



# **EVENT OPERATIONS PROTOCOL**

**WATKINS GLEN INTERNATIONAL**

**June 23 – 26, 2022**

# INTRODUCTION

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To IMSA Competitors, Team Members, and Support Staff -

As we converge on the picturesque Finger Lakes region of New York for the third round of the Michelin Endurance Cup, all of us at IMSA would like to say thank you to all of you, who have made our season thus far such a success.

Watkins Glen International will see the largest IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship field since 2014, with 49 cars entered for the six-hour race which will serve as the seventh event of the 2022 WeatherTech Championship season.

In addition to the WeatherTech Championship, four additional championships will be on the card at Watkins Glen; the IMSA Michelin Pilot Challenge, Lamborghini Super Trofeo, Porsche Carrera Cup North America and the Idemitsu Mazda MX-5 Cup presented by BFGoodrich. Best of luck to all participating in their respective championships.

Off the track, and since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, IMSA continues to employ a tailored operating framework incorporating CDC guidance and developed with the advice of consulting physicians to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection.

These protocols have evolved as conditions have changed and we will continue adjusting our protocols to preserve our ability to conduct events as safely as possible. As you travel to New York, we strongly encourage you to review and apply the succeeding Event Operations Protocol information.

While conditions around COVID-19 have seen general improvement, Community Levels in the Watkins Glen area are classified as Moderate. Thus, per the CDC's guidance, mask wear will not be required while indoors in public. In addition, proof of vaccination for event entry also will not be required. For more detailed information on mask wear and the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), reference page 7 of this document.

We thank you, once again, for your cooperation and diligence in helping to keep our event operations safe. Please continue to stay safe and healthy and best of luck in your respective events at the Sahlen's Six Hours of the Glen.

Sincerely,



John Doonan  
President, IMSA

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# INDIVIDUAL RESPONSIBILITIES

## FAMILIARIZATION

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Prior to an IMSA event, every participant must review and familiarize themselves with the IMSA Event Operations Protocol as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) COVID-19 awareness and prevention links noted within.

Also, prior to participating in an IMSA event, every participant must complete a COVID-19 waiver, which is accomplished as part of your IMSA credential registration process.

## HEALTH MONITORING / RISK MITIGATION

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Certain populations may be at increased personal risk regarding COVID-19, including people over 65 and people with underlying medical conditions such as chronic lung disease, asthma, heart disease, severe obesity, diabetes, etc.

IMSA strongly recommends that participants who meet the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) definition of “People Who Are at Higher Risk of Severe Illness” (link below) consult with their physician prior to participation in the event.

- [People Who Are at Higher Risk for Severe Illness](#)

Participants must be symptom- and fever-free for a minimum of twenty-four (24) hours before the event without the use of Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen or similar drugs used to prevent or reduce fever.

Individuals with a confirmed COVID-19 infection, with known exposure to a confirmed COVID-19 case in the last five (5) days, exhibiting physical symptoms of COVID-19 or experiencing a fever must consult with their physician and will not access an IMSA event. A “known exposure” to COVID-19 is defined by the (CDC) via the link below.

- [“Known Exposure” to COVID-19](#)

Participants should report to their immediate supervisor if they meet any of the criteria listed above. Organizations, through the appropriate organizational contact, are required to report to the IMSA Member Services Department or Racing Operations Department if a participant is directed to self-isolate due to known COVID-19 exposure or if a participant receives a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19. Proper IMSA contacts are below:

- Ryan McLean / Senior Coordinator, Medical Liaison  
386.285.6913 (cell) [rmclean@imsa.com](mailto:rmclean@imsa.com)
- Simon Hodgson / VP Competition, Racing Operations  
386.453.0494 (cell) [shodgson@imsa.com](mailto:shodgson@imsa.com)

All COVID-19 exposures and known infections must be reported to IMSA within 24 hours.

## EVENT TRAVEL RECOMMENDATIONS

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Participants should avoid situations that increase potential exposure to COVID-19. A complete list of CDC domestic travel recommendations can be accessed via the link below.

- [Domestic Travel During COVID-19](#)

## INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

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Last fall, IMSA distributed a communication outlining the *Presidential Proclamation Advancing the Safe Resumption of Global Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic* which outlined U.S. travel policy that requires full vaccination for foreign national travelers to enter the United States. This policy remains in effect today.

In addition, as we have previously communicated, per the *Office of Field Operations for U.S. Customs and Border Protection*, all previously-issued National Interest Exceptions (NIEs) or 212(f) waivers, regardless of stated validity or issuing authority, would be void as of November 8, 2021. This also remains the case today.

