



October 15, 2021

## **FREESTYLE BC'S STATEMENT REGARDING VACCINATIONS**

As the COVID-19 pandemic persists, Freestyle BC remains committed to the health and well-being of its members and stakeholders. The best line of defence against transmission and severe symptoms has proven to be vaccination in combination with other health measures. In addition, it is essential to our community's health and well-being that all BC's snow sports community members take action to ensure that the 2021-22 ski season proceeds safely and without interruption. For these reasons, **FREESTYLE BC STRONGLY ENCOURAGES ALL MEMBERS AND STAKEHOLDERS TO BECOME FULLY VACCINATED.**

## **REGULATIONS & PROTOCOLS**

In September 2021, the BC Provincial Health Authority (PHO) updated its COVID-19 regulations to address proof of vaccination requirements in certain circumstances. In addition to these provincial regulations, facilities, municipalities, and regional health units will implement their proof of vaccination requirements. Freestyle BC members should expect to experience different requirements from location to location, with the provincial regulations serving as the bare minimum in terms of COVID-19 restrictions.

Freestyle BC's COVID-19 Protocols requires that club leaders be responsible for their club's education and adherence to all applicable facility, municipality, regional, provincial, and federal proof of vaccination requirements. Therefore, both viaSport and Freestyle BC will not provide an interpretation of these regulations to its clubs. However, Freestyle BC will hold a forum for club leaders to share their COVID-19 approaches and experiences. An invite to this meeting has been sent to each club's identified leader.

## **VACCINATIONS & THE 2021-22 SKI SEASON**

The COVID-19 situation continues to evolve. The future is not always predictable. While the current provincial regulations permit certain types of activity to proceed without full vaccination among participants; the last year and a half have proven that both the regulations and pandemics can change with little warning.

Meanwhile, the process of becoming fully vaccinated is lengthy. Full vaccination status requires that a person receive their final dose at least 14 days before the current date.



Freestyle BC recognizes that due to the unpredictability of COVID-19, the position of the Public Health Officer in British Columbia, Freestyle Canada, or Freestyle BC may be required to change in the future. As information and transmission rates change, Freestyle BC may eventually require that participants in Freestyle skiing in British Columbia are fully vaccinated. If this occurs, we recognize that Freestyle BC will do its best to reasonably accommodate individuals that are not fully vaccinated pursuant to the BC Human Rights Code. However, participants need to be aware that changes in policy due to the unpredictability of COVID-19 may prevent individuals from being able to engage in athlete selections, coach development, or other participation with Freestyle BC events. Depending on the situation, participants may not be entitled to a refund.

In support of the safety and well-being of our community, Freestyle BC requires that all of its full-time and part-time staff members who engage in regular face-to-face interaction as part of their role be fully vaccinated, unless eligible for an exemption.

We appreciate the changing and developing situation and understand the difficulties COVID-19 has had on participants and families involved with Freestyle BC. We acknowledge the hard work all members of Freestyle BC have had in adapting to changing situations as a result of the pandemic. As is always the case with freestyle, this adaptation has been done with grace and kindness with the safety of our athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers in mind.

Thank you,

**Freestyle BC**  
**Board of Directors**