



Hockey Saskatchewan Mandatory Vaccination Policy

Policy Pre-amble

Hockey Saskatchewan and its members associations have legal obligations to take every precaution reasonable in the current circumstances to protect the health and safety of its employees, volunteers, athletes, and stakeholders.

Purpose

To continue to protect the health and safety of Hockey Saskatchewan Participants by requiring that certain individuals be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 as a condition of participating in Hockey Saskatchewan Sanctioned Activities in accordance with defined timelines.

Definitions

“Accepted COVID-19 vaccine” means a COVID-19 vaccine that has been approved for use by Health Canada.

“Affected Persons” means any Vaccine-Eligible Players, Game Officials, Hockey Saskatchewan Officials, Team Officials and Volunteers within age divisions and categories defined in the Policy.

“Associations” mean Minor Hockey Associations registered with Hockey Saskatchewan.

“Fully Vaccinated” means fourteen (14) days after an individual has received a completed series of an Accepted COVID-19 Vaccine.

“Game Officials” means any referee, linesperson, timekeeper, or other person engaged in officiating a hockey game as may be designated by Hockey Saskatchewan.

“Hockey Saskatchewan Official” means any member of the board of directors, officers, executive and staff.

SHAPING CHARACTER FOR LIFE... MORE THAN A GAME.



“Team Official” means all or any of the following registered persons involved in the management of a team and includes coach, trainer, manager and any assistant coach, assistant trainer, or assistant managers.

“Participant” means any person registered with Hockey Saskatchewan through any Association or Team.

“Vaccine-Eligible Player” means any player born in the age divisions and categories defined.

1. Policy Statement

Hockey Saskatchewan requires that only Affected Persons be Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19 as a condition of participating in any Sanctioned Activities within the age groups and categories defined as of January 10, 2022.

This policy applies to Associations, Teams and participants who are members of, or who are registered with Hockey Saskatchewan within the age groups and categories defined within this policy. It is not intended to apply to teams and participants operating outside of Hockey Saskatchewan or the age groups and categories defined in the policy, even if they are participating in Hockey Saskatchewan sanctioned activities (i.e., tournaments/exhibition games). This policy is also not intended to limit any Hockey Saskatchewan Teams from participating in sanctioned hockey events and activities in any other hockey jurisdiction outside Hockey Saskatchewan that may be governed by a different vaccination policy.

2. Reasons for Policy

The health and safety of participants is the top priority of Hockey Saskatchewan. The purpose of this policy is to protect the health and safety of participants in age groups and categories where commitment and travel is higher than others, by reducing the risk of exposure to and the transmission of COVID-19, and to promote the health and safety of all members through vaccinations.

This policy is necessary to prevent, respond to, and alleviate any outbreak of COVID-19 in Hockey Saskatchewan because of the significant risk factors for COVID-19 infection that are present while participating in an organized and sanctioned hockey setting.



The close contact nature of organized hockey makes compliance with social distancing requirements difficult in certain circumstances and can reduce the effectiveness of other infectious disease transmission protocols such as masking.

It is the responsibility of the Affected Person to ensure there is sufficient time to receive both doses of the vaccine by January 10, 2022. Hockey Saskatchewan and its Minor Hockey Associations/Leagues will only collect, use, and disclose information regarding vaccination status in accordance with all applicable laws.

Hockey Saskatchewan and its Minor Hockey Associations/Leagues will comply with the provincial human rights legislation and provide accommodation up to the point of undue hardship to any Affected Person who is unable to be vaccinated for substantiated medical reasons and/or on grounds protected under the provincial human rights legislation.

