



**SCHOOL SPORT
NOVA SCOTIA
SPORT SCOLAIRE
NOUVELLE-ÉCOSSE**

Q: Where can I learn more about the Proof of Vaccination Protocol?

A: The most up-to-date and most trusted source of information related to the Proof of Vaccination Protocol can be found at <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/proof-of-full-vaccination-policy/>.

Q: Who will be responsible for checking proof of vaccination during school-based events?

A: This will be the responsibility of the school through the direction of the Principal. This could be a staff member, volunteer, student (where applicable), etc.. It is recommended that there be as few entry points as possible to these events.

Q: Are schools expected to request proof of vaccination for outdoor events?

A: Yes, they are.

Q: Is there a transition period for vaccination for students who are 12 years old?

A: Yes. Children who turn 12 between 1 January and 4 October 2021 have until 31 December 2021 to attend events and activities while they get vaccinated. Children who turn 12 after 4 October 2021 have 3 months from their birthday to get vaccinated.

Q: Can students 13 to 18 years of age with one dose of vaccination participate in extra-curricular activities?

A: Yes, students 13 to 18 who have proof of receiving 1 dose of COVID-19 vaccine can participate in extra-curricular activities. To continue participating, these students must provide proof of full vaccination by November 9, 2021.

Q: Are spectators who are not fully vaccinated permitted to watch an outdoor event in their vehicles or at a distance outside of the physical space?

A: Principals and designates are only responsible for the physical sporting environment (i.e. soccer field and immediate area).

Q: What is the expectation of schools when a spectator arrives with no proof of vaccine?

A: The expectation is that the spectator will be made aware that they are not permitted to enter the event due to government policy. Should the spectator refuse to leave or become aggressive, the recommendation is to contact RCMP or Municipal Police.

Q: Are schools required to maintain records from each individual event?

A: No, schools should not maintain records.

Q: Do schools still require a sign-in process for contact tracing?

A: Sign-in is no longer required as contact tracing is no longer necessary due to the fact that all those entering these spaces must be fully vaccinated. Checking for vaccines replaces the sign-in process.

Q: Are masks still required at these extra-curricular events?

A: The current Public Health mask rules need to be followed.

Q: Are student athletes expected to show proof of vaccination at each practice and/or game at both home and away venues?

A: One check of the regular participants will determine if individuals are permitted to continue. Schools are responsible for the process (e.g., tracking lists of who has presented proof).

Q: Once vaccinations are checked once, will individuals need to be checked every time they attend an event?

A: Regular team members may be checked once. The school is responsible of keeping a record that this check has been performed. For all others, proof of vaccine will need to be checked every time, as records will not be kept.

Q: How will Principals manage curricular events taking place within the community during the school day?

A: Students, staff and volunteers will be expected to follow the vaccine protocol of the community venue. Schools will want to be clear with families that the student will have to show proof of vaccination or a medical exemption.

Q: Do coaches, volunteers, referees, and officials need to be vaccinated for school sporting events? If so, by when?

A: Yes, any adult involved directly in a school sporting event (like a coach, volunteer, official) must be fully vaccinated to participate as of October 4, 2021.

Q: Do parents/spectators need to show proof of vaccination at events?

A: Yes, they do.

Q: When spectators are arriving at games are schools expected to also request a photo/government identification?

A: Yes, identification will ensure that the vaccine record corresponds to the individual.

Q: Will some students (or others) be provided with medical exemptions as it relates to the proof of vaccine?

A: Yes, they will be based on existing medical documentation. Public Health has a standard form that will be used if an individual has a medical exemption.

Q: How will RCEs and the CSAP confirm a valid medical exemption from the province?

A: Medical exemptions need to be from a physician or nurse practitioner. Public Health has advised these will be very rare.

Q: What is the protocol for when there are no volunteers or staff available to conduct this work?

A: Schools will work to determine the best ways to check for proof of vaccination. This is required for all extra-curricular activities.

Q: Should there be an incident/injury involving a volunteer as it relates to requesting proof of vaccination, are they covered under the School Insurance Program?

A: Existing volunteer policies should be followed.

Q: Who is responsible for contacting families of those students who are not fully vaccinated to inform them that they are ineligible to participate?

A: This is the responsibility of school.

Q: What if a student expresses a desire to get vaccinated but is not supported by their parents/guardians?

A: Students who are 12 years of age can provide their own consent. Immunization sites have a consent process they must follow.

Q: Will Principals be provided with support/documentation outlining clear direction for potential volunteers?

A: Information on proof of vaccine can be found at: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/proof-of-full-vaccination-policy/>

Q: What is an example of a best practice when hosting an outdoor event?

A: To facilitate the checking of vaccination status, outdoor events should have clearly identified entrances with individuals stationed at these entrances to verify proof of vaccination. In the circumstance where a venue does not have gates, fences, etc. to indicate an entrance, a school might consider setting up a table/booth to identify the place of entry. It is considered best practice to limit the number of entrance points into a venue and to have a clearly identified person(s) checking vaccination status.

Q: What is an example of a best practice when hosting an indoor event?

A: To facilitate the checking of vaccination status, indoor events should have clearly identified entrances with one or two individuals stationed at these entrances to verify proof of vaccination. It is considered best practice to limit the number of entrance points into a venue and to have a clearly identified person(s) checking vaccination status.

Q: Do I record the name of the spectator and their vaccination status at the entrance to an event?

A: No, no records should be kept, rather the person responsible for checking the proof of vaccination of spectators/visitors should simply be visually confirming proof of vaccination and corresponding identification at the entrance to the event.