**COVID-19 Vaccination Policy - Event Attendance & Participation**

**Introduction**

As the COVID-19 pandemic progresses in Canada, Provincial and Territorial governments have begun to put into place proof of COVID-19 vaccination requirements to access certain businesses and settings. Many employers and organizations are increasingly putting into place their own COVID-19 vaccination policies, which either reflect the public health requirements or are in addition to those requirements.

This user guide briefly discusses the template COVID-19 vaccination policy and several key considerations as NSOs consider whether to adopt the policy and how they may do so. It is important to remember that risk mitigation is still required, through the development and implementation of measures to protect the health and safety of participants from the risk of contracting COVID-19. In most cases, these measures will be specified by public health authorities.

The template COVID-19 vaccination policy is intended to cover participants attending at NSO premises and events. These attendees include, athletes, support staff, parents, guardians and volunteers. The policy covers activities occurring on NSO-controlled premises, as defined in the policy.

**Key Considerations**

This is a template policy that NSOs may choose to adopt. As with any template policy, the circumstances may change for each individual NSO and your policy may require customization. Please seek legal advice if you have any questions. Some specific considerations if implementing the policy include:

1. The template policy as drafted does not allow participants to enter an NSO-controlled premises without being fully vaccinated. If you would like to consider allowing for a negative COVID-19 test exemption to enter your premises or an event, please follow the instructions at Clause 4 of the template and seek legal advice as needed.
2. Clause 5 of the template requires participants to, in addition to being vaccinated, at minimum comply with provincial health regulations. You may consider additional regulations specifically for your NSO and at its premises and add them to the end of Clause 5 as required.
3. The template policy includes two types of verification of vaccination status: i) verifying vaccination status upon entry to the premises for short-term participants, and ii) collecting vaccination status with express consent for long-term participants. You may consider collecting additional vaccination information for long-term participants to be able to facilitate travel and associated logistics on behalf of athletes. Relevant additional details may include the date of vaccination and type of vaccine that the participant received, since not all vaccines are globally recognized. If you wish to collect of additional vaccination-related information, we recommend seeking legal advice to discuss this further.

Public health guidelines and requirements are changing within Canada and globally on a frequent basis. The policy addresses the current circumstances and may need to be revised as changes occur to public health guidelines and requirements. Please keep up-to-date with the most recent municipal, provincial and federal public health guidelines. Where public health guidelines require more than the vaccination requirements set out in this policy, please follow the public health guidelines.