3. Affected Persons

As a condition of participating in Hockey Saskatchewan sanctioned activities, Hockey Saskatchewan has established this Vaccination Policy requiring the following persons (“Affected Persons”) in specific age groups and categories to be Fully Vaccinated against COVID-19 by January 10th, 2022:

- This policy applies to the following Affected Persons, which includes the following players registered in, or affiliated to; or officiating; or acting in the capacity of a on or off-ice official in the following age groups and categories:
 - U15 and U18 Male and Female AA
 - U18 Male and Female AAA
 - Senior
 - All teams competing in U15, U18 and Senior Hockey Saskatchewan Provincial Playoffs
 - All participants attending Hockey Saskatchewan Sask First Programming
- All registered team officials of all teams registered with Hockey Saskatchewan.
- Hockey Saskatchewan Staff.
- Hockey Saskatchewan Skill Licensees.
- Hockey Saskatchewan Board of Directors.

Hockey Saskatchewan strongly recommends that all eligible participants be fully vaccinated.

4. Vaccination Requirement & Records

All Affected Persons are required to be Fully Vaccinated by January 10, 2022, or earlier. All Affected Persons must present to their Association/League/Team COVID designate, as applicable, evidence satisfactory to Hockey Saskatchewan demonstrating that they are Fully Vaccinated.



5. Acceptable Vaccines

Hockey Saskatchewan recognizes all vaccines approved by Health Canada. All Affected Persons will be required to confirm they are vaccinated regardless of which Health Canada approved vaccine they received.

6. Acceptable Documentation

Acceptable documents serving as evidence of COVID-19 vaccination include:

- Saskatchewan Health Authority wallet cards received at time of immunization
- A printed copy of your MySaskHealthRecord (MSHR) vaccine certificate
- A screenshot of your MSHR vaccine certificate saved to your device
- A COVID-19 vaccine printout from Saskatchewan Health Authority Public Health
- A QR code/MySaskHealthRecord vaccine certificate within the SK Vax Wallet application

Note: Hockey Saskatchewan reserves the right to perform future random spot checks to confirm the accuracy of an individual's vaccination history and this may include an individual having to produce confirmation of their COVID-19 vaccination records.

7. Exemption

Hockey Saskatchewan will comply with the Province of Saskatchewan's current legislation and there are no exemptions in lieu of vaccinations.

If an Affected Person cannot provide Hockey Saskatchewan or their Association /League/Team with satisfactory evidence of vaccination, the following may be taken into consideration by exemption only:

- The Affected Person's reason for not being vaccinated; and
- Any Affected Person requiring exemption must provide Hockey Saskatchewan with medical documentation to substantiate their reason for not being vaccinated.

Where exemption is not possible, the Affected Person will not be permitted to be involved in any Sanctioned Activity for the duration of the pandemic or until such time that COVID-19 no longer poses a significant public health risk.

Hockey Saskatchewan reserves the right to have medical documentation reviewed by the Hockey Saskatchewan Chief Medical Officer and Hockey Saskatchewan Staff.



8. Reporting & Record Keeping

All Affected Persons need to provide proof to their association COVID designate who will record the proof of vaccination. However, the association will not keep any medical records or vaccination receipts on file. The Association /League/Team COVID designate will simply be required to confirm that proof of vaccination has been and maintain such on file as a list of all Affected Persons who have provided such proof of vaccination. The Association /League/Team COVID designate must advise on an individual vaccination's status when and if a request is made by Hockey Saskatchewan.

All documentary records regarding COVID-19 accommodations will only be collected, used, retained, or disclosed by the Association /League/Team COVID designate as may be necessary for operational purposes, as directed or requested by governmental authorities or as may be required by law.

Until no longer required, all records retained under this policy must be kept in a secure location to which access is provided to only a limited number of designated persons who participate in administering this policy. Once an Affected Person's accommodation status has been verified, and it is determined that there is no further need for the retention of such records, they shall be immediately destroyed in a secure manner.

9. Unvaccinated Affected Persons

On January 10, 2022, any Affected Person that is not Fully Vaccinated will no longer be permitted to participate in any Sanctioned Activities in the age groups and categories defined until such time as they have presented satisfactory evidence that they have been Fully Vaccinated.

10. Facilities

Facilities are governed by Provincial, Municipal, and Public Health Legislation. Facilities may have other regulations or policies outside of the scope of this policy, which must be always adhered to.