



Grassroots Trust Velodrome,
15 Hanlin Rd, Cambridge
PO Box 1110, Cambridge 3450,
New Zealand
P: +64 7 823 0716
www.cyclingnewzealand.nz

Event Risk Assessment & Recommendation UCI MTB WORLD CUP, Lenzerheide, Switzerland

Form Completed by
Date(s) of Information collected
Assessment reviewed by:

Shanelle Barrett
13/6/2022
Monica Robbers – 28 June 2022

Event Details	
Event Name(s)	UCI MTB WORLD CUP, Lenzerheide, Switzerland https://thevelodrome.com/race/training/visiting-athletes/
Date of Event	8-10 July 2022
Location of Event including Country	Lenzerheide, Switzerland
Event website	https://www.bikekingdomgames.ch/en
Organiser	LOC: Bike Kingdom Events email: mtbworldcup@lenzerheide.swiss
Sanctioning body	UCI
GENERAL TRAVEL INFORMATION	
Current NZ government travel recommendations	<p>www.safetravel.govt.nz</p> <p>9/3/2022 This COVID-19 travel advice applies to all international travel, in all destinations. If you are planning international travel at this time, please read this advice alongside our destination specific travel advisories.</p> <p>In line with step two of the Government’s 5-step plan to re-open New Zealand’s borders , at 11:59pm on Friday 4th of March 2022, we removed the SafeTravel global ‘Do not travel’ advisory and returned to issuing destination-specific travel advisories.</p> <p>While our borders have reopened for fully vaccinated New Zealand citizens, it is important to remember that international travel is different now. Travel has become more complicated and there are additional things you need to think about when planning your trip overseas.</p> <p>Although many countries now have increasingly high vaccination numbers, any country could continue to experience a sudden outbreak of COVID-19. This may include the emergence of new variants of concern, which may lead to the sudden imposition of strict travel restrictions or health measures that could</p>

	<p>impact upon your travel plans, and your travel insurance. If you're heading overseas, it's important you think about the risks of contracting COVID-19 in your destination. This may mean that you have to remain overseas for longer than you had planned, which may have financial implications for you. We recommend that all New Zealand travellers make contingency plans in case disruptions mean you need to support yourself overseas for longer than you planned.</p> <p>All travellers also need to be aware of the requirements for returning to New Zealand. You can read more about that on the Unite Against COVID-19 website here.</p> <p>We advise that New Zealanders overseas follow local health advice and use basic hygiene measures to minimise the risk of exposure. The Ministry of Health provides useful information about protecting yourself and others from COVID-19</p>
<p>Current host country government travel recommendations</p>	<p>Exercise increased caution Exercise increased caution in Switzerland. https://www.safetravel.govt.nz/switzerland</p>
<p>Current requirements to enter country</p>	<p>There are currently no entry restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. No proof of vaccination, recovery or testing is required for entry into Switzerland</p> <p>https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/ausbrueche-epidemien-pandemien/aktuelle-ausbrueche-epidemien/novel-cov/empfehlungen-fuer-reisende.html</p>
<p>Current requirements to return to NZ</p>	<p>The following people can enter New Zealand now from anywhere in the world and self-test on arrival with 2x RATS tests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccinated and unvaccinated New Zealand citizens • Vaccinated and unvaccinated New Zealand residents • Vaccinated Australian citizens and permanent residents • Unvaccinated Australian citizens who live in New Zealand • Current temporary work and student visa holders, with a valid visa who can still meet their visa requirements. This includes both visa holders currently offshore, and those in New Zealand who choose to travel overseas and wish to return • Up to 5,000 international students, for semester 2 • Vaccinated travellers with a border exception • Vaccinated travellers on a working holiday scheme • Vaccinated travellers from countries who do not need a visa (visa waiver visitors) • Vaccinated travellers from other countries who already hold a valid visitor visa • Other vaccinated eligible travellers under current border settings

