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# Coronavirus (COVID-19) advice

VERSION 1.0 / 10 MARCH 2020

## Introduction

The purpose of this document is to collate information and advice about the Covid-19 outbreak and how it relates to international (and national) archery competitions, athletes and other stakeholders.

## Version

This document is produced by the World Archery office. It was first published in 2020.

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## General information on COVID-19

The coronavirus COVID-19 is responsible for the current outbreak affecting many countries worldwide. The common symptoms of coronavirus are coughing, difficulty breathing and fever and the incubation period is between 2 to 14 days.

Infections can cause more severe symptoms, and in some cases have been fatal, in people with weakened immune systems, older people and those with long-term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease.

The World Health Organisation has [issued public advice](#) on what everybody can do to limit their exposure to COVID-19.

### World Archery's position

The health and safety of athletes, officials and event hosts is a priority. World Archery is monitoring official information on COVID-19 from health authorities and assessing the possible impact on the archery family.

The International Olympic Committee has been clear in its statement that the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games will proceed as planned this summer. Advice from worldwide authorities has prioritised general good practice in health and transmission prevention over cancellation of events.

World Archery will continue to organise international events as planned until given a specific directive from the public health authority in the relevant region otherwise. Steps will be taken to ensure events do not have a negative impact on the health of participants and that any disruption to athletes and athletes' preparation for Tokyo 2020 is minimised.

World Archery's policy as the outbreak progresses is to follow the advice of the World Health Organisation and directives from public health authorities.

### Information sources

The following official sources are being used by the International Olympic Committee. World Archery is following the advice of the World Health Organisation.

[World Health Organisation](#) – situation reports and latest research on COVID-19.

[SOS International](#) – travel restrictions, flight operations and screening.

[CDC \(USA\)](#) – situation by country in destination lists.

## Status of international events

The health of athletes and officials is a priority for World Archery. The federation is following the latest advice from the World Health Organisation, International Olympic Committee and the responsible authorities in the host countries of respective international events.

Any news on tournament status will be issued on the news section of the World Archery website at [www.worldarchery.sport/news](http://www.worldarchery.sport/news). Significant changes in status will be detailed in an updated version of this document.

### Cancellations/postponements

As of 10 March 2020, one stage of the Hyundai Archery World Cup has been postponed and replaced with an alternative venue. Shanghai was due to host the second stage in May 2020 but will now host the Hyundai Archery World Cup Final. Antalya will instead host the second stage.

As of 10 March 2020, World Archery has been notified of the postponement of the ISSF International Solidarity Championships due to take place in Dhaka in March.

### Upcoming major events

#### **Asia Cup leg 1 – Bangkok, Thailand – 8-15 March 2020 (RUNNING)**

The world ranking event has already begun.

#### **Pan American Championships – Monterrey, Mexico – 23-29 March 2020 (PLANNED)**

The championships and Olympic and Paralympic qualifier are scheduled to run as planned.

#### **Oceania Championships – Fiji– 5-9 April 2020 (PLANNED)**

The championships and Olympic qualifier are scheduled to run as planned.

#### **European Para Archery Championships – Olbia, Italy – 18-26 April 2020 (MONITORED)**

All sporting events have been stopped in Italy until 3 April 2020. The situation is evolving.

#### **Hyundai Archery World Cup stage 1 – Guatemala City, Guatemala – 20-26 April 2020 (PLANNED)**

The event is scheduled to run as planned. World Archery has been in dialogue with the organisers and Guatemalan authorities. It is possible that the event will be closed to spectators. The recommendations for event hosts included in this document will be implemented.

#### **Hyundai Archery World Cup stage 2 – Antalya, Turkey – 11-17 May 2020 (PLANNED)**

The event is scheduled to run as planned. The recommendations for event hosts included in this document will be implemented.

#### **European Championships – Antalya, Turkey – 20-26 May 2020 (PLANNED)**

The championships are scheduled to run as planned.

