

## **With effect from 22 November 2021**

### **Safe Management Measures for Marriage Solemnizations and Wedding Receptions**

These Safe Management Measures aim to provide a safe environment for wedding couples and their guests during marriage solemnizations and wedding receptions.

Organisers (which could include venue operators/owners<sup>1</sup>, wedding planners, the wedding couple and/or their relatives/friends) responsible for supplying or procuring the premises and any goods and services related to the solemnization or wedding (whether or not for reward and whether jointly or otherwise) are required to put in place the following safe management measures.

### **This set of Safe Management Measures applies with effect from 22 November 2021.**

From **Monday, 22 November 2021**, the safe management measures for marriage solemnizations and wedding receptions are updated with the following attendee limits (including Bride and Groom but excluding Solemnizer and vendors):

	<b>From 22 November 2021 onwards</b>
<b>Marriage Solemnizations</b>	
Home	Up to 10 attendees or up to 5 visitors (whichever is higher)
ROM/M Building	Up to 10 attendees
External venues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Up to 50 attendees, no Vaccination-Differentiated SMMs (VDS) requirement;</li><li>From 51 to 1,000 attendees, with VDS requirement<sup>2</sup>;</li><li>Group size of up to 5 attendees</li></ul>
<b>Wedding Receptions</b>	
Home and ROM/M Building	Not allowed
External venues (Excluding Places of Worship)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Up to 250 attendees, with VDS requirement<sup>2</sup>;</li><li>Group size of up to 5 attendees</li></ul>

<sup>1</sup> Includes the religious organisation if held in a place of worship.

<sup>2</sup> Where VDS is applied, it means that checks must be implemented to ensure that every attendee:

- a) has a valid PET negative test result (see para 3 for details on PET requirements; or
- b) is fully vaccinated i.e. has received the appropriate regimen of World Health Organisation's Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) vaccines including their respective duration post-vaccination for the vaccine to be fully effective, and had their vaccination records ingested in MOH's national IT systems; or
- c) has recovered from COVID-19 with a valid PET exemption notice for the duration of the event; or
- d) is a child aged 12 years or below; or
- e) is certified as medically ineligible (with effect from 1 December 2021).

## **1. Overview**

- 1.1. Prevailing rules will continue to apply to each entity/venue. Venue owners may determine if and when to allow marriage solemnizations and/or wedding receptions to be held in their premises, and may set additional conditions for their use, based on their capacity or ability to ensure safe management measures are implemented.
- 1.2. It is recommended that organisers appoint a Safe Management Officer to ensure that safe management measures are adhered to.
- 1.3. The Solemnizer will postpone the solemnization if safe management measures are not implemented or adhered to for the solemnization.
- 1.4. For external venues (excluding home, ROM/M Building and places of worship), organisers should prepare response plans to manage situations such as handling unwell attendees. This includes ensuring staff are familiar with the procedures in the handling of unwell and/or uncooperative attendees.
- 1.5. Each couple is only allowed one marriage solemnization (without food and beverage) and one wedding reception with respect to their marriage.<sup>3</sup> Each event must be completed within the same calendar day, although the marriage solemnization and the wedding reception may be held on separate days.
- 1.6. Each event can only be held in a single venue managed by the same operator. The event may take place over multiple rooms within the same venue.
- 1.7. In a place of residence, only marriage solemnizations are allowed, and not wedding receptions.

## **2. Limits on Number of Attendees**

- 2.1. The maximum number of attendees in total for the entire solemnization event held in an external venue must not exceed:
  - (i) 50 attendees (no VDS requirement); or
  - (ii) 1,000 attendees, with VDS requirement.
- 2.2. Children aged 12 years and below (i.e. born in and after 2009), who are currently not eligible for vaccinations under the National Vaccination Programme, must not make up more than 20% of the overall attendees. This applies to marriage solemnizations with more than 50 attendees or wedding receptions (regardless of the number of attendees). These children seated within the groups of 5 attendees must be from the same household.
- 2.3. Wedding receptions can only be held at an external venue (i.e. outside the ROM/M Building, a place of residence or a place of worship), and the maximum number of attendees in total for the entire wedding reception must not exceed 250 attendees (with VDS requirement).
- 2.4. The maximum number of attendees may be lower than the limits above, depending on venue capacity, safe distancing measures and/or other factors to be determined by the venue owner/operator or organisers.