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	https://covid19.govt.nz/international-travel/travel-to-new-zealand/when-new-zealand-borders-open/#who-can-enter-new-zealand-now
Does travelling to the event include any likely stop overs that present any risk?	Depending on airline, but there are restricted airlines available at this point in time. This would need to be checked when booking flights as it depends on which country you are entering and there may be a requirement for testing.
Travel and health insurance requirements	Take out comprehensive medical insurance, including cover for hospitalisation and medical evacuation. Make sure it covers your personal circumstances, both for pre-existing conditions and the activities you plan to undertake.
Any Terrorism, Social and Political Situation that present any risk at the location of the event	<p>Terrorism</p> <p>There is an underlying threat of terrorism in Switzerland. Terrorist groups, including those based in Syria and Iraq, continue to make threats to conduct attacks in Europe.</p> <p>New Zealanders in Switzerland are advised to keep themselves informed of potential risks to safety and security by monitoring the media and other local information sources. We recommend following any instructions issued by the local authorities and exercising vigilance in public places.</p>
COVID-19 Information at Event and Destination	
A summary of the current Covid-19 environment and government response strategy.	<p>https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/switzerland/</p> <p>Current Daily Cases = 2000-3000 Peak Jan 2022 48,500 daily cases</p>
MIQ requirements at destination	There is no isolation or quarantine rules in Switzerland
Contract Tracing requirements	There is no Covid 19 protocol
Public gathering/Event restrictions and stay-at-home requirements at the destination	<p>If you want to continue to protect yourself, you can follow these basic principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Get vaccinated - Wear a face mask - Ventilate several times a day - Cough and sneeze into a tissue or the crook of your arm - Wash or sanitise your hands thoroughly - Support for those with long COVID, concerns or suffering loneliness <p>https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/ausbrueche-epidemien-pandemien/aktuelle-ausbrueche-epidemien/novel-cov/so-schuetzen-wir-uns.html</p>
Internal movement restrictions at destination and transit locations.	no restrictions

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Public transport etc	
Event Plans	
<p>What standard protocols does the event have in place to address Covid-19:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing • Gathering numbers • PPE • Vaccination requirements • Pre and during event testing 	<p>With Switzerland lifting all restrictions regarding Covid19 the event has no specific measures in place.</p>
<p>What standard protocols does the event have in place to address your safety:</p> <p>Eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medical coverage • Security • Emergency response • Official practice or training times. 	<p>Unknown at this stage</p>
<p>Any other residue concerns that the event has not addressed in regards to event management and/or COVID management?</p>	<p><i>If your pre-departure test is positive, but you believe this is because of a historical COVID-19 infection, you need to see a medical practitioner who will examine you for current symptoms of COVID-19.</i></p> <p><i>If they are confident you do not currently have a COVID-19 infection, you will need them to provide:</i></p> <p><i>a medical certificate with the date of your previous positive test, within 48 hours of your first international flight and documentation stating that they consider you as no longer being infectious with COVID-19.</i></p> <p><i>If you have tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 3 months, book your medical examination in advance of receiving your test results.</i></p> <p><i>You should also check with your airlines about any regulations they may have in place regarding past COVID-19 infections.</i></p>

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	<p>You are still required to provide a current valid pre-departure test if you have recovered from COVID-19.</p> <p>https://covid19.govt.nz/international-travel/travel-to-new-zealand/pre-departure-tests-to-enter-new-zealand/</p>
Medical	
Current pressure on local health system that may impact your ability to receive medical support in the event of an injury.	<p>Switzerland announced the lifting of all remaining Covid-19 pandemic restrictions as of April 1. The “acute phase” of the pandemic is over, said authorities. New infections have been falling and fears have subsided that Covid-related hospitalisations may overwhelm the healthcare system.</p> <p>https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/covid-19_coronavirus--the-situation-in-switzerland/45592192</p>
Athlete health check prior to travel	<p><i>The UCI do not have any requirements for pre-health checks prior to competing in an international event, aside from the COVID requirements as stipulated by the event. It is however recommended by Cycling NZ that all riders have a medical check from either a HPSNZ doctor or their local GP to identify any underlying medical conditions that could be additional risk if they were to contract COVID19 prior to leaving NZ.</i></p>
Recommendation for self-health checks while at event	<p>Self-manage for any COVID19 symptoms</p>
Assessment Summary and Recommendations	

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The key points:

- COVID19 is currently relatively low in Switzerland. The government has reduced many measures/restrictions as well.
- The NZ Government is easing COVID restrictions on travel, however this can change at short notice as we have seen in the past.

It is important to note:

- COVID19 is still an unknown virus and can escalate extremely quickly, this could result in difficulty in getting back home to NZ should there be an outbreak and also treatment at a hospital could be impacted for not only COVID19 related symptoms but other injuries.
- If an athlete contracts COVID19 they will be required to isolate for 10 days, which is a financial risk as well as impacting training significantly for future events

Given the above it is recommended that this event is deemed:

ORANGE – Based on the information available, there are some moderate to high risks of attending this event outside of what should be reasonable accepted for international travel. All those wishing to receive an entry/accreditation or selection should complete an informed consent form and will be required to adequately and appropriately be able to demonstrate their understanding of this additional risk and their plans in place to mitigate the. These risks are as follows:

1. There is no requirement to isolate if you catch COVID19 so this could increase the chance of contracting COVID19, but need to be aware of next destinations requirements if COVID19 is contracted
2. Ability to stay in Switzerland or in another country for an extended period of time if the NZ government decides to change the border status
3. If you contract COVID-19 and want to return to NZ you may still return a positive pre-departure PCR test so a medical certificate will be required within 48 hours prior to travel

Recommendation approved by Independent Risk Assessor: Shanelle Barrett

Signed:



Date: 27 June 2022

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