



COVID-19 FAQ Page

Have a question about COVID and the Sport of Figure Skating? Check out the Q & A's below to review questions we have been receiving from members in the Manitoba Section. **MOST RECENT QUESTIONS WILL BE LOCATED AT THE END OF THE DOCUMENT.**

PLEASE NOTE: Information that is not current will appear with a ~~striethrough~~. Please refer to our updated Return to Play Documents (including one specifically for ODR's) and reach out if you require further clarifications.

Have a question but don't see the answer below, then send in your question to Skate.admin@sportmanitoba.ca and we will get it answered!

Please check out [Skate Canada's COVID-19 Response Page](#) for Information such as Virtual/Online Training Requirements, FAQs, and Return to Skating Guidelines.

NEW as of August 11, 2021

Do we have to wear a mask at our rink?

SCMB strongly encourages the use of masks indoors. Please check with your facility as to what their policy is surrounding mask use for the different areas in the building.

Do we have to be vaccinated to attend competitions this season?

No discussion have occurred surrounding this topic at this time. We continue to review updated public health orders and will make adjustments as required.

How many participants can we have on the ice for CanSkate? Can we accept skaters who can't skate at all?

The number of participants on your session will be determined by facility capacity limits, public health orders and Skate Canada Program Delivery Standards.

YES, you will be able to accept all types of participants into your CanSkate program this fall!

Can Synchro return to the ice this season?

YES they can! There are currently no limitations on close contact sport specific practice under the public health orders that came into effect on August 7th.

Can Pairs and Dance practice without close contact time limitation?

YES! Under the current public health orders there is no limitation on close contact during sport specific training.

Can we attend Assessment Days at other clubs/schools?

YES! In the yellow zone skaters are able to attend out of club/school, out of region assessment days once more. A master assessment day list will be published this fall on our website! More information coming soon on submitting for assessment days beyond October 31st.

NEW As of September 1, 2021

Please note that as of this date that the new Public Health Orders (PHO) have not been published, information below is subject to change based on the orders.

Who has to be vaccinated to enter into the facility for skating?

Anyone who is eighteen (18) and older must be fully vaccinated in order to enter into an indoor facility.

Those who are under the age of eighteen (18), ie age seventeen (17) and younger, do not have to be fully vaccinated, when participating in youth sports.

What age is youth sports?

Youth sports is defined as anyone under the age of eighteen (18). Coaches and program assistants who are age seventeen (17) and younger are included in youth sports and do not require vaccinations.

Can youth attend as a spectator?

Children who are under age 12 can enter a facility with a fully vaccinated adult. Youth aged 13 to 17 we are awaiting more information about whether they will need to be with a fully vaccinated adult or not. More information will come when the PHO are published.

UPDATE: Anyone U18 who is entering an indoor facility to spectate a sport, does not need to provide proof of vaccination or be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Who is responsible for checking vaccination statuses at the rink? Can we ask for vaccination information?

The facility is ultimately responsible for ensuring that the PHO's are followed. That being said, facilities can require that user groups are responsible for ensuring their participants coming in for their programming are in compliance. Please speak with, and work collaboratively with, your facility to determine what they will be mandating for the upcoming season.

Yes you can ask for a person's vaccination QR Code or Vaccination Card for the purposes of verification. For more information, including the link to the QR Code verification app, please visit <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/immunizationrecord/businesses.html>

Can we collect and store the vaccination information to check later?

No. You cannot photocopy, take a photo, or store someone's vaccination card or QR code. You will need to scan it and verify with ID upon arrival into the facility.

Can parents who are unvaccinated enter a facility and assist their child with their skates and then leave?

No person who is 18 and older can enter an indoor facility without being vaccinated, even if they are just coming to tie skates.

Do our PA's have to be vaccinated if they are under 18? What about coaches?

Program assistants (PA's) and coaches who are under the age of 18 do NOT have to be vaccinated. If they are 18 or older, they must be vaccinated.

Will we have to ask our coaches, volunteers, and spectators for their vaccination status? Is it our job as a skating club to ask for people's personal health information and then deny them entrance to the program if they do not qualify?

Whose responsibility the verification of vaccination statuses will fall upon is contingent on your individual facility. Your facility may decide to 'staff' and do the verification for you, other facilities may require their user groups (renters) to do so. For information surrounding what information is found on the QR code or Vaccination Card when scanned please check out

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/immunizationrecord/businesses.html>

According to the PHO's yes, persons who are 18 or older who are unable to produce verification of their vaccination status will be unable to enter an indoor facility. Please ensure that you communicate the vaccination requirement to your members so that they are aware in advance.

Who has to wear a mask indoors?

As of August 28, 2021, masks are required for all persons when entering any indoor public space (spectators, coaches, volunteers, participants, etc...). For exemptions please see the current public health orders on the Government of Manitoba Website

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prs/index.html#provinciallevel>

Athletes or participants engaged in physical activity may remove their mask while engaging in the physical activity (on or off the ice). When not engaged in physical activity, masks must be put back on (ie leaving the ice surface, in washroom, watching in the stands, in the dressing room, etc...).

Is it okay for a child to come with a different vaccinated adult other than their parent?

To our knowledge there is no government stipulation that a child must attend youth sport with only their parent. If there is additional information in the PHO's we will update this answer.

When people register, should they have to declare who will be accompanying the child and then we verify they are vaccinated and keep that on file? Obviously it might be different care givers throughout the season. Do you know how any other clubs are managing this? Then we don't have to check every time?