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<sup>3</sup> If organisers intend to hold separate solemnization and wedding reception events at the same venue, you are advised to have a reasonably long break between the two events. This will provide time to vacate and sanitise the venue after the first event and will also prevent interactions between the two sets of attendees who are leaving or entering the venue.

- 2.5. The maximum number of attendees includes the couple and guests but excludes the Solemnizer, vendors and venue staff engaged to provide authorised services for the event. Vendors and venue staff should be kept to the minimum required.
- 2.6. If the total number of attendees at either the marriage solemnization or wedding reception exceeds 100 attendees, attendees must be split into either multiple zones of up to 100 attendees, or across staggered timings with up to 100 attendees in each slot and at least 30 minutes between slots. The zonal caps include the couple and the wedding party, and excludes the Solemnizer (for solemnization), vendors and venue staff engaged to provide authorised services for the event.
- 2.7. For marriage solemnizations held in a place of residence, the maximum number of attendees for the home solemnization must not exceed 10 attendees or 5 visitors in addition to the members of the hosting household, whichever is higher (including the couple, not counting the Solemnizer and vendors engaged to provide authorised services for the solemnization).<sup>4 5</sup> Vendors should be kept to the minimum required. Organisers should ensure that residents who are not attending the home solemnization do not physically interact or intermingle with the attendees at the solemnization.
- 2.8. For all marriage solemnizations, couples are to provide their guest and vendor list to the Solemnizer at least one day before the solemnization.
- 2.9. The guest list for marriage solemnizations and wedding receptions should be made available onsite for verification/checking.

### **3. Vaccination-Differentiated Safe Management Measures (VDS)**

- 3.1. VDS for vaccinated individuals have been implemented since 10 August 2021 for selected premises, activities, and events, including marriage solemnizations and wedding receptions. The following categories of individuals are allowed to enter premises or participate in events where VDS are required:
  - (i) Fully vaccinated i.e. has received the appropriate regimen of World Health Organisation's Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) vaccines including their respective duration post-vaccination for the vaccine to be fully effective, and had their vaccination records ingested in MOH's national IT systems (please refer to the MOH advisory on VDS for the most updated information on the vaccination regimens and approved vaccines recognized for eligibility for VDS);
  - (ii) Recovered from COVID-19, i.e. less than 270 days of first positive Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test result obtained in Singapore;
  - (iii) Registered at an MOH-approved COVID-19 Test Provider to take a COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Test (ART) or PCR test no earlier than 24 hours before the expected end of the stipulated activity and obtained a valid negative result;

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<sup>4</sup> For example, if there are 6 attendees currently living in your household, the 6 residents and an additional 5 visitors can attend a marriage solemnization in your home, i.e. total of 11 attendees.

<sup>5</sup> An individual must not permit to enter or remain in his or her place of residence more than 5 visitors on any single day. An exception is made for home solemnizations which remain subject to the limits in paragraph 2.7. However, if a place of residence has 5 or more visitors attending a home solemnization (as attendees or vendors), then the household must not accept any more visitors that day to their place of residence.

- (iv) Children who are 12 years old and below (i.e. born in or after the year 2009), who are unvaccinated, are also eligible for VDS. See para 2.2 for details on the provisions for children aged 12 years and below;
- (v) From 1 December 2021, individuals who are certified to be medically ineligible for all vaccines under the National Vaccination Programme will be eligible for VDS.
- 3.2. Where VDS apply, the organisers of the event are required to check that the relevant attendees (in line with paras 2.1 and 2.3) meet the eligibility requirements stated in para 3.1. before allowing them entry to or remain in the event venue to attend the marriage solemnization or wedding reception.
- 3.3. More details on VDS and PET requirements are available at <https://go.gov.sg/vdsmminfo> and <https://go.gov.sg/pet>.

