



Policy on COVID-19 Vaccination

1. Policy Statement

- 1.1. Gay Ottawa Volleyball (GOV) requires that all participants in GOV programming be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 at least 14 days prior to playing in GOV league, drop-in, or other GOV activities, in accordance with the remainder of this policy.
- 1.2. This policy applies to all players and participants and is effective September 2 for the 2021-2022 season.

2. Reason for Policy

- 2.1. The health and safety of all players and participants is the top priority of GOV. The purpose of this policy is to help protect the health and safety of the GOV community by reducing the risk of exposure to and transmission of COVID-19, an infectious communicable disease, among all persons involved in GOV activities; and to promote the health and safety of all members of the GOV community, through vaccinations against COVID-19.
- 2.2. As a volleyball league primarily serving the LGBTQ2+ community, GOV pays particular attention to the needs of our community. As such, this policy serves to help protect the safety and security of players who are HIV positive or are otherwise immunocompromised. Community members with HIV or others who are immunocompromised, even those who are on antiretroviral treatment and are fully vaccinated, may have a reduced response to vaccines and are more susceptible to COVID-19 and its complications. Achieving community immunity through having all GOV players and participants vaccinated helps protect us all, including those who have reduced response to vaccines, and creates a safe space for all members of the LGBTQ2+ community to participate.
- 2.3. This policy is necessary to reduce the risk of outbreak and transmission of COVID-19 in GOV because of the significant risk factors for COVID-19 infection that are present while participating in an organized volleyball league. These risk factors include close contact in predominantly indoor closed-space environments.

3. Vaccination Requirement

- 3.1. All GOV players and participants are required to be vaccinated with a full vaccine series against COVID-19, at least **two (2)** weeks prior to participating in any GOV activities.
- 3.2. Any person found to be in violation of this requirement shall be considered to have violated the GOV Code of Conduct and may be subject to expulsion from GOV activities.

4. Acceptable Vaccines

- 4.1. All GOV players and participants must be vaccinated with a full vaccine series of a COVID-19 vaccine approved by Health Canada. GOV players and participants will be required to confirm they are vaccinated regardless of which approved vaccine they receive.
- 4.2. Refer to the National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) [recommendations on the use of COVID-19 vaccines](#) for full details on approved full vaccine series. Consult your healthcare provider if you have questions regarding COVID-19 vaccines.
- 4.3. Vaccines are widely available free of charge (no health card required) through Ottawa Public Health, community pharmacies, and primary care clinics on a walk-in basis and through booked appointments. For more information about COVID-19 vaccines and participating vaccination sites, refer to the [Ottawa Public Health website](#) or the [Ontario COVID-19 website](#); or the [CISSS of Outaouais website](#) or the [Quebec COVID-19 website](#).

5. Reporting

- 5.1. Prior to registering in any GOV programming, participants must affirm that they meet the vaccination requirements set out in this policy.
- 5.2. GOV reserves the right to enforce local, provincial, and/or federal rules regarding proof of immunization as applicable by law and/or public health order.
- 5.3. GOV will require players and participants to show any federally or provincially approved proof of immunization, vaccination passport, or other document to demonstrate their vaccination status.
- 5.4. GOV will not disclose the vaccination status or private medical information of any individual, in accordance with GOV's policy on privacy of personal information.
- 5.5. The GOV VP Operations is responsible for the administration of this policy, including:
 - a. Ensuring that no private medical information is collected when verifying proof of immunization or vaccination status.
 - b. Selecting GOV representatives to enforce this policy, who shall, to the extent possible, consist of GOV directors, officers, and coordinators.
 - c. Ensuring that any GOV representatives enforcing this vaccination policy are aware of and follow this policy.

6. Accommodation

- 6.1. A GOV participant who is unable to be vaccinated for substantiated medical reasons and/or on grounds protected under the Ontario Human Rights Code shall be exempt this policy.

7. Disclaimer

- 7.1. This policy is intended to reduce the risk related to COVID-19 for GOV players and participants, and GOV takes appropriate precautions through this policy and the GOV COVID-19 Protocol. Nevertheless, each individual assumes their own risk by participating in GOV activities with respect to potential COVID-19 transmission and GOV makes no guarantees in this respect.
- 7.2. GOV reserves the right to modify or revoke this policy at any time, including to maintain alignment with public health directives.

8. Links to resources and pertinent policies

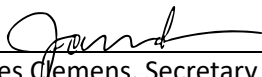
- [GOV's COVID-19 Protocol \(Indoor\)](#)
- [GOV Code of conduct](#)
- [GOV Policy on privacy of personal information](#)
- [Ottawa Public Health - COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- [CISSS Outaouais – COVID-19 vaccine](#)
- [Ontario Volleyball Association - Return to Play](#)



Tim Klodt, Chair of the Board

18 August 2021

Date



James Clemens, Secretary of the Board

18 August 2021

Date