

September 12, 2021

COVID-19 Update – Proof of Vaccination Status

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The [Provincial Health Order](#) regarding proof of vaccination status has been released by the Provincial Government under an updated *Gathering and Events Order*. The official Order clarifies some of the specifics related to proof of vaccination status that have been awaited by sport organizations and recreational facilities.

On September 13, individuals will need to show that they have received at least one dose of vaccine in order to attend events and participate in non-essential activities including sports and recreation. Information related to vaccination status and steps to retrieve your proof of vaccination status can be found on the BC [Government Proof of Vaccination website](#).

A number of facilities have been releasing details for proof of vaccination status that come into effect tomorrow. Please review your specific facility details regarding vaccination status and any changes that may have been put in place to align with the new *Gathering and Events Order*.

Details Related to Proof of Vaccination Status and Sport:

1. **Proof of Vaccination status is only required for participants 22 years of age and older.**
 - “program for children or youth” means a structured educational program, including home education or distributed learning, music, art, drama, dance, recreational, sport, exercise, or social activity supervised by an adult and provided for persons under 22 years of age;” - [Gathering and Events Order](#), p 4.
 - Applicable to Ringette: That participants on the ice or in the gym participating in ringette activities are exempt from showing proof of vaccination status.
2. **Proof of Vaccination status is required for participants in indoor Adult Sport:**
 - “b. a gathering of participants in an inside place for the purpose of an adult sports activity, or an exercise, fitness or dance activity or class;” - [Gathering and Events Order](#), p 7.
 - Applicable to Ringette: That participants in 18+ and Masters ringette are required to show proof of vaccination status along with Government issue ID in order to enter facilities to participate in ringette.
3. **Children under 12 years of age are exempt from showing proof of vaccination status.**

4. If children and youth between the ages of 12 - 18 years of age are entering a facility and are not participants in the activity they will likely be asked to show proof of vaccination status to enter. They will not be required to show Government ID. ([Proof of Vaccination website](#)).
5. Spectators who are 19 years of age and older will be required to show proof of vaccination status and Government Issue ID.
 - “a) in the case of a person who is more than 18 years of age, photo identification and proof in one of the following forms that the holder is vaccinated:
 - i. electronic proof or a printed copy of an electronic proof” – [Gathering and Events Order](#), p 8-9.

Proof of Vaccination Status: Event Organizers

As per the Order¹, event organizers will be required to confirm proof of vaccination status along with verifying it against a valid piece of Government ID². The majority of facilities and municipalities are defining the user group as the “event organizer”. This transfers the responsibility for checking proof of vaccination status onto the Ringette Club-Association as they are the user group.

For the immediate week Club-Associations will need to have individuals who are checking proof of vaccination status for participants entering the facility for ringette activities. Reminder participants under 22 years are exempt when participating and children under 12 are always exempt.

Seeking Further Information:

Ringette BC is looking for clarification on proof of vaccination status for coaches, volunteers, officials, etc. who deliver programs for children and youth to confirm if they will be required to show proof of vaccination status. It is highly likely that these individuals will be required to show proof of vaccination status in order to enter the facility to participate in the event.

Tracking Vaccination Status:

Ringette BC is looking at options for Club-Associations to record individuals such as players, officials, coaches, and volunteers who regularly access facilities to be kept so that consistent event attendees do not have to show proof of vaccination status every time they come to ringette.

However, as there are privacy laws regarding this recording Ringette BC is seeking clarification from viaSport about options that would help to make the verification process more efficient while still following to privacy laws.

Mask Mandate:

¹ [Gathering and Events Order](#) p. 3

² [Gathering and Events Order](#), p 9

- Masks must be worn by everyone 12 years of age or older in indoor public places regardless of vaccination status except when on the field of play.
 - The field of play includes the ice surface and players benches and penalty boxes.
- Coaches, referees and staff/volunteers must wear a mask at all times to and from the field of play and while not engaging in participation.
 - It is recommended that coaches wear a mask at all times when inside facilities and when on the ice if they cannot maintain consistent physical distancing.
- Coaches must wear a mask at all times when on the player's benches during games and scrimmages.
- Minor officials are required to wear masks.
- Participants must follow facility protocols about the use of masks at all times.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to reach out. Ringette BC will be updating the COVID-19 Resource Hub as new information is released from viaSport and the Provincial Health Officer.

Sincerely,

Nicole Robb
Executive Director,
Ringette BC

Cc: Ringette BC Board of Directors
Ringette BC Technical Director

Relevant links:

[Provincial Health Order – Gatherings and Events Proof of Vaccination Status](#)
[Province –wide Restrictions Government page](#)
[BC Restart Plan 2.0](#)
[Ringette BC Message Board](#)
[Proof of Vaccination website](#)
[Mask Mandate Announcement from PHO](#)