



Dear athletes,

We hope this letter finds you and your families in good health.

During such challenging times, we are reminded that protecting our health and the health of those around us is what is most important. You can rest assured that your wellbeing and the wellbeing of your teams and coaches is the IBU's first priority in our work.

We recognise that at this time of year, under normal circumstances, many of you would be preparing to begin your training for the new season. However, we also recognise that there is nothing normal about the current situation we find ourselves in.

We appreciate that over the coming weeks many of you will need to adapt your training programmes due to restrictions in place in your countries. We thank you for your flexibility and we also ask that you keep the IBU Athletes' Committee updated on the barriers you are facing. We are committed to delivering fair and safe competitions next season and so we will continue to monitor the impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on your ability to train.

We cannot predict the future and how long it will be before our lives return to normal, but the IBU remains dedicated to delivering a successful 2020/21 season and as of today all events are planned to go ahead as scheduled.

To make this possible, the IBU Executive Board and administration are working from home without interruption. We are continuing to meet by videoconference to discuss the most pressing matters and issues and we will hold a (digital) Executive Board in June as planned, as well as an extraordinary EB-meeting in the beginning of May.

Further, we are in regular contact with our Organising Committees and National Federations to plan for different scenarios and discuss whether adjustments may need to be made to our events based on the guidance and regulations of their national authorities.

Of course, it is not just about whether a country can host an event but also whether athletes from other countries will be able to travel to that event. We need to make sure that all of you who are eligible to compete and want to compete, have fair and equal chance to do so. The first decision to be made will be about the Sumer Biathlon World Championships in Ruhpolding in August. An announcement is planned for May.

You, the athletes, are our most important stakeholder and we want to make sure we are doing what is best for you. We therefore want to maintain an open and regular dialogue with you over these coming months. If you have any concerns or suggestions then please share them with your IBU Athletes' Committee who will raise them with us.

These are challenging times for all of us. But by working together and listening to your needs we hope to overcome these challenges and deliver a fantastic and safe 2020/2021 season.

In the meantime, we wish you all good health and stay safe.

Yours sincerely,

Olle Dahlin on behalf of the IBU Executive Board