#### **4. Group Size and Safe Distancing**

- 4.1. For marriage solemnizations or wedding receptions held at external venues (i.e. outside the ROM/M Building or a place of residence), attendees must be split into fixed groups of up to 5 attendees each (based on the prevailing group size for social gatherings), with no intermingling or mixing between groups.
- 4.2. An exception may be made for a designated core “wedding party” comprising up to 20 attendees (including the bride and groom), which is part of the overall attendee cap for marriage solemnizations/wedding receptions and as detailed below:

	<b>Attendee Limit</b>	<b>Wedding Party</b>
<b>Solemnization Events</b>	Up to 50 attendees	20 attendees
<b>Solemnization Events</b>	More than 50 attendees	20 attendees, and if there are children aged 12 and below:
<b>Wedding Receptions</b>	Up to 250 attendees	a) these children must be from the same household; and b) the number must be restricted to 5

- 4.3. Individuals in this wedding party may interact with one another within the party and may sit with one another at tables of more than 5 attendees during the wedding reception. However, they must not intermingle or mix with other attendees outside the wedding party.
- 4.4. At least 1 meter safe distance must be observed between groups, as well as between the “wedding party” and other groups, at all times, including for photo-taking.

#### **5. Use of Face Masks**

- 5.1. Organisers must ensure that attendees are wearing face masks in accordance with the prevailing national policy, with the exception of the bride and groom who may wear face shields during the course of the event instead. The bride and groom may also remove their face shield or mask for key moments only (e.g. when exchanging vows for rings, kiss, march-in/outs) and maintain a safe distance of at least 2 meters from others at such times.
- 5.2. Up to 10 individuals are allowed to unmask when engaged in public speaking for marriage solemnizations at external venues (i.e. in venues excluding place of residence and the ROM/M building), as well as for

wedding receptions, while maintaining a distance of at least 2 meters from the audience. The unmasked individuals must also maintain a distance of at least 1 meter from each other unless the individuals are members of the wedding party.

- 5.3. All other attendees must wear their masks at all times. Masks may be removed momentarily for photo-taking, and must be worn immediately after the photos are taken. The safe distancing requirements must be observed at all times.

## **6. Special Provisions**

- 6.1. The following special provisions will be allowed for wedding events, subject to additional precautions:

	<b>Event</b>	<b>Applicable to</b>	<b>Masked/ Unmasked</b>
<b>Unmasked throughout the event</b>	Marriage solemnization (excluding ROM/M building) and wedding reception	Bride and groom only	Unmasked
<b>Dancing</b>	Wedding reception only	Bride and groom only	May unmasked
<b>Singing</b>	Marriage solemnization (external venues only) and wedding receptions	Up to 10 individuals from the wedding party	May unmasked

- 6.2. These individuals are required to maintain a distance of at least 2 meters from the other guests when engaged in the above activities, with the exception of the bride and groom, who may dance in close proximity (less than 2 meters) to where the wedding party is seated.

- 6.3. To engage in the above activities, the wedding couple or relevant individuals from the wedding party are required to:

- (i) undergo an Antigen Rapid Test (ART) minimally supervised by the venue operator (either in person or virtually), within 24 hours prior to the end of the event; or
- (ii) have a valid PET obtained within 24 hours prior to the end of the event.

	<b>Additional Precautions</b>
Fully vaccinated	ART/PET required
Recovered from COVID-19	ART/PET required
Child aged 12 years or below	ART/PET required
Unvaccinated	Not eligible for special provisions

## **7. Zoning Requirements**

- 7.1. For marriage solemnizations or wedding receptions held in external venues (i.e. outside the ROM/M Building or a place of residence), the maximum number of attendees in each zone must not exceed a total of 100 attendees.
- 7.2. All attendees, including the couple and wedding party, must only be assigned to one zone each. Entering an unassigned zone is not allowed, except for the wedding couple who may do so briefly, e.g. to take photos. Service staff and vendors may also cross between zones as necessary to perform their jobs.

- 7.3. Zones must be completely separated from one another by either a physical solid partition (at least 1.8m high, from wall to wall); or at least 2 meters physical spacing demarcated by continuous physical barriers (e.g. formed by plexiglass screens, barricade tape, queue pole stands linked by retractable belts).
- 7.4. There must either be a separate ingress/egress for each zone or staggered entrance/exit timings so that attendees from different zones do not mix with one another during entry/exit (including any movements in and out of the venue during the event).
- 7.5. Where possible, service staff should be designated to specific zones and avoid mixing with staff serving other zones.

