

COVID-19 PROTECTIVE MEASURES RECOMMENDATION FOR SURF SPORTS IN SWITZER- LAND

Authors Richard Glaab, Sandro Santschi & Kevin Gygax
 Contact details richard.glaab@wavriding.ch; sandro.santschi@waveriding.ch;
kevin.gygax@waveriding.ch
 Classification Not classified
 Version 2.0
 Date of publication 27. April 2020

APPROVAL

Inspection Authority	Release point	Date	Initials

MODIFICATION CONTROL

This page shows the revision status of this document. With each change, a new edition is created.

Version	Revision	Author	Date
0.1	First version	Kevin Gygax	24.04.2020
0.2	Inputs Wake Surfing by Tobias Müller	Kevin Gygax	24.04.2020
0.3	Controlling Benedek Sarkany	Benedek Sarkany	25.04.2020
0.4	Supplements of Public	Sandro Santschi	26.04.2020
0.5	Inputs Urbansurf	Kevin Gygax	26.04.2020
1.0	First Version	Kevin Gygax	26.04.2020
1.1	Inputs Urbansurf	Kevin Gygax	27.04.2020
2.0	Final Version	Kevin Gygax	27.04.2020

CONTENT

1	Initial Position	3
2	Goals of Swiss Surfing.....	3
3	Scope of Application	3
4	Risik Assessment und Triage	4
4.1	Symptoms of Disease.....	4
4.2	Age Groups and People with Disabilities.....	4
5	Journey, Arrival and Departure to and from the Training	4
5.1	Travel to and from the Training Location.....	4
6	Infrastructure.....	4
6.1	Space Conditions / Training location conditions	4
6.2	Changing Clothes / Shower / Toilets	5
6.3	Cleaning (of the Sports Facility)	5
6.4	Catering (e.g. Café in the Clubhouse, Vending Machines, etc.)	5
6.5	Payment.....	5
6.6	Accessibility and Organisation to and within the Infrastructure.....	5
6.7	Distribution of several Groups in larger Sports Facilities including Water Areas	6
6.8	Requirements for Customer Information	6
7	Forms of Training, Contents and Organisation	6
7.1	Compliance with the overriding Principles in adequate or adapted Training.....	6
7.2	Material	7
7.3	Risk/Accident Behaviour	7
7.4	Written Protocol of the Participating	7
8	Responsibility for Implementation on Site	7
8.1	Monitoring, Commitment and Role Clarification	7
9	Communication of the Protection Concept	8
9.1	Recommendation for Communication within Associations / Sports Organisations	8
10	Supplementary Provisions for Activities in Public Areas / Public Water	8



1 INITIAL POSITION

Emergency law is currently in force in Switzerland, namely COVID-19 Ordinance 2 of 16.03.2020, which describes superordinate measures that the population must comply with until further notice:

- Ban on assemblies of more than five people
- Prohibition of association activities
- Closure of leisure and sports facilities

Furthermore, the Federal Office of Public Health has issued hygiene and distance rules which must also be observed (not exhaustive):

- Minimum distance of two metres between two persons
- Wash hands regularly and thoroughly
- Stay at home

2 GOALS OF SWISS SURFING

The aim of the present concept is to show how organised sports activities can be resumed within the framework of the overriding protective measures that are still in force. The aim is to enable sportsmen and women to practise their sport without incurring increased risks of infection with the virus.

Swiss Surfing aims to achieve the following goals:

- Our recommendations, rules, instructions and our actions comply with the official requirements.
- There are simple rules, clear recommendations and favourable solutions for individual sportsmen, clubs and private, commercially operated surfing facilities.
- Instructors can return to their profession.

Our message to the public is clear: "We are and will remain in solidarity, we adhere strictly to the guidelines and we do not want any special regulation". The exemplary behaviour of all sportsmen and women serves the surf sport and its related sports, such as wakesurfing, bungee surfing, etc.

