



# Pandemic Response Measures – Version 2.0

## 2021/22 Season

This document represents an addendum to the original *WRL Vaccination and Mask Policy and Procedures* posted on August 27, 2021 as well as a revision to the *Pandemic Response Measures* policy submitted to Ringette Manitoba on October 8, 2021.

This policy recognizes the current Province of Manitoba Public Health Order dated October 4, 2021. This policy makes one additional stipulation to those orders:

- **The Winnipeg Ringette League (WRL) believes that the safety of our players and fans is paramount. In order to keep everyone safe the WRL will be implementing a Covid-19 Vaccination Policy. Any vaccination eligible individuals rostered on teams at the U14 level and older, and under the age of 18\*, must be vaccinated and their QR code verified prior to participating in any Winnipeg Ringette League Games. A Province of Manitoba issued QR Code confirming proof of vaccination must match the name submitted on the team roster.**

\*Any rostered individuals 18 and older will be required to provide proof of vaccination upon arena entry as required under the current Province of Manitoba Public Health Order dated October 4, 2021.

\*\*Fully vaccinated means individuals having received the full series of vaccines authorized in Canada at least 14 days before any WRL activity. <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/covid19-industry/drugs-vaccines-treatments/vaccines.html>

## **SAFETY AND VACCINATION DIRECTIVES**

The WRL will require all U14 and up teams to have all vaccine eligible individuals on the roster to verify their QR Code to the WRL Covid Committee (WRLCC) or WRLCC designate prior to participating in any league activities. More information on Proof of Immunization can be found by visiting:

<https://manitoba.ca/covid19/vaccine/immunizationrecord/index.html>

It is imperative that the WRL offer a safe environment and mitigate risk for any player or rostered individual. The WRL believes that this can be achieved by the completion of a full vaccination series of doses

## **The Personal Health Information Act (PHIA) and QR Code**

### **How is the card different from an immunization record?**

The province says a vaccine record, which is different than the COVID-19 immunization card, is a personal medical record used in the health-care system.

Your vaccine record can be used by health-care providers and used as proof of immunization to visit personal care homes and hospitals.

The COVID-19 immunization card, on the other hand, which shows only your name and the scannable QR Code, is used only as proof of immunization for non-medical services, like attending a sporting event.

## **WRL Requirement**

The WRL will require all vaccination eligible players or rostered individual to provide verification of their QR Code to the WRLCC prior to participating in any league activities.

As outlined on the Province of Manitoba website *"the digital and physical cards contain no personal health information or data."* The card only shows the person's first and last names and a QR Code. When verified, using the Province of Manitoba Immunization App, the QR Code will confirm that the individual is fully vaccinated.

## **QR Code and Name Verification**

The name appearing on the QR Code must match exactly with the name on the roster. For example, if the name on QR Code is Rebecca Smith but the roster says Becca Smith, it will not be considered a match.

## **Reminders**

- The responsibility for providing the information requested in order to participate in the WRL will be up to the individual (or parent).
- The WRLCC will not be responsible for trying to hunt anything down.
- The Name on the roster must match the name on the QR Code EXACTLY.
- QR Codes must be verified before the player or rostered individual are considered eligible. If not verified by the WRLCC, the individual will be considered not fully vaccinated and therefore cannot participate in any WRL games.

- The QR Code must be verified prior to the game with enough time for the WRLCC to confirm and send a confirmation.

## **MASK POLICY**

**All levels of WRL - U10 to Open**

**During game play all bench staff and non-active players (injured or 2<sup>nd</sup> goalie) will be required to wear a non-medical mask at all times while on the bench.**

Non-medical mask must be worn properly to cover one's nose and mouth at all times. A delay of game penalty will be assessed should the Player/Bench Staff not wear the mask properly during a game.

Game sheets are monitored and if we see a pattern of repeated violations suspension may be assessed and/or association may be fined.

## **MEDICAL EXEMPTIONS**

### **Criteria:**

Manitoba is developing a medical exemption process for people in one of three situations, 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.

For more information: <https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/vaccine/eligibility-criteria.html#medical-exemptions>

This policy will abide by the exemption process established by the Province of Manitoba.

## **REFUNDS**

In the event that an individual decides that they do not wish to continue with their registration in light of the WRL Policy, the WRL will work with the individual's local association to return their fees.

## **MODIFICATIONS**

WRL reserves the right to amend this policy from time to time as circumstances change.