## **8. Staggered Timing Requirements**

- 8.1. For a wedding reception held in an external venue (i.e. outside the ROM/M Building, a place of worship or a place of residence), the maximum number of attendees for each time slot must not exceed a total of 100 attendees.
- 8.2. Attendees must be assigned to one time slot and can only be present during their scheduled time slot. They must leave by the end of their time slot.
- 8.3. An exception may be made for a designated core “wedding party” comprising up to 20 attendees (including the bride and groom), which is part of the overall attendee cap of 250 attendees for wedding receptions. The wedding party may participate in multiple time slots, whereas all other attendees must only belong to one time slot, so long as the number of people in that time slot remains capped at 100 attendees (including the wedding party)<sup>6</sup>.
- 8.4. There must be a minimum of 30 minutes between time slots, where cleaning and disinfection at the event space and other common areas (e.g. toilets) must be conducted.

## **9. Venue Set-up**

- 9.1. The venue should be set up to ensure that the attendance limit requirements and safe distancing requirements (e.g. between different vendors and between vendors and attendees) are adhered to at all times.
- 9.2. There should be fixed seating for all attendees.

## **10. Management of Common Facilities**

- 10.1. Organisers should put in place measures to minimise crowding or mixing at common facilities, e.g. corridors, toilets. Where possible, specific common facilities should be designated so that attendees from different events held at the same premises do not mix when using such facilities.
- 10.2. Where possible, organisers should identify hotspots, e.g. entry/exit points, washrooms, corridors, etc., for potential bunching and implement a control mechanism to prevent/disperse crowding or compromise of safe distancing. This could include the deployment of ushers or Safety Ambassadors to remind attendees against clustering and loitering in common areas.
- 10.3. Premises hosting multiple events concurrently should put in place measures to ensure no inter-mixing between attendees of different events.

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<sup>6</sup> For example, attendees can be distributed across three time slots as follows - 80 pax : 80 pax : 70 pax with the wedding party of 20 attendees present during all three slots for a total of 250 unique attendees.

### **11. Food and Beverage**

- 11.1. Food and beverage must not be served at marriage solemnizations.
- 11.2. At wedding receptions, self-service buffets or staff-served food lines are not allowed. Food and beverage must be served to seated attendees. Sharing dishes/platters are strongly discouraged. Attendees should not share cups/cutlery/utensils. No sale or consumption of alcohol is allowed after 10.30pm.

### **12. Live Performances and other high-risk activities**

- 12.1. Live instrumental music is allowed (except for the playing of wind instruments), with the necessary safe management measures in place only for marriage solemnizations in a place of residence and indoor venues (except at ROM/M Building). Musicians should be kept to the minimum and must be masked at all times. Musicians should also minimise movement to ensure that safe distancing can be adhered to at all times.
- 12.2. Live performances remain disallowed at solemnizations in outdoor venues, i.e. places which are not enclosed, and at wedding receptions.
- 12.3. With the exception of special provisions listed at para 6.1, activities involving singing, wind instruments, dancing or loud talking/ shouting remain disallowed at all events at all venues.

### **13. Attendance Control and Contact Tracing**

- 13.1. Organisers should conduct checks on visible symptoms for attendees at entrances, and turn away those who appear unwell.
- 13.2. All attendees must check in to the event using TraceTogether-only SafeEntry.<sup>7</sup> The venue owner/operator or organisers should have a unique QR code for the event space, e.g. hotel ballroom or private room in a restaurant.
- 13.3. Organisers are encouraged to stagger the arrival and departure timings of attendees. Queuing in groups should be discouraged.
- 13.4. Organisers are encouraged to adopt contactless modes of operation where possible, e.g. putting the seating arrangements online or on a board instead of a manned reception counter to minimise contact between individuals.

### **14. Ensuring Cleanliness and Hygiene**

- 14.1. Before the start of each time slot and where applicable, the venue owner/operator or organisers must clean and disinfect the event spaces, common facilities (e.g. toilets), tables and chairs before and after use, including high-touch surfaces such as handrails, door handles, lift buttons, etc.
- 14.2. Where applicable, the venue owner/operator or organisers should provide disinfecting agents like hand sanitisers, disinfectant sprays, wipes, etc. for attendees and staff at common areas or areas with high-touch surfaces.

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<sup>7</sup> Refer to <https://www.gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/safeentry/> for details.