head



Pull the mask away from your face



Store the mask in a clean plastic, resealable bag if it is not dirty or wet and you plan to re-use it



Remove the mask by the straps when taking it out of the bag



Wash the mask in soap or detergent, preferably with hot water, at least once a day



Clean your hands after removing the mask

## Don'ts →



Do not use a mask that looks damaged



Do not wear a loose mask



Do not wear the mask under the nose



Do not remove the mask where there are people within 2 metres



Do not use a mask that is difficult to breathe through



Do not wear a dirty or wet mask



Do not share your mask with others

A fabric mask can protect others around you. To protect yourself and prevent the spread of COVID-19, remember to keep at least 2 metres distance from others, clean your hands frequently and thoroughly, and avoid touching your face and mask.



World Health Organization

# HOW TO WEAR A MEDICAL MASK SAFELY

[who.int/epi-win](http://who.int/epi-win)

## Do's →



Wash your hands before touching the mask



Inspect the mask for tears or holes



Find the top side, where the metal piece or stiff edge is



Ensure the colored-side faces outwards



Place the metal piece or stiff edge over your nose



Cover your mouth, nose, and chin



Adjust the mask to your face without leaving gaps on the sides



Avoid touching the mask



Remove the mask from behind the ears or head



Keep the mask away from you and surfaces while removing it



Discard the mask immediately after use preferably into a closed bin



Wash your hands after discarding the mask

## Don'ts →



Do not Use a ripped or damp mask



Do not wear the mask only over mouth or nose



Do not wear a loose mask



Do not touch the front of the mask



Do not remove the mask to talk to someone or do other things that would require touching the mask



Do not leave your used mask within the reach of others



Do not re-use the mask

Remember that masks alone cannot protect you from COVID-19. Maintain at least 1 metre distance from others and wash your hands frequently and thoroughly, even while wearing a mask.

EPI-WIN



It is critical and mandatory that every person allowed to take part in the Event follows the guidelines from this health protocol to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

In this context, the COVID-19 Code of Conduct of Appendix S of the FIA International Sporting Code is applied to the Event as a mandatory part of its regulations, also used to establish this protocol and constitutes the regulatory basis of the sporting authority.

It is the responsibility of each media that they:

- Are familiar with this health protocol and its modifications before travelling to the Event
- Read and individually sign the 'consent and liability release and indemnification agreement' for the Prologue and the TOTAL 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps event
- Respect this health protocol at all times during the event
- Have prepared the means to respect this health protocol

## 2 Travelling to and from Belgium

You may only travel to and from Belgium for the following trips which are considered to be essential:

- Travel for purely professional reasons, including travel by professional sportsmen and sportswomen with elite sport status, cultural sector professionals and journalists travelling for work
- Travel undertaken by staff of international organisations and institutions and by people invited by international organisations and institutions whose physical presence is required for the proper functioning of those organisations and institutions.

**An invitation letter provided by the local ASN through the WEC organisation will be provided to each single person (including all media) wishing to enter Belgium. This letter must be kept by each single person during his entire stay in Belgium and will be requested in case of control as it is the official document for the quarantine exemption. Any single person without the official invitation letter provided by the local ASN, will have to follow the quarantine rules.**

**If you have confirmed you will attend Spa to Catherine Vatteoni as media personnel as per the deadline request, then this will be used to request your invitation letter for the Belgian Federation.**

Media who do not have their primary residence in Belgium must have a negative test result upon arrival from a red zone. The test should be conducted at the latest 72 hours before entering the Belgian territory.

For the people living on the Belgian territory and only for them a test made within 72 hours before wishing to enter the circuit will be allowed to access to the accreditation centre in order to enter the circuit.

From 19 April, non-essential travel to Belgium will no longer be forbidden for people whose primary residence is located in another country.

**As you will enter the Belgian territory, any single person will receive a text message on its mobile asking you to "self-isolate and quarantine". Please note that this is an automatic generated message.**

Because you are invited for the FIA WEC event with a very strict protocol to be followed and you're having an official invitation letter from the RACB to be used as a quarantine exemption, you don't need to apply the information received by text message on your mobile.

For countries within the European Union/European Economic Area, the colour codes are aligned with those of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC).

More information here: <https://www.info-coronavirus.be/en/colour-codes-by-country/>

### ➤ Passenger Locator Form (PLF)

ALL travellers to Belgium, regardless of the means of transport chosen, must complete the Passenger Locator Form no earlier than 48 hours before arriving in Belgium.

The Passenger Locator Form takes professional travel into account when completing the self-assessment tool.