3 SCOPE OF APPLICATION

The protective measures apply to all surfing and related activities, hereinafter referred to as surfing or surfing. The following activities are meant by this term (list not exhaustive):

- River wave surfing
- Wake Surfing
- Surfing in a surf centre
- Surfing training, such as paddling in a public body of water
- Bungee Surfing
- ...



4 RISIK ASSESSMENT UND TRIAGE

4.1 SYMPTOMS OF DISEASE

The association or the management will inform all members, customers and persons with access to the sports facility in advance that persons with symptoms of illness may not participate in the sports activities. All persons with symptoms of illness (leaders and participants) stay at home or go into isolation. They call their doctor and follow his or her instructions. The affected training group is informed immediately.

4.2 AGE GROUPS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Basically there is no physical contact during surfing activities. Organized surfing activities are limited within the scope of this protection concept to activities with persons who are not dependent on assistance from third parties. Such individuals (e.g. children, people with disabilities, senior citizens) can participate in the activities if the assistance can be provided by a person from their own household, otherwise the distance and hygiene rules in the group cannot be observed. In exceptional cases, assistance can also be provided by an external person, e.g. a supervisor/instructor at a surfing facility. This person must, however, expressly adhere to the "Standard protection concept for establishments with personal services with physical contact under Covid-19". The maximum group size is based on the federal government's guidelines and may not be exceeded. Organised activities are surfing activities offered by clubs, surfing facilities and wakesurfing providers.

5 JOURNEY, ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TO AND FROM THE TRAINING

5.1 TRAVEL TO AND FROM THE TRAINING LOCATION

The journey to the training location is preferably made individually on foot, by bicycle or by private car. It is recommended to avoid using public transport wherever possible. Anyone who still travels by public transport must comply with the applicable measures and recommendations of the federal government and the respective transport companies. Sports activities are preferably held in the immediate vicinity of the club location or sports facility. Excursions and tours to more distant areas are not permitted; travel in club buses or similar is not permitted. In case of unavoidable transportation, the following priority applies:

1. individual transport with private vehicles.
2. group transport exclusively with persons from the same household in private vehicles.

6 INFRASTRUCTURE

6.1 SPACE CONDITIONS / TRAINING LOCATION CONDITIONS

Organised surfing activities take place exclusively in groups of the maximum number of people prescribed by the government. In the case of activities with a guide, the guide is counted as part of the maximum group size. A supervisor who is not directly involved in the activity does not count as part of the group size.

The place where the activity is carried out is chosen in such a way that compliance with the minimum distance stipulated by the Confederation is guaranteed at all times. If the athlete is dependent on the assistance of an additional person, the requirements of the "Standard Protection Concept for establishments providing personalised services involving physical contact under Covid-19" must be complied with. If these

rules cannot be met, no activities will take place. If the local conditions do not allow the distance rules to be adhered to when entering and leaving the vehicle, the entry and exit must be phased. If possible, entry and exit as well as boarding and disembarking should be separated. After the end of the activity, the participants leave the facility within a few minutes.

6.2 CHANGING CLOTHES / SHOWER / TOILETS

The Rules of the FOPH are placed prominently at entrances/doors, if necessary in several languages. Changing rooms/closets remain closed. Changing is done outside, for example with a poncho. Showers may not be used. The use of toilets must be staggered (only one person per toilet).

6.3 CLEANING (OF THE SPORTS FACILITY)

The following cleaning requirements apply to all infrastructure used in commercial facilities:

- Cleaning of frequently used surfaces (e.g. door handles, light switches): Before and after the activity by the managing person or by a cleaning person to be determined by the operator of the facility
- Cleaning of toilet and toilet fittings: Several times a day by a cleaning person to be determined by the operator of the site. If this is not possible, the toilet must be closed.
- Complete cleaning of all surfaces etc.: at least twice a week by a cleaning person to be determined by the operator of the facility.
- Waste bins are closed if possible. Waste must be disposed of at home. If a facility operator refrains from closing waste bins, for example because he fears that the water will be polluted, he must follow the standard protection concept for facilities with person-related services with physical contact under COVID-19. This means, for example, that the waste bins must be emptied regularly with gloves.

