Canada Games Council
Games Policy and Procedures

NAME:	Policy on Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccines
FUNCTIONAL UNIT:	58 - Medical
APPROVED BY:	CGC Board of Directors, 2022 Canada Games Board of Directors, 2023 Canada Games Board of Directors
ORIGINAL APPROVAL DATE:	November 24, 2021
REVISION APPROVAL DATES:	NA
RELATED POLICIES:	

PREAMBLE

Since 1967, the Canada Games have been the catalyst for the growth of sport across Canada. Held every two years, alternating between summer and winter, the Games are Canada's largest multi-sport event and represent the pinnacle of interprovincial/territorial sport competition. Since 1967, nearly 100,000 athletes have participated in the Games. Add to that the over 100,000 coaches, officials and volunteers that have been directly involved in the planning and staging of the Games and you have some idea of the enormous reach of the Canada Games.

This Policy has been developed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its objective is to maintain the health and safety of Canada Games participants and other stakeholders who engage in the 2022 & 2023 Canada Games.

The primary stakeholders of this policy are Provincial/Territorial Teams, National Sport Organizations and Host Societies.

Spectators of the 2022 & 2023 Canada Games will be subject to the requirements of the respective host communities and or the respective venues being used for the Games.

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions will apply

Fully vaccinated: Having received a complete and up-to-date series (as determined by an individual's respective Provincial/Territorial Government) of a Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccine no sooner than 14 days prior to the start of the 2022 or 2023 Canada Games (or other timeframe required by Health Canada to be considered fully vaccinated). A list of Health Canada approved vaccines can be found here:

https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines.html.

Eligible individuals: Individuals who meet the minimum eligibility requirements to receive a Health Canada approved COVID-19 vaccine in the Province/Territory of residence.

Protected Grounds: The reasons for which an individual can not be discriminated against. While each Canadian Provincial/Territorial Human Rights Code established its own grounds, they all generally contain the following: age, ancestry citizenship, colour, creed (religion), disability, ethnic origin, family status, gender identity/expression, marital status, place of origin, race, sex, sexual orientation. For the purposes of this policy, protected grounds are limited to creed (religion).

Medical Grounds: The medical (health) reasons for which an individual is unable to receive a COVID-19 vaccine.

Participants: Participants refers to individuals accredited for the Canada Games as athletes, coaches, managers, technical support, participant assistants or Provincial/Territorial mission staff.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Canada Games Council, the 2022 Canada Games Host Society and the 2023 Canada Games Host Society collectively believe the best mechanism to ensure the health and safety of the Canada Games family and members of the public in host communities during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic is through vaccination.

As such, eligible individuals within the populations listed below are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to attend or participate in the 2022 & 2023 Canada Games.

- Athletes
- Para Athlete support including guides and tappers
- Coaches
- Managers
- Technical Support
- Participant Assistants
- Mission Staff
- VVIPs / VIPs
- Sport Observers
- Games Observers
- Venue Pass Holders
- Accredited Media
- Accredited Broadcasters

Eligible individuals who have not provided proof of vaccination and have not received an exemption will not be permitted to attend or participate in the 2022 or 2023 Canada Games.

NOTE: CGC staff and volunteers, 2022 staff and volunteers as well as 2023 staff and volunteers **are required** to be fully vaccinated for the 2022 and 2023 Canada Games under separate organizational policies, and are outside the scope of this policy.

EXEMPTIONS

The Canada Games Council will work with the respective Host Society to implement a review process for individuals seeking an exemption from the mandatory COVID-19 vaccine requirement. Individuals who are granted an exemption from the requirement may be subject to additional COVID-19 mitigation measures at the Games, such as testing and quarantines.

The Canada Games Council, the 2022 Canada Games Host Society and the 2023 Canada Games Host Society will make accommodations for individuals who are either ineligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination, or have received an exemption on medical or protected grounds.