It is mandatory to fill in the Passenger Locator Form completely and truthfully. In the 'arriving in Belgium' section, please tick the box 'professional reason' without BTA as shown below

Arriving in Belgium

You are travelling for professional purposes \*

Professional reasons with BTA  Professional reasons without BTA  No professional reasons  Diplomatic community

Previous stays within the last 14 days

Location \*

From (dd/mm/yyyy) \*

To (dd/mm/yyyy) \*

Failure to complete this form may result in criminal prosecution, refusal of boarding by the carrier and refusal of entry into the territory.

The PLF should be completed electronically where possible. Travellers must download, complete and sign this document before arriving in Belgium. The form can be found at: <https://travel.info-coronavirus.be>

After the traveller has submitted the form, he/she will receive a receipt with a QR code via e-mail. Where applicable, the passenger must show this to the carrier on departure and at the border check on arrival. The electronic form contains a mandatory Coronavirus Infection Risk Self-Assessment Questionnaire.

Based on the result, a text message will be sent with the measures to be taken. You must be able to hand over the original to the enforcement authorities each time an inspection is carried out.

Passengers travelling by air from a country within the Schengen Area will have to show the PLF and hand it over to the carrier when boarding. Passengers travelling from a country outside the Schengen Area must hand in their PLF upon arrival at the border control.

If the information entered on the form changes within 14 days of arrival, you must report this preferably by filling in a new e-PLF via <https://travel.info-coronavirus.be/> with the complete and

updated details. In the absence of this form or in case of false, misleading or incomplete information, entry to the territory may be refused.

### 3 Arrival at circuit / Accreditation process

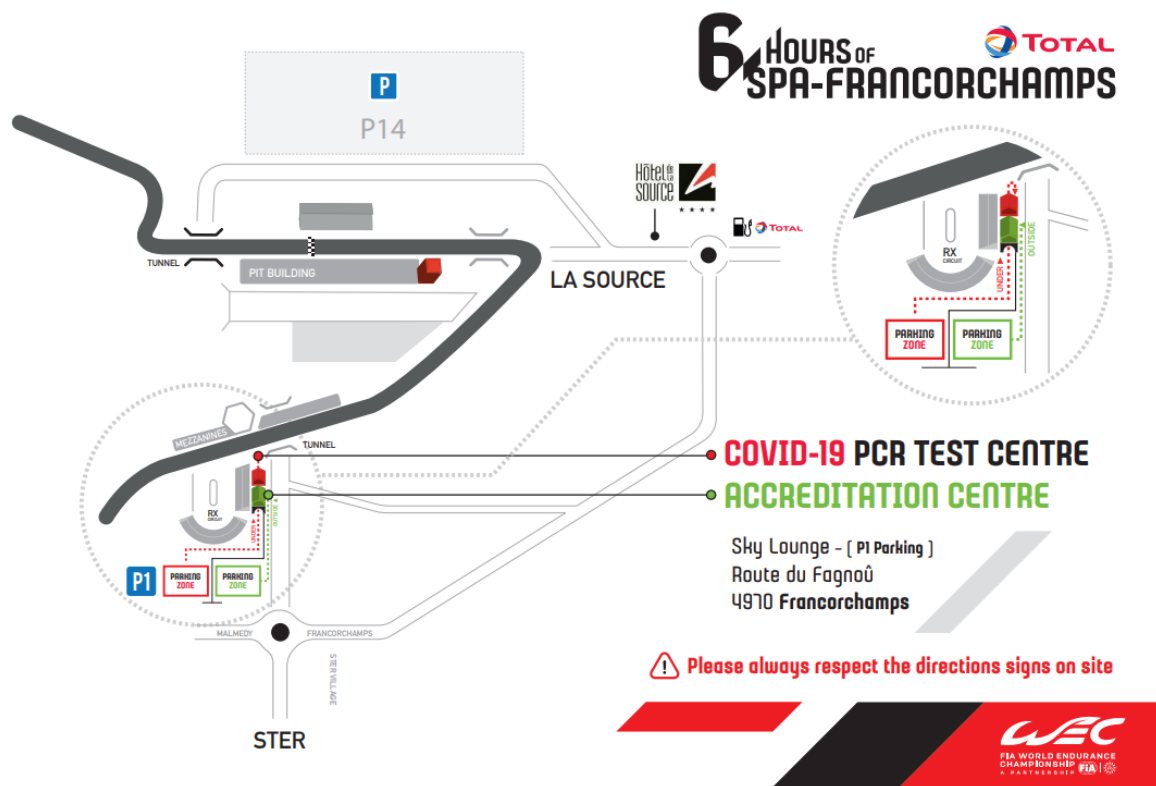
All media wishing to enter the Prologue and/or the TOTAL 6 Hours of Spa-Francorchamps circuit must:

- 1) Show a negative PCR test (in accordance with the rules explained below) before wishing to enter the accreditation centre (see below the precise address)
- 2) Fill in a 'consent and liability release and indemnification agreement' and bring it individually to the accreditation centre.

