



RE: Removal of COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

Ringette Saskatchewan Board of Directors held a meeting earlier this week to discuss our Vaccination Policy in light of the new guidance and information coming from the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) and the removal of restrictions by the provincial government and local municipalities.

Ringette Saskatchewan implemented this policy believing it would help to provide a safe environment for our participants, minimize the spread of COVID-19 and would help mitigate further restrictions and keep everyone on the ice this season. We believe this policy was an effective tool against the delta variant and kept COVID outbreaks in our ringette community to a minimum.

As the pandemic evolves with the introduction of the Omicron variant, our policies must adapt. To that end, we have determined that the Vaccination Policy is not in alignment with the best practices to reduce the spread of COVID-19 at the current time and will be removing it and the restrictions/requirements outlined in the policy. **The policy will be removed starting February 14th, 2022.**

Ringette Saskatchewan has the health, safety, and well-being of our members as its top priority. Keeping athletes healthy and minimizing outbreaks will require a continued effort by all members to be vigilant in self-monitoring, self-testing and self-management. Participants are encouraged to continue to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19 by wearing masks if desired, taking advantage of free rapid testing, regular handwashing, staying home when ill and getting vaccinated, including your booster as soon as you are eligible.

We would like to sincerely thank everyone for their observance of the previous policy and for all of the efforts to keep everyone healthy and on the ice. Community spirit is a significant part of what makes our sport so special – so THANK-YOU.

Special thanks each of the local association COVID Safety Officers as well as the individual team Safety Officers – your extra work is an important and integral part of the success of this season to date.

Sincerely yours in sport,

Leanne Walter
President
Ringette Association of Saskatchewan