Note: According to the press conference of the Federal Council on the exit strategy from the corona lockdown on 16 April 2020, chlorine-treated swimming pools (or surfing facilities) and free water do not pose a risk of transmitting the virus.

6.4 CATERING (E.G. CAFÉ IN THE CLUBHOUSE, VENDING MACHINES, ETC.)

Catering in clubhouses and terraces is prohibited until further notice and the federal government's regulations for catering apply. Kitchens and lounges remain closed. For sports facilities and clubhouses with catering facilities, the federal guidelines for catering apply.

6.5 PAYMENT

Payments for services will be accepted by electronic means of payment where possible. Cash should be avoided.

6.6 ACCESSIBILITY AND ORGANISATION TO AND WITHIN THE INFRASTRUCTURE

If possible, access should be limited to the installation. Access to the sports facility/supply depot is only granted separately. In total, only the maximum permitted number of persons stipulated by the Federal Government may be present at the sports facility/supply depot. Where necessary, distance markings will be placed on the floor. The persons in charge are responsible for compliance with these rules. Activities/trainings of different groups will be staggered. A strict separation of the individual training groups is ensured. The operator issues guidelines that reduce the number of people meeting one after the other to a minimum. For example, for a reservation of one hour, the surfing time is usually only 45 minutes. If a certain number of people are on the premises, access will be blocked. Reservations are mandatory for surfing

facilities and wakesurf providers - spontaneous gatherings of people are not allowed. Hand disinfectant is available at all times. The release of access to public places is up to the responsible authorities, prohibitions have to be respected.

6.7 DISTRIBUTION OF SEVERAL GROUPS IN LARGER SPORTS FACILITIES INCLUDING WATER AREAS

The persons responsible for an activity must agree among themselves beforehand regarding:

- Start time
- Place of performance
- Duration of the sports activity

The meeting of several groups, e.g. on the water, must be avoided under all circumstances. The participants must be informed of the agreements by the leaders and may only leave the intended place of performance with the explicit permission of the leader.

6.8 REQUIREMENTS FOR CUSTOMER INFORMATION

The specifications are communicated to all members/customers at the time of booking and displayed at the sports facility. The customer will be informed that he/she may be expelled from the facility if the requirements are not met. In addition, the FOPH poster "This is how we protect ourselves" will be displayed (Download: Homepage FOPH). The operator of a surf facility or a provider of wake-surfing activities is responsible for ensuring that a functioning reservation system is in operation (online or by telephone). Furthermore, it is taken care that no guests or tourists can enter the facility - only registered athletes are allowed. Risk groups are not recommended to visit the facility. If the sports facility has a gastronomy area, the procedures for athletes and guests in the catering area must be defined in the operating concept.

7 FORMS OF TRAINING, CONTENTS AND ORGANISATION

7.1 COMPLIANCE WITH THE OVERRIDING PRINCIPLES IN ADEQUATE OR ADAPTED TRAINING

The following general principles apply to the planning of the content of the planned activities:

- Individual training before group training wherever possible, activities/training in groups will be avoided.
- Basic training before special training

The following additional provisions apply to competitive sports:

- Performance tests and training with physical contact are not allowed (e.g. lactate measurements, strength tests).
- Trainers are preferably and whenever possible on the shore, in an accompanying boat or at the edge of the pool.

Vulnerable persons prefer not to take part in organized surfing activities or report to the person in charge before the activity. This person discusses the situation with the group and pays particular attention to observing the rules of distance.

7.2 MATERIAL

The person in charge ensures that sufficient material is available for the participants.

The following priorities must be observed when using material:

- 1st priority: Only own boards, clothing and other material will be used.
- 2nd priority: foreign material is given out individually, is firmly assigned to one person and is not used by anyone else.
- 3rd priority: Foreign material is given out individually if possible and disinfected by the supervising person after use. It must be shown how, where and when the respective materials are disinfected and thus the risk of transmission is minimized.