#### Accreditation Centre Opening hours:

Friday 23 April	17:00 – 19:00
Saturday 24 April	08:30 – 19:00
Sunday 25 April	08:30 – 20:00
Monday 26 April	07:30 – 18:00
Tuesday 27 April	08:30 – 19:00
Wednesday 28 April	07:30 – 19:00
Thursday 29 April	07:30 – 17:00
Friday 30 April	08:00 – 18:00
Saturday 1 May	08:30 – 15:00

The accreditation centre and PCR test centre locations can be found below.



Once this has been done and once the WEC organisation has collected the corresponding signed waiver, you will be able to collect the WEC event-specific wristband.

Only declared and accredited people with the correct wristbands will be allowed to enter the circuit.

To access and exit the circuit, it will be mandatory to respect the indicated routes/direction of travel.

From the first day of the event as specified in the timetable to the last Saturday temperature checks will be carried out at the Circuit entry gates. Should a person have a fever (>38,0°C), the access will be denied even if the PCR test result is negative. People will be directed to the isolation zone in order to carry additional checks.

Due to the specific COVID-19 checking process in place at the Circuit main entry gate it should take more time than usual to access the circuit so we recommend that you take this into account to ensure you will not be late.

Should any media have symptoms during the event, it will be the responsibility of the individual to stay at the hotel and contact the COVID-19 coordinator (+33 6 79 88 81 20).

Early identification of infected or potentially infected people, to enable initiation of relevant quarantine or isolation measures, is vital in mitigating the spread of COVID-19. If one person in a bubble is tested positive to the COVID-19, the whole bubble will be excluded and in quarantine.

If possible, it is recommended that people of over 60 years of age, people in the class III categorisation for obesity or any vulnerable persons (as define below) do not attend the event:

- Cancer
- Diabetes
- A weakened immune system due to an illness or treatment
- High blood pressure
- Cardiovascular diseases
- Chronic respiratory diseases

If any person had been in contact with an infected individual within 14 days before the beginning of the event, they should NOT attend the event.

## **4 COVID testing**

From 7am on Saturday 24 April, at your arrival in Spa-Francorchamps, any single person (except for those living in Belgium) must have done a PCR test onsite on Friday or go straight to the PCR Test Centre located in the Sky Lounge – P1 parking (Route du Fagnou, 4970 Francorchamps) – see map above.

### **PCR Test Centre Opening hours:**

Friday 23 April	09:00 – 20:00
Saturday 24 April	09:00 – 20:00
Sunday 25 April	09:00 – 20:00
Monday 26 April	09:00 – 18:00
Tuesday 27 April	07:00 – 21:00
Wednesday 28 April	08:00 – 19:00
Thursday 29 April	09:00 – 18:00
Friday 30 April	07:00 – 21:00
Saturday 1 May	07:00 – 21:00

An ID card or passport will always be requested to access to the PCR test centre. Once the PCR test has been done, you should go to your hotel and wait in your room until you receive a “negative” result.

The result from the PCR test should be available within 12 hours. Once you have received your negative PCR test result by email, you should show it at the entrance of the accreditation centre in conjunction with an ID, to be granted access to the accreditation centre to collect your specific wristband to get access to the circuit.

In accordance with the local authorities, for the people living in Belgium, a negative PCR Test made in Belgium in the 72 hours before wishing to enter the circuit, will be accepted to access to the accreditation centre in order to collect the specific wristband to be allowed to access to the circuit.

Anyone presenting symptoms or with risk factors, or anyone having received by email a positive COVID-19 PCR test result must inform the COVID-19 coordinator (+33 6 79 88 81 20).

This person will not be admitted to the circuit or to any of its infrastructure and will have to keep isolated and to follow the local health authorities instructions.

In accordance with the recommendation 6.16 of FIA Appendix S, all testing will be valid for a 5 days cycle period, which means if you are staying longer than 5 days at the Spa-Francorchamps circuit, you will have to do another PCR test on site (in the Sky Lounge inside the P1 parking of the Spa-Francorchamps circuit)

**The five-day cycle is counting from the date and time you’ve done PCR test at your arrival at the circuit (i.e, if you’re doing a test on Saturday 24th April at 5pm, you should be doing another test at the latest on Wednesday 28th April. For the people living in Belgium, the five days cycle period also apply and they will have to do another PCR test on site at the latest on the morning of the 5th day after they have done their last PCR test in Belgium.**

There are no exemptions for those vaccinated, currently they have to follow the same rules and the same protocol.

➤ **PCR tests payment**

All PCR tests must be at the cost of the individual media who is attending. The cost for each PCR test will be 80 Euros. Payment must be by card only, cash payment is not accepted.

