

Gymnastics NZ – COVID-19 Update

(Emailed to Clubs on 17.11.21)

With Waikato returning to Level 2 and the re-opening of Auckland on the horizon, I know that many of you are seeking clarity and answers as we look to interpret what the upcoming COVID-19 Protection Framework (CPF/traffic light system) will mean for community sport. There is a lot of information out there but also many questions as yet unanswered so I appreciate it can feel overwhelming.

We have been connecting with partners including Sport NZ, Aktive and getting input from clubs over the past couple of weeks and while we do not yet have all the answers you are seeking, we wanted to highlight key points and useful resources and templates for clubs at this stage:

Government mandates for workers in the health and education sector:

- Anyone working in or with any school groups falls under this mandate. For clubs with coaches in this category, you will need to have identified which coaches are impacted and recorded their vaccination information (see Privacy section below). Any coaches in this category who are not vaccinated must not deliver to school groups after 15 Nov.
- We are seeking clarity on whether the mandate applies to those who deliver to disability-specific groups (those not already covered through education) as the vaccination requirements for health and disability sector may apply to some of our clubs
- [Sport NZ FAQ's](#) about who the health & education mandate applies to are available - see page 13

COVID-19 Protection Framework (CPF/traffic light system):

- The CPF (traffic light system) will soon replace the current Alert Level system. A key part of the framework is the ability for businesses to operate and events to go ahead – even when Covid-19 is present in the community – if they require the use of Covid Vaccination Certificates (CVC's).
- CVC's will be a requirement for certain types of organisation/activity in order to operate at certain levels (or operate with fewer restrictions) - more detail on who this covers will be released next week. For other organisations, the use of CVC's may be voluntary – but using CVC's will generally mean the ability to operate with greater certainty and fewer restrictions.
- Where the use of a CVC is required for an organisation to operate, the government has announced that this requirement will also apply to the organisation's own employees.

Determining your Clubs approach to COVID Vaccination Certificates (CVC's):

- While the full impact of what the CPF might look like is still coming, we advise clubs to start discussions with staff/volunteers in particular around the potential impacts
- The final decision on the use vaccination certificates rests with each individual club as they are [PCBU](#) responsible for compliance with H&S, Workplace and MOH requirements. As such,

whilst we strongly urge all clubs to consider operating using CVC's, we cannot mandate that you do so. We appreciate that this is not an easy discussion for clubs, and may result in some members no longer being able to participate in our sport as they have done, until they are vaccinated or the guidelines change. We need to respect individuals' rights to make a personal decision. Equally, we will need to also consider those who cannot be vaccinated, e.g. children under 12 and those who cannot be vaccinated for medical / health reasons.

Aktive have produced an excellent set of resources and templates to guide you through the transition into the CPF including determining your approach to vaccinations. This information is also available on the [Aktive website](#).

1. [Vaccination decision making guide](#)
2. [Letter to send to people seeking input into the development of club draft COVID-19 Vaccination policy](#)
3. [Draft COVID-19 Vaccination policy](#)
4. [Risk assessment template to aid the development of the COVID-19 Vaccination policy](#)
5. [COVID-19 FAQs](#)
6. [Letter to send to people detailing implementation of finalised COVID-19 Vaccination policy](#)

Please also understand, that this communication is based upon the information currently available from the Government. You should reserve the right to restate your position as you learn and understand more about how New Zealand manages the fight against COVID-19 in our communities and workplaces. It may be that your position on vaccination certificates is reviewed in 3/6/12/24 months' time.

Collecting information about vaccinations:

- Clubs with coaches covered by the Government mandate (above) are required to collect vaccine information from staff and volunteers. It is also likely that you will need to collect and store vaccine information for all other staff and volunteers not working in the education and health & disability sectors. This information must be collected and stored in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020 by the employer.
- The [Privacy Act 2020](#) covers all collection and storing of data by your club so if you are not familiar with it, I encourage you to complete the free online [Privacy Act 2020 training](#) through the Privacy Commission – register to access the course.

Additional information:

- Sport NZ [Vaccination guidance for the sport and recreation sector](#)
- [Business.govt.nz](#) and [Employsure](#) both have a range of resources, articles and information
- [Sport NZ's website](#) also has a wide range of information and resources relating to all aspects of COVID-19 including [information on the vaccine itself](#)

We appreciate that there are still a lot of questions and uncertainty relating to vaccinations and that this is a particularly stressful time for everyone. We will continue to share information with clubs as soon as it is available and will provide support directly to clubs once we know what is expected of everyone.

Please note – this is based on current information available from government and Sport NZ. Once details on the CPF are finalised, requirements may be altered or added. We will continue to share information and support clubs to interpret it for your specific context.