During the activity, there is no exchange/change of material or other objects whenever possible. If there is an exchange of material between athletes, the material must be cleaned between the change of athletes.

7.3 RISK/ACCIDENT BEHAVIOUR

Basically, only organized activities on waters or in surfing facilities take place whose difficulty can be easily mastered by all participants under the prevailing conditions (weather, water level, personal condition). The focus lies clearly on technique, condition and personal well-being and not on mastering new difficulties or taking unnecessary risks. The aim is to enable the athletes to practice their sport without exposing the athlete or outsiders to an increased risk of infection with the virus.

7.4 WRITTEN PROTOCOL OF THE PARTICIPATING

All persons participating in an organised activity (leaders and participants) must be recorded in written or electronic form. The list must be kept in a place that is accessible at all times so that, in the event of an infection, all contacts of the persons concerned can be quickly traced.

The following data must be visible on the list:

- Date, time and place of the sports activity
- First name, surname and address or telephone number or e-mail of all persons involved

8 RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION ON SITE

8.1 MONITORING, COMMITMENT AND ROLE CLARIFICATION

With this protection concept, Swiss Surfing is recommending how surfing can be carried out in compliance with the higher-level protective measures of the federal government and with the lowest possible risk of infection for all parties involved. The responsibilities for implementing the recommendations are regulated as follows:

1. Overall responsibility for compliance with/proclamation of the protection concept within the organization (club, sports facility, etc.): board of directors and/or executive committee or management of the respective operator
2. Preparation of the infrastructure and adherence to the cleaning concept: association board or facility operator
3. Compliance with the protective measures during an organised group activity: person in charge.

4. Observance of protective measures during individual sports activities: Every sportswoman and sportsman himself. Athletes who train abroad must comply with the guidelines issued by the respective country. Cadre athletes who do not set an example in this respect may be sanctioned.

Clubs/organisations are recommended to obtain a written commitment from the participants in which they undertake to strictly adhere to the protective measures according to the protection concept at all times. It is even better to obtain this commitment online, for example via the General Terms and Conditions when booking the offer.

Every athlete is obliged to act on his or her own responsibility and adheres to the protection concept in solidarity.

9 COMMUNICATION OF THE PROTECTION CONCEPT

Swiss Surfing provides this protection concept including the most important FOPH communication tools (posters) to the following persons personally via e-mail:

- Presidents of all clubs of Swiss Surfing
- Competition organizers from Swiss Surfing
- Trainers

Also be informed personally by e-mail:

- Cadre athletes of the national squad of all levels and sports

Organisations and providers who are informed by e-mail:

- Official partners of Swiss Surfing
- Surfing facilities and commercial wakesurf providers

Additional communication measures:

- Special newsletter to all Swiss Surfing newsletter subscribers
- The protection concept can be downloaded from the website www.waveriding.ch
- Publication of the protection concept via social media (Facebook, Instagram)

9.1 RECOMMENDATION FOR COMMUNICATION WITHIN ASSOCIATIONS / SPORTS ORGANISATIONS

Each organisation nominates a COVID-19 representative who is the first point of contact for the implementation of all measures within the organisation and who is available to answer questions from members, participants or customers.

10 SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS FOR ACTIVITIES IN PUBLIC AREAS / PUBLIC WATER

As stated in 5.6, the accessibility and use of public spaces and waters is the responsibility of the competent authorities. Individual athletes in public areas are requested to respect the official regulations. In this way, the positive public perception of surfing is promoted and the accessibility of training facilities is maintained.

Where local organised groups (clubs, interest groups etc.) are present, proactive contact with the responsible authorities is recommended. In consultation with the authorities, protective measures can be taken:

Namely awareness-raising campaigns in the communities, in social networks and, in particular, locally. Placing distance markings for surfers and/or the public and hanging up FOPH posters.