As you travel to New York, we want to reiterate the current non-citizen, non-immigrant travel requirements for travel to the U.S. as established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

- All travelers must be fully-vaccinated to travel to the U.S. by plane. Only extremely limited exceptions apply.
- Travelers who have received only one (1) dose of an accepted two (2) dose series and have recovered from COVID-19 do not meet the U.S. definition of fully-vaccinated and are not considered fully-vaccinated.

Regarding land travel, foreign nationals crossing land borders with Canada and Mexico or arriving to the U.S. by passenger ferry are required to be fully-vaccinated. These travelers must be prepared to attest to vaccination status and present proof of vaccination to a United States Customs and Boarder Protection (CBP) officer.

Lastly, as a reminder, all travelers must continue to be prepared to present to U.S. Customs valid travel/entry documents (i.e., passport, visa, ESTA, etc.). For more information on travel to the United States, please visit the helpful links below.

- [International Travel \(U.S. Citizens, etc.\)](#)
- [International Travel \(Non-U.S. Citizens, etc.\)](#)

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

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Per the CDC's latest guidance, masks will not be required at IMSA events in counties in which Community Levels are designated as Low or Medium risk. Watkins Glen International resides in Schuyler County, New York and maintains a Community Level of Moderate. As such, [mask wear is not required indoors in public at Watkins Glen International](#).

Should Community Levels in Schuyler County, become designated as Low or High risk, IMSA will communicate adjustments to PPE protocol including possible relaxation of the mask wear recommendation. Participants are always welcome to wear a mask at any time. If you are at high risk for severe illness, talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take additional precautions.

## EXPOSURE / INFECTION

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### Exposure:

- In accordance with CDC guidance, participants who have been boosted or completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last six (6) months or completed the primary series of the J&J vaccine within the last two (2) months must: wear a mask around others for ten (10) days, test on day five if possible, and if symptoms develop, seek testing, and do not attend IMSA events.
- Participants who have completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccines over six (6) months ago and are not boosted or completed the primary series of J&J over two (2) months ago and are not boosted or are unvaccinated must stay at home for five (5) days, wear a mask around others for an additional (5) days, test on day five if possible, and if symptoms develop, seek testing and do not attend IMSA events.

### Infection:

- Participants who test positive for COVID-19 must self-isolate for a minimum of five (5) days.
- Participants may return to events five (5) days after the date of symptom onset, provided they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing drugs, and other symptoms are improving. Mask wear is recommended around others for an additional five (5) days upon return.

### Vaccinated Persons:

- Participants are considered fully-vaccinated (i.e., greater than (2) weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or greater than (2) weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as the Johnson & Johnson (J&J) vaccine.

For more information on accepted COVID-19 vaccines and proof of vaccination, please visit the helpful link below.

- [Accepted COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

# ORGANIZATION / FACILITY RESPONSIBILITIES



## EXPOSURES / INFECTIONS / REPORTING

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To protect participants and safeguard the entire IMSA Industry against spread of the virus, IMSA must respond immediately to COVID-19 positives and known exposures to COVID-19. Comprehensive contact tracing is key to maintaining the ongoing operations of the sport and depends on cooperation amongst everyone.

- Organizations must immediately report to the IMSA Member Services Department or Racing Operations Department if a participant is diagnosed with COVID-19 or has had a known exposure.
- Reports of suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases within the industry must be reported, via the appropriate organizational contact, to the IMSA Member Services Department or Racing Operations Department. Proper IMSA contacts below:
  - Ryan McLean / Senior Coordinator, Medical Liaison  
386.285.6913 (cell)      [rmclean@imsa.com](mailto:rmclean@imsa.com)
  - Simon Hodgson / VP Competition, Racing Operations  
386.453.0494 (cell)      [shodgson@imsa.com](mailto:shodgson@imsa.com)

All COVID-19 exposures and known infections must be reported to IMSA within 24 hours.

Failure to report suspected or confirmed cases within 24 hours of isolation ordered or test results received may result in dismissal from the event and/or additional action at the sole discretion of IMSA.

## PERIMETER SUPPORT PERSONNEL

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Promoter partners will determine a compliance process appropriate for their facility and aligned with local and state COVID-19 regulations. If on-site testing and/or screening is a requirement, these activities should take place at a designated location separate and away from the competition-restricted area.

## ACCESS PARAMETERS

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Promotor partners will adhere to the following in relation to employee, vendor, and guest access:

- All persons must follow COVID-19 related protocols.
- All persons must have their credentials clearly visible while inside competition-restricted areas.
- Promotor partners will designate appropriate areas in which participants may shelter in case of inclement weather.