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## FAQ's ON THE COVID-19 POLICIES AT NSWC

Updated September 2, 2021

Over the past many months, Management and the Board has continued to review and update our COVID-19 policies. We are acting as prudently as possible, knowing that the number of cases are still rising in the Province, and there are concerns with the new variants.

Our decisions to implement these policies are consistent with the BC Government's and PHO orders, as well as doing everything extra we can to protect and safeguard our community. We have never intended to discriminate against anyone or any belief, and we feel that these decisions are in everyone's best interest.

### Q. WHAT'S THE CURRENT POLICY ON MASKS?

- As masks are a proven and effective way to reduce transmission, masks continue to be **mandatory in all indoor areas** of the Club for Members, Staff and Guests over the age of 2 years old. Masks may be removed when participating in a sport, activity or eating or drinking, while sitting at a table.

### Q. HOW DO BC'S VACCINATION REQUIREMENT AFFECT THE CLUB?

- By order of the PHO, proof of vaccination will be required to access some events, services and businesses.
- In order to enter the NSWC, starting September 13, Members over the age of 12 must have at least one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine. By October 24, Members over the age of 12 must be fully vaccinated.
- A negative COVID test within 48 hours will also be accepted.

### Q. HOW DOES THIS AFFECT THOSE AGED 0-11?

- The COVID-19 Vaccine is not currently mandated for children ages 0-11. Upon entry to the Club, Junior Members, program registrants, and the children of Members ages 0-11 must check-in and inform the front desk that your child is under 11.
- Non-members registered in approved Club programs and who are 11 and under, are permitted, and do not need to show proof of vaccination.
- Guests of Members under the age of 12 (who are not eligible for vaccination) are only permitted if they are living in the same household or are direct family members (i.e. child, brother, sister, or grandchild) of a current Member.

### Q. WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR ENTRY OF THE CLUB?

All members and guests must check-in before entering the Club. You must provide acceptable Proof of Vaccination (photocopies are acceptable) and Government issued photo ID (ID not required for junior ages 12-19).

### Q. CAN I BRING A GUEST THAT IS OUTSIDE OF MY HOUSEHOLD OR FAMILY?

Members may introduce Guests for a social occasion or Club activities.

The following restrictions are in effect:

- Effective **August 23<sup>rd</sup>**, all Guests, over the age of 12, must provide **proof of vaccination** (2 weeks after second dose) in order to gain access to the Club. We are also asking every Guest, to complete a COVID-19 declaration form before they arrive to check-in.
- For those that cannot provide proof of vaccination, documentation of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 48 hours, will be accepted.
- Guests may only be **12 and older**, and must be accompanied by the sponsoring Member at the Club, all times.
- Guests under the age of 12 (who are not eligible for vaccination) are only permitted if they are living in the same household or are direct family members (i.e. child, brother, sister, or grandchild) of a current Member.
- Each membership is allowed a maximum of **two** participating Guests per visit (max four per month for club activities), none of whom may be introduced more frequently than twice per month in total.
- The Guest fee for Club Activities (swimming, skating, tennis, pickleball, and fitness) is \$15 for adults, \$10 for juniors.
- Guests must adhere to all Club policies. Members are responsible for the behaviour of their Guests in the Club.

### Q: HOW CAN I PROVE THAT I HAVE BEEN VACCINATED?

The new BC Vaccine card website will be available on September 13<sup>th</sup> and will provide confidential access to your Proof of Vaccination through your smart phone.

Until then we will accept Proof of Vaccination through officially recognized vaccine records, which were given to you at the time of your vaccinations. If you have misplaced your immunization records, you can obtain a copy online through the Government of BC Health Gateway website at: [HealthGateway.Gov.BC.ca](https://HealthGateway.Gov.BC.ca).

Please note that you will require to sign up for a free BC Services card app account to access your records.

**Q: HOW OFTEN DO I HAVE TO SHOW MY PROOF OF VACCINATION?**

We will ask Members to show your proof of vaccination your first visit to the Club, starting September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Our Member Services team will note your status, so that you do not need to show us on subsequent visits.

All Guests coming to the club, will need to show our team their proof of vaccination each time.

PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE CHECK PEOPLE IN AND CHECK THEIR VACCINATION STATUS. You may need to give yourself a little extra time before your activity, as there may be a wait.

**Q: HOW DOES THIS POLICY AFFECT THE CLUB EMPLOYEES?**

We have an incredibly high rate of vaccination amongst our team, both employees and contractors. Effective September 13<sup>th</sup>, we have required that all our staff/contractors to have had their first dose of the vaccination, and show proof of being fully vaccinated with two doses by October 24, 2021.

**Q. HOW DO THESE POLICIES AFFECT CLUB ATHLETIC PROGRAMS, LEAGUES & EVENTS?**

- Any organized club teams, leagues or events will require an approved Safety Plan and all participants will be expected to adhere to these safety protocols. Vaccination requirements will be dependent on the safety plan.
- We will follow all guidance from ViaSport and governing sport bodies.
- We offer a small number of club programs and classes to non-member participants. Where applicable, all non-members over the age of 12 are required to show proof of FULL vaccination in order to participate.

**Q. HOW DO THESE POLICIES AFFECT SPECTATORS?**

- Both indoor and rink-side viewing are now open to members. Capacities are limited, please respect the signage, and remain seated at all times in these areas. Masks may only be removed if one is eating or drinking.
- Rink-side capacity is 50, while indoor viewing capacities are at 25.
- At this time, with the PHO indoor capacity limitations, non-member spectators are **not** permitted, unless they are a Guest of a Member or providing supervision in an approved Junior program (i.e. Cookie Monsters)
- Once capacities increase, non-member spectators may be permitted, but will be subject to providing proof of vaccination upon entry to the Club.

**Q: DO I STILL NEED TO BOOK MY ACTIVITIES THROUGH GAMETIME?**

We are continuing with booking Open Ice (large, small & HTC only), Lap Swim, the High-Performance Training Centre, Tennis, and Pickleball.

**Q: HOW LONG WILL THIS POLICY BE IN EFFECT FOR?**

We will regularly review our policy and ensure it is updated to reflect up-to-date health recommendations set out by the Government of BC. Currently the Public Health Officer has the requirement in place until January 31, 2022, subject to extension.

**CIRCUMVENTION CONSEQUENCES**

After September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021, if you enter the Club without receiving the adequate government mandated COVID-19 vaccine, or if you have been identified assisting an unvaccinated member or guest enter the Club, you will be subject to fines of up to \$500, temporary suspension from the Club, and possibly being expelled from the Club. NSWC's House Committee will review these infractions and assess the severity of the consequences.

We thank you for your support and patience, especially with our front-line teams.

Sincerely,

Management & the Board

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