**Hyundai Archery World Cup stage 3 – Berlin, Germany – 21-27 June 2020 (PLANNED)**

The event and Olympic qualifier are scheduled to run as planned. The recommendations for event hosts included in this document will be implemented.

**Olympic Games – Tokyo, Japan – 24 July – 1 August 2020 (PLANNED)**

The International Olympic Committee and Tokyo 2020 have stated that they expect the Games to go ahead as planned.

**Paralympic Games – Tokyo, Japan – 28 August – 5 September (PLANNED)**

The International Paralympic Committee and Tokyo 2020 have stated that they expect the Games to go ahead as planned.

**World Archery Field Championships – Yankton, USA – 15-20 September (PLANNED)**

The championships are scheduled to run as planned.

## Advice for tournament organisers

The following advice is mandatory at all World Archery events until otherwise notified. This includes stages of the Hyundai Archery World Cup and world championships.

The following advice is advisable for all other tournament organisers, including those of continental championships, world ranking events or national events.

### Decisions regarding postponement or cancellation

The postponement or cancellation of events is not within the control of hosts, World Archery or the archery community but is caused by the ongoing developments as a result of Covid-19 in different regions of the world and subsequent decisions made by public health authorities.

The cancellation of events without recommendation from public health authorities is discouraged as, according to the World Health Organisation, these measures are likely to have limited benefit in containing the outbreak.

### Prevention measures

Events that take place should take additional precautions regarding the welfare of participants. This primarily revolves around the promotion of everyday preventive action and is based on the advice from the CDC in the USA:

- Promote the practice of everyday preventative actions.
- Provide COVID-19 prevention supplies.
- Plan for staff absences.
- Promote messages that encourages people to self-monitor and take appropriate action.
- If possible, identify a space that can used to isolate participants who feel ill.
- Limit unnecessary person-to-person contact.

Example poster resources are included at the back of this handbook.

Prevention supplies that should be supplied include hand sanitiser or hand washing materials, tissues, closed bins and, where possible, disposable face masks only for those showing symptoms of infection.

The shaking of hands during matches and ceremonies will not be banned. However, unless person-to-person contact is absolutely necessary, it is advised that such actions are avoided.

### Contingency planning

It is important to identify the authorities that will make any decisions regarding the postponement or cancellation of the tournament, identify which stakeholders may need to know about the event (including relevant local healthcare providers) and to have in place contingency plans if changes to the event have to be made.

Stay informed on the COVID-19 situation, ensure contact details for all participants are kept maintained (through team leaders at international events) and communicate regularly on the situation and any procedures in place to mitigate concerns from participants and effectively deal with on-site issues.

Contingency plans to consider include but are not limited to:

- Procedure if participant displays symptoms of COVID-19.
- Procedure if participant tests positive for COVID-19.
- Key staff replacement plan.
- Stakeholder communication plan.
- Participant communication plan.
- Procedure for postponement or cancellation of event.
- Facility requirement if participants are present at time of postponement or cancellation.

Some countries have already banned spectators from sporting events. The impact of this on the organisation of a tournament should be carefully considered, in case such a directive is issued by a relevant public health authority.

## Advice for team managers/federations

World Archery is in contact with the organisers of international events to ensure they are preparing in a manner that best safeguards the welfare of all participants. Hosts are working diligently so that events take place safely.

Teams are encouraged to continue to participate in events, ensuring that the basic preventative measures that have been recommended worldwide are being followed both at events and while athletes and officials are training at home.

### Communication

It is essential that team managers are contactable at all times and able to contact all members of their team at all times during events. An off-site back-up contact is also recommended.

Team managers should be responsible for communicating preventative measures and encouraging team members to self-monitor and take appropriate actions if displaying symptoms.

### Travel restrictions

Restrictions on travel are being implemented by some countries. This is outside the control of World Archery, event organisers and national federations.

World Archery is monitoring the ongoing situation with restrictions and ensuring that alternative measures are being taken when these might affect Olympic or Paralympic qualification or any athlete's ability to achieve the minimum qualifying standard for the Games.

