



British Canoeing Covid-19 Vaccination Policy **(Applicable to athletes on all teams and squads, volunteers and officials)**

Introduction

1. The purpose of this policy is to set out British Canoeing' position regarding the impact of vaccination status on athlete selection to and volunteer and officials attendance at British teams and training camps in 2022.
2. British Canoeing respects that the decision on whether to have a vaccine sits with an individual. We also recognise that it is likely that international travel in 2022 will continue to be impacted by covid-19 restrictions, which are mainly determined by the vaccination status of an individual.
3. British Canoeing recommends that athletes, volunteers and officials of all ages ensure that they are up to date with the recommended vaccine doses and/or boosters in order to ensure maximal protection from Covid-19 and reduce the impact of travel restrictions on their attendance and/or performance.
4. It is probable that any 'vaccine passport' will require adults to have had at least three doses to be considered fully vaccinated and U18's to have had at least two doses. It is also noted that there are medical exemptions applicable to international travel, although the scope of these exemptions may vary from country to country.
5. 2022 will be the third international season impacted by Covid-19 and the compliance work involved to minimise risk to athletes, staff, volunteers and officials and adhere to restrictions in an affordable and manageable way is significant. Vaccination status is another factor that will impact on risk management, selection and event planning and British Canoeing has implemented the following measures contained within this policy which will work alongside the relevant selection policies for 2022.

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6. There may be situations where it is not permitted to visit a country or event without a specific vaccination status. Therefore, athlete selection for the event or volunteer/official attendance for those not meeting specified criteria will not be possible. This is out of the control of British Canoeing.
7. Subject to government restrictions in the UK, British Canoeing may be required to refuse access to domestic events for athletes, volunteers or officials who are unable to be classified as 'fully vaccinated'. This is also out of the control of British Canoeing.
8. Additional restrictions or requirements may be placed on athletes, volunteers or officials not meeting the vaccination requirements for event entry or international travel. These may include quarantine requirements, additional testing, further insurance cover and other costs. British Canoeing will require the athletes, volunteers or officials not meeting the vaccination requirements to be responsible for any and all additional costs and requirements.
9. Where the cost, administrative work and/or performance impact of athletes, volunteers or officials not meeting the vaccination requirements for event entry or travel is considered unreasonable, the relevant IP or selection committee reserves the right to not select, or de-select, athletes for, or deny attendance by volunteers or officials, at the event.
10. Where athletes, volunteers or officials believe they have an exemption to the vaccination requirements for travel and/or event entry/attendance, they are encouraged to work with British Canoeing at an early stage to ensure all administrative requirements are completed in good time ahead of travel.
11. In applying the provisions at 8 and 9 above, British Canoeing, at its discretion, may consider exceptional circumstances. This may include situations where a junior athlete is fully vaccinated in the UK but there are additional requirements in the destination country and the athlete has made every effort to get the additional vaccination. Exceptional circumstances may require evidence in support.

Further Questions

12. Any questions relating to this policy should be directed to:
 - For Freestyle/Marathon/Ocean Racing/Polo/Rafting/Surf Kayak/Wildwater contact Anna Gray anna.gray@britishcanoeing.org.uk
 - For Slalom/Sprint/Paracanoe contact Andy Maddock andy.maddock@britishcanoeing.org.uk

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