Further information regarding the payment process for PCR tests will be sent separately.

## **5 Media Centre**

To minimise the potential for cross-contamination, the number of people in any one room or Sub-Group will be reduced as much as possible.

Please respect these regulations and use the specific entry and exit doors for your allocated room. Chairs which have been placed specifically to respect social distancing must not be moved. Media must wear mask at all times in the Media Centre.

Team Press Officers, team photographers/videographers must work within their team Group or ‘bubble’ and not in the media centre, thereby avoiding interaction between groups or sub-groups.

There will be lunch packs provided for media working in the Media Centre. These will be available on the following days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

## **6 Media and Photographers' Briefings**

ALL media – journalists, photographers, TV crews and Team PRs – attending the event must watch a specific COVID-19 protocol video briefing and sign a form confirming that this has been done. Forms to be emailed to media and collected by Catherine Vatteoni.

Jeff Carter's photographers' briefing will be videoed and sent to photographers in advance, who must confirm in writing that it has been viewed.

All temporary tabards will be disinfected before and after use. Full season credential holders already have an allocated tabard from earlier in the season.

Tabard access details can be found in the Spa-Francorchamps Media Information document.

## **7 Access to WEC competitors within the circuit**

Team garages and team catering areas will be closed to media to limit the potential for cross-contamination.

However, the WEC - together with its teams - will do everything possible to ensure that we help the media to get access to the competitors and senior management, within the allowed regulations.

An open-air interview area will be set up in the paddock, with appropriate distancing measures to allow media to do their interviews

To minimise the potential for cross-contamination, we will ask you to not enter any garages, photographers will have to take pictures from outside the garages (pitlane) and journalists will have to do their interviews in the dedicated interview zone in the paddock. We reserve the right to withdraw the accreditation of any photographers/ journalists seen in a pit garage.

Team Photographers will be given access their dedicated team garages, but not any other garages.

There will be no media mixed zones and no grid access to media before the start of the race.

## **8 Press Conferences**

The post-qualifying and post-race press conference will be held in the briefing room with only the winning line-up of each category, one category at a time. The press conference will be conducted by the WEC media delegate and filmed live via a new dedicated WEC Media YouTube channel. Details of the YouTube channel will be shared in due course. There will an individually filmed pre-event press conference which will be held in the briefing room. There will be no media mixed zone at the circuit for this event.

## **9 Additional information for media not onsite in Spa**

We recognise that every member of the media undertakes a vital service for the sport and its fans around the world, and we have therefore put in place some additional measures to ensure you have

as much information and access to content, teams and drivers as possible while not being physically present.

- **Media content/interviews:** The WEC Comms team will work to provide additional video and teams will be encouraged to provide pool content throughout the event. This will be free content available for use by permanently accredited written media. All press conferences will be streamed live via a new FIA WEC Media YouTube channel (details to be shared in due course).
- **Access to photography:** A significantly reduced number of photographers will be permitted at the event. The WEC will therefore make a larger than usual selection of images from WEC official photographers available, free of editorial rights restrictions. Teams will also be encouraged to do the same.
- **Central contact for media:** The [media@fiawec.com](mailto:media@fiawec.com) email address will be dedicated to any remote media working offsite. They can use this to send in requests, ask questions, or share communications.
- **WEC App for live coverage of the race.** All media are encouraged to subscribe to the official App for live coverage, onboards, more videos, full timing and driver/team information.

## 10 Media Shuttles

Access to media shuttles will be limited to 3 people maximum at any one time (number depending on the type of vehicle used).

In order to alleviate the pressure on the shuttles, photographers are permitted to use their own scooter (if available) on the public paths which allow access to all major areas around the circuit. Scooters cannot be shared, and they must only be parked in designated areas.

## 11 General Recommendations

During the entire Event, it is highly recommended for media to:

- Return directly to his/her accommodation and his/her room once leaving the Circuit
- Avoid public spaces
- Bars and restaurants are currently closed
- Any time spent by accredited people outside the circuit (i.e the hotel) must be with other members of the same Sub-Group, with minimal interaction with people outside the Sub-Group

## 12 Belgian Government Advisory Notice for all visitors/nationals

[What are the current measures? | Coronavirus COVID-19 \(info-coronavirus.be\)](#)



### 13 Post-event

Media coming back to his country must be aware of the specific restrictions to which she/he is subject, depending on her/his departure country/region.

It is currently requested to have a negative PCR test made less than 72 hours to travel or enter most of the countries. All the people taking part in the Event will have the possibility to do a PCR test on site before leaving. It is highly recommended to do the test on Friday to ensure you will get the results before flying out.

We highly recommend that each media personnel performs a PCR test five days after the event.