



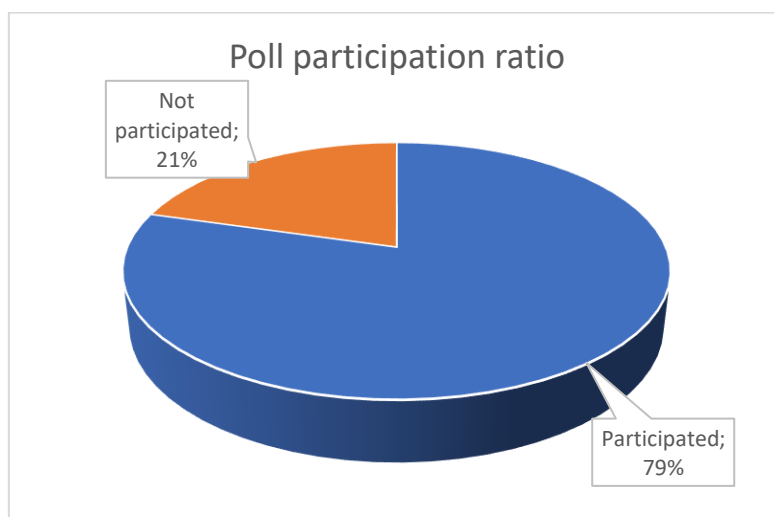
COVID19 – General announcement

22.March 2021

FIPS-Mouche International Sport Fly Fishing

COVID pandemy unfortunately globally persists also in the year 2021. Many countries were forced to introduce very hard lock-down measures to protect its people internally as well as cross-board. The meanwhile discovered existence of various COVID mutations that have been spread out even more aggressively and rapidly does make the overall situation even worse and more challenging to overcome. However in many countries the situation seems to be stabilised back again and even some of them are easing restrictions. At the beginning of the year FIPS-Mouche Board has decided to take a serie of actions and initiatives to make this year championships happen.

In January we have rolled out on our Federation Members an internal poll. The main goal was to map their intention to participate at our events. There were in total 31 Members participated out of 39, which is a great participation number – big thanks to all participating Federations for their feedback. Herewith an overview as a result of it:



Intention to take part in 2021 championships

World	Youth	Euro	Ladies	Masters
19	8	15	11	17

In spite of all above mentioned difficult situation we all face, a significant number of the respondents does support the idea to take part in our events. Additionally to this initiative we have discussed with Athletes Commission on possibility to run a similar activity within our Athletes community. The survey report will be published by Athletes Commission and right after at our website too. FIPS-Mouche would like to thank to all members of the Athletes Commission who took part at this initiative.

In paralel with both these surveys Board has internally started with an intensive discussion regarding the antiCovid policy that might serve as a general framework for our championships and to help our

host countries to manage our events in correlation with local and regional safety policy safer way for all participants. Board has invited into the serie of discussions also Head of International Supervisors David Deane who is a professional virologist and Cato Vivelid Nilssen International Organizer of Euro/Ladies2021 and team member of International Supervisors (many thanks for your support Dave and Cato!!!). As result of this initiative Board has produced a **COVID General Safety Protocol**, that has been recently revised and confirmed also together with all International Organizers of 2021 year championships. We all hope this document will help host country in corelation to its local/regional policy to organize an event safer way of course under precondition that overall situation allows an organizing of international championship.

Board has run meanwhile a serie of online meetings with all International Organizers with aim to map the nowadays pandemic situation in countries, as well as overall status of preparation of the events. We have concluded on following:

- **not later then 3 months ahead of the championship after a common agreement of FIPS-Mouche and the organization committee, the championship might be cancelled/confirmed.** This gives a reasonable time frame for organizers as well to participants to make all appropriate arrangements accordingly
- the organizer of the event shall provide a reasonable time schedule with deadlines for registration and payment to minimize bank transfers in case of return
- if the championship is cancelled, the return payment bank fees are to be shared by half between federation and host country
- in case the championship is cancelled and the host country declares its willingness to postpone it to next year, FIPS-Mouche Board do its best to arrange a possible one year shift in calendar upon an agreement with all effected future host countries

We all strongly hope that all above summarized actions and initiatives will help us to make at least some of this year championships happen after a one year break (if only possible), nevertheless the safety of our athletes, organizers and all involved must remain our highest priority....

Best wishes and stay all safe

Mario Podmanik
FIPS-Mouche President