Concept of Protection

The Federal Council decided on April 29 to allow, from May 11, the resumption of activities in the sport sector, to which our activity is affiliated as "Risky activity" (new article 6, paragraphs 4 and 5 of COVID-19 ordinance n° 2. The Federal Council requests to have a concept of protection to guarantee the health security of our customers.

As a reminder, rules to take into account are:

- compliance with the hygiene rules of the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH)
- spatial distance (minimum distance of 2 m between all people; 10 m² per person; no contact physical)
- a group of up to five people
- if possible, the same group composition
- registration of participants to trace possible chains of infection
- people at particular risk must comply with special requirements cific FOPH.

The Swiss Association of Escorts in Mountain (ASAM-SWL) therefore drafted the concept of protection according to the intention of the facilitators-mountain guides, governing professional attitudes to adopt during hikes and activities. Supporters wishing to practice undertake to implement this concept from May 11.

Group size

5 people in total (4 clients + the guide)

Information for clients

The concept of protection must be announced in the program and at the time of registration, then at the start of the hike. For people over 65 or already having a known pathology: written information will be sent in advance by the guide. If necessary, a discharge may be requested. The participant, respectively the companion who presents symptoms does not participate in the outing. If necessary, it goes into auto-quarantine. In the event of infection of a participant or accompanying person revealed after the outing, the participants are notified without delay of the situation and take ad hoc health measures (quarantine).

Customer traceability

The contact details of the participants will be kept by the accompanying person (while respecting data protection), for the purpose of possible investigation by the health services on contamination situations.

Types of hikes possible

- By the day, limiting travel, and without overnight stays.
- Hikes over 2 or more days are possible but with overnight stays only in hotels, tents or tourist accommodation establishments meeting COVID protection standards.
- Accommodation in the Alpine club cabin is possible on a limited basis, depending on availability of the cabin.
- All themed outings and animations, provided that there is no exchange of animation material or that it is disinfected after use - see “Hygiene”
- Picked outings but without cooking until new opinion
- School activities if it is possible to have small groups of 4 children + the guide. Animation in class possible by applying cantonal regulations on the number of children present together (Half classes from May 11).
- Continuing education can be organized, with a maximum of 5 participants including
the organizer.

**Routes**
They must allow the required spatial distance (no cramped passages where everyone is at the same time, sufficiently spacious gathering places), no passage with chain or rope. In case of unexpected passage, disinfect hands before and after passage. Shelters or picnic areas must be adapted to the rule of spatial distance between people.

**Hygiene**
The chaperone must have basic hygiene equipment (gloves, mask, hydro alcoholic gel) in his backpack or on hand if conditions require. This equipment must be used if first aid measures are to be carried out or if the type of animation requires physical contact.

**Equipment**
Lending equipment is excluded (poles for example)

**Animation material**
Customers and accompanying person must disinfect their hands before / after in case of sharing of equipment and / or tasting of food products (gloves required in the latter case).

**Car**
pooling trips: It is possible to carpool to two people, one in front and one behind if they are not from the same household. Wearing a mask is compulsory otherwise.
It is possible to use taxis / shuttle buses if they are authorized for traffic.

**Validity of the concept**
The period from May 11 to June 8 will be transitory, the above guidelines apply to this period. They will be reviewed and, if necessary, relaxed from this date. These guidelines only apply to hikes on Swiss territory.

**Responsibility for the application of the concept**
All professional guides are required to respect this concept of protection in a united and responsible manner.
The accompanying person is responsible in the field for the application of this protection concept, based on Covid-19 ordinance no. 2.

**Communication**
The security concept is communicated to all members of the Swiss Association of Accompanists en Montagne (ASAM-SWL) by email.
It is also shared with the partner associations for the profession, namely:
- Anniviers Formation
- Swiss Association of Mountain Guides
- Berufslehrgang Wanderleiter Schweizer Wanderwege
- Wanderwege Graubünden
- The Body responsible for professional mountain guide examinations.
These organizations are encouraged to forward the concept to their members / students / former students / candidates and former candidates for the federal patent as some of them are not members of ASAM-SWL.
It is published on the Facebook page of ASAM-SWL as well as on its website.