That is up to your club/school if you would like people to declare who will be bringing the participant. Copies of vaccination cards or QR codes CANNOT be kept by the club/school (ie no photocopies or pictures). We welcome clubs/schools to share with us how they are planning on handling verification and we will happily share the ideas on this FAQ.

NEW September 8, 2021

The following two responses came directly from Manitoba Public Health:

How does one provide proof from government that there is a medical reason for the person not to receive a vaccine for covid-19

There are an exceedingly small number of medical conditions that would exempt someone from being immunized. The province is developing a process and criteria to address these rare situations, and more information will be shared with Manitobans as soon as possible. However, to be clear, a doctor's note will not be considered an exemption to proof of immunization requirements.

We just recovered from the Delta variant of COVID and we are ineligible for the vaccine at this time as our bodies have developed natural anti-bodies and doctors do not recommend vaccination for 3 months after having recovered from Covid, are there provisions made for this contingency?

People do not need to wait 3 months after a COVID infection to be immunized. There may be some theoretical benefit of waiting 28 days but even that is not a requirement. Previous infection will not be included in the exemption process.

NEW September 17, 2021

Do coaches have to wear a mask on the ice?

Coaches do not have to wear a mask on the ice if they are moving around. When coaches are not moving around a mask must be worn. That being said, if the facility requires coaches to wear a mask at all time, or if the Club/School requires it, then coaches must be masked at all times.

We are heading out of province for a competition this fall, will they accept our vaccination cards?

If you are travelling out of province, please review all public health information for that province. It is your responsibility to know their current public health orders including the accepted proof of vaccination, where vaccinations are required, mask use ,etc...

Sport Manitoba Clarifications, the following was sent to us by Sport Manitoba – Please read:

Indoor sporting events

Anyone 18+ who is entering a sport facility and/or participating in an indoor sport event is required to provide proof of full vaccination.

Anyone U18 who is entering an indoor facility to spectate a sport, does not need to provide proof of vaccination or be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

Ticketed sporting events

Anyone 12+ who is entering a facility to spectate a ticketed sport event, where admissions are collected, is required to provide proof of full vaccination. All events that have gate admission (indoor and outdoor sport events) are subject to Order 16.

(This includes events with silver dollar collections as it is a type of admission)

Proof of Vaccination

Valid proof of vaccination includes only either of the following combinations:

- QR code + Government-issued identification (driver's license, passport, or Manitoba Health Card)
- Physical immunization card + Government-issued identification (driver's license, passport, or Manitoba Health Card)
- Province of Manitoba Immunization record + Government-issued identification (driver's license, passport, or Manitoba Health Card)

You can ask for proof of vaccination as they enter your facility/event/game, but you cannot copy or store proof of vaccination.

Here is a sample of the current, acceptable immunization records participants from other provinces and territories may provide as proof of vaccination:

https://manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/covidvaccine/covid19-immunization-record-samples.pdf

Participants who have received a vaccine outside of Canada should contact Public Health to determine an appropriate course of action to obtain a valid proof of vaccination.

Confirmation of Vaccination

In sport, individuals who coordinate programming, as well as facility owners, share the responsibility to confirm that participants/spectators 18+ years show proof of vaccination.

Scenario: basketball team game at Sport Manitoba facility

Responsible: basketball team coach/manager, as well as facility scheduler, are responsible for confirming all 18+ participants show proof of vaccination. Sport Manitoba facility attendances will confirm 18+ spectators show proof of vaccination.

Proof of Vaccine Exemptions

We have received confirmation that no other government-issued card or document, including a doctor's note, will qualify as proof of exemption.

Public Health has asked us to communicate that there is an exceedingly small number of medical conditions that would exempt someone from being immunized as well as the following:

Based on the guidance of the vaccine implementation task force's medical advisory committee, people in one of three situations may be eligible for a temporary or permanent medical exemption to vaccination. This must be reviewed by a specialist physician and then submitted to the Vaccine Implementation Task Force. It includes people who:

- had a severe reaction after the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine (e.g. myocarditis, Guillain-Barré syndrome);
- are receiving treatment that affects their ability to mount an immune response, meaning vaccination must be timed carefully with their treatment schedule (e.g. receiving immunocompromising treatment after a transplant, certain types of cancer treatments); or
- had a severe allergy or anaphylactic reaction to a previous dose of a COVID-19 vaccine or its components that cannot be managed by the Health Sciences Centre Allergy Clinic.

The process to submit medical exemptions will be finalized as soon as possible, along with updated clinical guidance for healthcare professionals. The province is also developing a way to ensure individuals with a valid medical exemption are able to access the same benefits as those with an immunization card. This work is expected to be completed in the coming weeks.

In the interim, until this process is finalized, you should refuse access to those 18+ who cannot show proof of vaccination.

Testing

The current health orders state that all 18+ participants need to provide proof of vaccination. Providing a negative test result is not permitted in the order as an acceptable exemption.

Facilities with restaurants/lounges

U18 participants can participate in sport inside licensed premises without proof of vaccination. However, should they stay in the restaurant/lounge outside of participating in sport, proof of vaccination is required.

Interprovincial Travel

14 days of self-isolation (quarantine) is required for all individuals returning to or coming to Manitoba from all jurisdictions unless the individual is exempt in the order from quarantine. Exemptions include Manitobans who can show proof of vaccination and children who are not eligible for the vaccine based on age, if **all** individuals they travelled with are fully immunized.

Complete details are available here: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/prs/orders/index.html#travel-self-isolation>

Spectator Capacity Indoors

As proof of vaccination is required for indoor sport facilities, no spectator capacity restrictions apply.