

28.7.2020

## NEZ championship series 2020 cancelled due to COVID19

NEZ Auto Navigation Working Group announces today NEZ series to be cancelled for 2020. The reason is COVID19.

The start of the series in Denmark 1.-2.5 had to be postponed due to the COVID19 pandemic. Working group had hoped that the outbreak of COVID19 pandemic would only be a short term disruption and life would return back to normal in autumn. Unfortunately this did not happen.

The decision for the cancellation is based on the following factors.

### 1) Incidences per 100000 inhabitants during 14-day monitoring period

- Sweden 41
- Denmark 9
- Finland 2
- Status on 27.7.2020
- Data source *WHO COVID-19 situation in the WHO European Region*  
<https://who.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/ead3c6475654481ca51c248d52ab9c61>

### 2) Criteria set by Finnish government

- Finnish government criteria for restriction-free travelling is 8 incidences per 100000 inhabitants during 14-day monitoring period. If country fulfils the criteria, there are no specific restrictions/conditions for travelling.
- Next evaluation period is 22.7 - 5.8. Travel restrictions are usually set for one month and next restriction period would be 12.8 – 11.9. Based on the status on 27.7.2020 Sweden is still far from the criteria and there is a big risk that Finnish teams wouldn't be able to travel to Denmark and return back through Sweden without restrictions.

### 3) Criteria set by Danish government

- Max 20 incidences per 100000 inhabitants. Evaluation takes place every week. If under, the country is "open". If it later on will rise, the country will be "closed" again, if it goes over 30 incidences per 100000 inhabitants.  
(Source: <https://sum.dk/Aktuelt/Nyheder/Coronavirus/~media/Filer%20-%20dokumenter/Kriterier-i-den-danske-model.pdf>)
- Unless visitor does have a "recognizable purpose", visitor needs to have accommodation for 6 nights. It is unclear if a NEZ event is a "recognizable purpose".
- Country status available here: <https://politi.dk/coronavirus-i-danmark/rejser/er-mit-land-aabent-eller-i-karantaene>
- Based on these conditions a restriction-free travelling to Denmark is unlikely.

### 4) Further outlook of pandemic development

Even though the pandemic is quite stable in Europe experts are warning for the second wave in autumn. The prognosis of the development of COVID-19 is rather negative than positive. This poses further risk for September and October events.

Working group regrets having to make this decision but considering the circumstances this is the right way to go.

NEZ Auto Navigation Working Group

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