

BASKETBALL MANAWATŪ

VACCINATION POLICY



INTRODUCTION

Basketball Manawatū's Covid 19 vaccination policy document and subsequent arrangements and procedures are designed to create a positive environment in which people can be successful in their enjoyment of the game of basketball.

While we respect the rights of individuals to make choices, we are committed to providing a safe place for all people to play. For Basketball Manawatū to do what we do best, we need to be open and operating safely, and vaccinations are the key factor for us being able to do so.

RATIONALE

The Delta & Omicron variants of COVID-19 have proved to be game changers, and both carry significantly higher risks of transmission than previous strains of the virus. The Government has repeatedly emphasised the importance of vaccinations – to protect individuals and to give the country more possibilities in managing the virus.

Vaccination is widely considered critical to protecting people's health and safety, by reducing the risk of transmission and minimising the clinical impacts of COVID-19 infection.

Under current legislative settings, all organisations can require visitors to their facilities, and/or participants in activities that they run, to be vaccinated as a condition of entry, subject to having undertaken a risk assessment to inform a final policy decision. Now the new COVID-19 Protection Framework has come into force, vaccination status is a key feature in determining what is possible under different settings (Green, Orange, or Red).

This Policy aims to provide our volunteers and players with consistency of protection against COVID-19 when involved in Basketball Manawatū activities, whether that is playing, training or development sessions.

We recognise that the science and knowledge around the Covid vaccine is still emerging, and these guidelines may need to be updated as developments occur.

SCOPE

This policy covers all volunteers, coaches and players.

NB: - All staff of Basketball Manawatū are required to be full vaccinated as well.

At Basketball Manawatū, we encourage and support our members being vaccinated against COVID-19, so that we can reduce the risk of exposure and transmission of COVID-19. It is important that we provide you with a safe community, in which you can undertake any basketball activity. A safe community is a COVID-19 free community, and currently the best protection against spreading COVID-19 is vaccination. We recognise that COVID-19 poses a very real and serious risk to the safety of our staff, members and volunteers, and in accordance with our health and safety obligations, we are required to take reasonably practicable steps to put in place control measures to manage and minimise (or eliminate) any such risk.

POLICY STATEMENT

Basketball leagues, events & tournaments

Under the Covid Protection Framework all participants, i.e. players, volunteers, coaches and officials will be required to be double vaccinated to attend any Basketball Manawatū activity. For clarity, if you intend to participate or attend an event prior to 1 March 2022, you will be required to be vaccinated to do so.

Evidence of vaccination status will be required upon registration for an event.

Volunteers (including Coaches and Managers)

Risk Assessment – all coaches are required to be vaccinated by 1 March 2022, or earlier if attending a Basketball Manawatū training or event prior to this date.

Players (aged 12 years 3 months old and older)

Risk Assessment – all players are required to be vaccinated by 1 March 2022, or earlier if attending a Basketball Manawatū events/tournaments, competing a league or attending a training activity.

These decisions were based on the outcome of the risk assessment that was completed in November 2021 through a consultation process with BBNZ, Sport NZ and the board of Basketball Manawatu. *November 2021 This policy is accurate at time of writing and is subject to change from time to time to reflect the changes in the Covid environment.*

Being vaccinated will help protect players from contracting Covid and/or passing it on to others, thereby keeping everyone safe.

Record keeping

A record of coach's and players' vaccination status will be recorded on the Basketball Manawatū Game Day database.

Vaccination Details

When we refer to vaccination, for purposes of clarification this is the Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccination or any other vaccination subsequently approved by the Minister of Health.

Other measures

The Covid Vaccination is one mechanism to protect you from catching and/or spreading Covid-19.

Other recommended measures to be utilised include:

- Wear a mask where possible Practice social distancing where possible
- Stay home if you feel unwell
- Contact tracing and record keeping
- Hand sanitation
- Wipe down equipment and surfaces in between use where possible

SANCTIONS

Basketball Manawatū will impose a one year ban on anyone found to be using another person's Vaccine Passport, or attempting to use a "Fake" Vaccine Passport. And if it is felt appropriate, consideration will be given to the matter may be referred to the MoH &/or NZ Police.



EXEMPTIONS

Basketball Manawatū respects the rights of individuals to choose whether to be vaccinated and acknowledges that there may be medical or other reasons or circumstances, for not being vaccinated, for which you may seek an exemption.

If, in future, a person seeks a role within Basketball Manawatū that is required to be performed by a vaccinated person under the COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021 (Order), exemptions to the COVID-19 vaccine will be subject to that Order. Currently, exemptions under the Order require a suitably qualified medical practitioner or nurse practitioner to apply to the Ministry of on the grounds that the person meets the specified exemption criteria.

Even where an exemption from being vaccinated is obtained by an individual, Basketball Manawatū may have to determine whether it still safely manage the relevant risks posed by that individual not being vaccinated, and whether any accommodations can be made.

Basketball Manawatū will work with those people who are not vaccinated on a case-by-case basis, respectfully and in good faith to explore options and try and find a way forward.

For Basketball Manawatū members (including coaches, officials, players, parents and other visitors), this is likely to be more challenging given the nature of our settings and operations. As a result, unvaccinated members should expect to be denied entry or participation rights as a result of their non-vaccinated status.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

This COVID-19 Vaccination policy should be read in conjunction with the following Basketball Manawatū documents (* are provided on our website):

- Basketball Manawatū response to the Covid Protection Framework *
- CET Arena Health & Safety Guidelines 2021
- Basketball Manawatū's Risk Assessment 2021 *
- Basketball Manawatū's Health and Safety policy 2021 *
- Basketball Manawatū's Privacy policy 2021 *
- Privacy Act 2020
- COVID-19 Public Health Response (Vaccinations) Order 2021

Further information on vaccinations and COVID-19 can be found at the Government Covid-19 website via the following link: [Unite against COVID-19 \(covid19.govt.nz\)](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)

POLICY REVIEW

Basketball Manawatu will monitor and review this policy on an annual basis.

This policy will be reviewed no later than 1 May 2022 to ensure that it is effectively managing risks for players, volunteers, coaches and employees.