### Event postponement or cancellation

The object is to host all events as planned unless public health authorities or governments in the relevant country issue a directive not to stage the event. There is no prior deadline at which an event can no longer be postponed or cancelled.

If an event is postponed or cancelled:

- All athletes and officials will be automatically withdrawn. No action is required.
- No penalty fees will apply.
- Any participants already on site may require logistic assistance. World Archery is encouraging event organisers to contingency plan for this scenario and be prepared to assist teams if required.
- Event hosts will not be held accountable for the cost of flight tickets or hotel bookings (as long as the cancellation is done under directive). Member associations are encouraged to ensure their insurance is comprehensive.

If a replacement event is scheduled:

- A new invitation package will be issued.
- New entry deadlines will be set and communicated.
- The entry process will begin from the beginning.



## Advice for athletes and officials

The advice of the World Health Organisation is that washing your hands is the best way to protect yourself against infection. While event organisers are being asked to provide increase hand washing facilities, you should also always try to carry hand sanitiser and tissues.

If you feel unwell or have the symptoms of COVID-19 – coughing, sneezing or fever – then seek medical help early. It is your responsibility to help protect the health of others.

### Wash your hands

This advice is taken from the [World Health Organisation](#).

- Wash your hands regularly.
- Wash your hands with soap and water, then dry them thoroughly.
- Use alcohol-based handrub if you don't have immediate access to soap and water.

Washing your hands properly takes at least 20 seconds – or singing 'Happy Birthday' twice.



## FAQ

### **Where should I find information on COVID-19?**

Official information on the outbreak can be found through public health authorities. Details on event or travel restrictions are issued by governments. World Archery is following the advice of the [World Health Organisation](#), and issues statements and updates on the COVID-19 situation and its impact on the archery community.

### **What advice has World Archery given to event organisers?**

World Archery is maintaining close contact with all organisers. They are being advised to continue preparations for their events as normal unless directives are issued from public health authorities that state otherwise. The objective is to host all events.

World Archery is working with continental associations to ensure information is provided to participants. Event organisers at all levels are encouraged to consider their understanding, the additional precautions and contingency planning that COVID-19 might require.

### **How will the postponement or cancellation of events affect Olympic and Paralympic qualification?**

World Archery is not planning to make any adjustments to the qualification procedures for Tokyo 2020. Any change would affect all athletes worldwide, positively or negatively, and at this stage with the current level of postponement and cancellation, World Archery does not believe that making a change would be appropriate. It will be communicated if this changes.

So far, only one Olympic or Paralympic qualification event is being monitored in case an adjustment might be needed. This is the European Para Championships in Olbia, Italy, which will act as the European qualification event for the Paralympic Games.

It is unfortunate that some events will have to be postponed or cancelled and understood that these might have been part of an athlete's plans to obtain the minimum qualification score or national selection or have another impact.

World Archery is working with any member association that raises a significant issue to make alternative arrangements.

### **What refunds will be received if an international event is postponed or cancelled?**

If an international event is postponed or cancelled under the direction of a public health authority or government, the organiser will not be held responsible for the cost of flight tickets and hotel accommodation.

World Archery encourages member association to ensure their insurance coverage is comprehensive and that during this period of uncertainty, refundable or changeable flight bookings are considered.

Event organisers should discuss possible solutions with hotel providers as part of their contingency planning, however member associations and participants may be liable according to the booking conditions detailed in their reservations.

**Will athletes and judges shake hands before a match?**

The [current advice](#) from the World Health Organisation is to regularly wash your hand, maintain at least one metre (three feet) distance from anyone coughing or sneezing and practise good respiratory hygiene.

World Archery will not ban the shaking of hands but advises that unless person-to-person is necessary it should be avoided.

## Resources

The following resources are taken from the World Health Organisation or public health authorities. Contact the relevant health authority in your region for localised versions.

[How to handwash?](#) (World Health Organisation)

[How to handrub?](#) (World Health Organisation)

[Hygiene materials](#) (CDC)