



WTA COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols Summary

The WTA, in consultation with the Mayo Clinic, has developed a comprehensive operational plan that allows for a return to play in a manner that is responsible and as safe as possible. Tournament procedures have been modified to align with the guidance of the World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), local public health authorities, and sport governing bodies to minimize the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread.

Each WTA tournament will have a Tournament Infection Control Officer, working in collaboration with the Tournament Physician, WTA Sport Science and Medicine team, and the Mayo Clinic. It is imperative that everyone follow the protocols to keep the environment as safe as possible. These protocols include, but are not limited to, hygiene and sanitizing practices, appropriate physical distancing, use of personal protective equipment throughout the tournament venue and hotel, and medical testing, screening, and monitoring procedures.

WTA Testing and Screening Procedures

Pre-Travel testing

- All attendees (players, player support team members, staff) are strongly encouraged (subject to test availability in their home countries) to have both a PCR (nasopharyngeal) and Antibody test 5 days before travel with results submitted to the WTA. This applies to the first tournament in a player's travelling schedule when travelling to back to back tournaments.
- If a person tests positive, or if they have any signs or symptoms of infection, they will be advised to not travel.

Arrival and in-tournament testing

- Upon arrival at the tournament hotel, all attendees must undergo a PCR test. They will also have an Antibody test if this was not conducted prior to travel.
 - Approximate turnaround time of receiving PCR test results is 24-72 hours. In cases where a rapid result is necessary, turnaround time is approximately 24 hours.
- Additionally, attendees are required to submit to temperature checks and screening questionnaires (via an app) at least twice per day throughout the tournament.
- Attendees will then be required to take a PCR test at least every 5 days during the tournament. An antibody test will be conducted approximately every 30 days.

Daily health/safety measures at WTA tournaments

In addition to the consistent testing procedures, a few of the health/safety measures at tournaments include, but are not limited to:

- Daily temperature checks – at a minimum, upon entering tournament site and entering hotel
- Symptom and exposure questionnaire via an app
- Facemasks must be worn when in public locations, transport and tournament facilities
- Hand sanitizer stations and consistent hand washing
- Physical distancing (maintaining distance of 6ft/2m) throughout tournament facilities (including but not limited to the tournament venue and hotel)

- Functional groupings – all attendees will be assigned to specific functional groups to decrease unnecessary contact between attendees. Functional groups are defined as a set of attendees grouped together by the nature of their functions at the tournament for the purposes of determining access to various areas of the tournament site and hotel and limiting interactions between attendees to improve contact tracing efficacy.

On Site Protocols

Coaching

- Coaching from the player box will be permitted at WTA tournaments following the off-court coaching trial that was introduced earlier this year. On-court coaching will not be permitted.

Media

- All press conferences (post-match and pre-tournament) and media opportunities at WTA tournaments will take place virtually through video conferencing.
- If media are permitted on site (those tournaments that may allow fans), they are limited to watching practice and matches. Participation in press conferences and any athlete interviews will be virtual per above.
- A limited number of photographers will be permitted on site.
- Host broadcasters will be on site to provide broadcast and streaming of matches.

Player Credentials

- Pending specific tournament guidelines, players are allowed one credential for their player support team (in addition to themselves). Some tournaments may increase this number based on the local government regulations of number of people allowed in a location. In addition to their permitted number of player support team credentials, players with children may bring them with one additional person whose primary role is caregiver, and players under 18 may bring one parent.

Locker Rooms / Training Room

- Locker rooms on site are to be used for changing and showering only, not as a waiting area.
- If practicing only, it is recommended to change into dry clothes to travel back to the hotel to shower.
- The training room will be located at the hotel with appointments required. A WTA primary health care provider will be on site for match and practice preparation, court calls, and any emergencies.

Transportation

- All transportation must be booked online. All transportation vehicles must be cleaned after each trip with compliant disinfectant. Passengers are permitted to sit only in the back seats of tournament cars and can only share with their player support team or members of the same household/functional grouping.

Ball persons

- Ball persons will be limited to no more than 3 per court.
- Ball persons are not permitted to hand players towels, drinks, food, ice or ice towels, or hold umbrellas.

Lines people

- Line people will be limited to 3 in Qualifying and 5 in Main Draw.
- Unless the tournament chooses and is permitted to more people on site per local regulations, then allowance can increase to the typical 5 in Qualifying and 7 in Main Draw.

Towels

- Each player must handle her own towels.

In the case of COVID-19 positive

- If a player is confirmed as COVID-19 positive at a WTA tournament, she will be withdrawn from the event and immediately isolated. The medical pathways followed will be dependent on whether she is symptomatic or asymptomatic.
 - Following a positive SARS-CoV-2 PCR test, a symptomatic individual will be isolated for a minimum of 10 days and receive any necessary treatment. The amount of time required in isolation is dependent on local regulations.
 - In accordance with CDC guidelines, a player who tests positive for COVID-19 but has not displayed symptoms may return to competition if she returns two subsequent negative tests, a minimum of 24 hours apart. However, if one of these follow up tests is positive, the individual will stay in isolation for a minimum of 10 days and monitor for the development of symptoms.
- Contact tracing will take place to mitigate any further risks of transmission and reduce the spread of an infection and to determine which attendees are at risk of exposure.
 - If a person has been identified as a close contact of a positive person, she or he will be notified and will take an expedited PCR test. Close contacts are subject to enhanced testing and screening procedures.
- Draw changes:
 - For Main Draw, if the player has not played her first match, she will be removed from the draw and replaced by a Lucky Loser.
 - For Qualifying, if the player has not played her first round, the next eligible alternate will take the player's spot in the draw.
- If the player tests positive in the middle of the tournament, she will be withdrawn from the event and her opponent will receive a win by walkover.

*In this ever-changing environment, please note protocols are subject to change

8/3/20