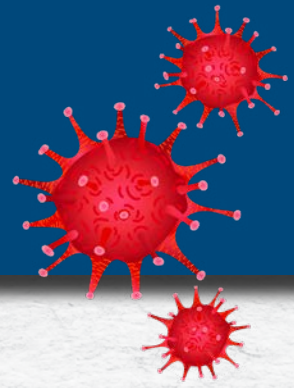


# Durham Region Health Department

# COVID-19 Fact Sheet



## **Instruction regarding proof of vaccination requirements for persons 12 years of age and older attending or involved in (including participation) indoor organized sports and recreational fitness.**

### **Why are these instructions being issued?**

Protecting the health and well-being of our community remains the top priority of the Durham Region Health Department. Given the steady increase in COVID-19 cases in youth between the ages of 12 and 17, the number of COVID-19 cases associated with indoor organized sports, and new emerging variants of concern, additional preventive measures are required to be implemented in facilities where organized sports are played and/or practiced.

Activities related to organized sports have the potential to enhance COVID-19 transmission. Specifically, close contact, forceful exhalation, prolonged exposure, crowded indoor spaces and the absence of masks and face coverings during physical activity contribute to enhanced likelihood of COVID-19 transmission. Verifying proof of vaccination for persons 12 years and older in facilities where organized sports are played and/or practiced, will strengthen protections in the community by helping curb the spread of COVID-19.

### **Under what authority are these instructions being issued?**

These instructions are being issued by the Durham Region Medical Officer of Health following consultation with the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, pursuant to [Ontario Regulation 364/20: Rules for Areas in Step 3](#) and at the Roadmap Exit Step issued under the [Reopening Ontario \(A Flexible Response to COVID-19\) Act, 2020 \(ROA\)](#).

### **Who are these instructions issued to?**

All owners, operators and/or persons responsible for any indoor areas of facilities used for organized sports and recreational fitness activities in Durham Region.

### **What are the instructions?**

All owners, operators and persons responsible for any indoor areas of facilities used for organized sports and recreational fitness activities in Durham Region to implement the following measures:

*cont'd on next page*



[durham.ca/novelcoronavirus](https://durham.ca/novelcoronavirus)

Durham Health Connection Line | 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



1. Effective **December 20, 2021**, implement and enforce a policy that requires each individual, **age 12 years of age and older**, who attends the indoor area of the facility for the purpose of: **volunteering, coaching, teaching, instructing and/or officiating at organized sports or recreational fitness activities** in any capacity, for any purpose, to provide:
  - i) personal identification; and
  - ii) proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or proof of valid medical exemption each time they enter the facility.
2. a) Effective **December 20, 2021**, implement and enforce a policy that requires each participant, **born between 2004 and 2009 (12 to 17 years old)**, who attend an indoor area of the facility for the purpose of participating, in any capacity in indoor organized sports and/or recreational fitness activities, to provide:
  - i) identification and proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 for any entry on or after **December 20, 2021**; or
  - ii) a valid exemption as set out in subsection 2.1(6) of Schedule 1 of O. Reg. 364/20, for any entry on or after **December 20, 2021**.b) For participants born in 2010 (turning 12 years old by December 31, 2022)
  - i) personal identification and proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 for any entry on or after the grace period of 12 weeks after their birthdate; or
  - ii) a valid exemption as set out in subsection 2.1(6) of Schedule 1 of O. Reg. 364/20, for any entry on or after the grace period of 12 weeks after their birthdate.

Note: Participants turning 12 in 2022 (2010 - birth year) will have a 12-week grace period from their birthday to be fully vaccinated.
3. Otherwise comply with, and implement the above instructions, in accordance with all applicable requirements under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020, including the Proof of Vaccination requirements in subsection 2.1 of Schedule 1 of O. Reg. 364/20, and the [Ministry of Health Proof of Vaccination Guidance](#).

## What is the timeline for the implementation of requirements listed in these instructions?

- **December 14, 2021:**
  - Letter of Instruction is Issued
- For coaches, trainers, officials, volunteers etc:
  - December 20, 2021:
    - Owner/operators and/or persons responsible are required to implement and enforce a policy requiring all coaches, trainers, officials, volunteers etc., 12 years of age and older are required to be fully vaccinated to enter the facility.

*cont'd on next page*



**durham.ca/novelcoronavirus**

Durham Health Connection Line | 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



- For participants between the ages of 12 and 17 years old:
  - December 20,2021
    - Owners/operators and/or persons responsible are required to implement and enforce a policy requiring all organized sport participants, born between 2004 and 2009 (12 and 17 years old) to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or have a valid exemption as set out in subsection 2.1 (6) of Schedule 1 of O. Reg. 364/20.
- For Participants turning 12 in 2022:
  - The policy must also include provisions to address participants born in 2010 (turning 12 in 2022). Participants must provide personal identification and proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 for any entry on or after the grace period of 12 weeks after their birthdate; or have a valid exemption as set out in subsection 2.1 (6) of Schedule 1 of O. Reg. 364/20.
  - **Note:** For the purposes of participation in organized sports and recreational fitness activities, children turning 12 in 2022 will have a grace period of 12 weeks from their 12th birthday to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. This is to allow a reasonable opportunity for vaccination to be completed, and to accommodate the current recommended 8-week interval between dose 1 and dose 2. Children may be required to provide identification, at the point of entry, to indicate their age and that they are exempt from providing proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

## What does it mean to be fully vaccinated?

A person is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 if,

- a) they have received,
  - i) the full series of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized by Health Canada, or any combination of such vaccines,
  - ii) one or two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine not authorized by Health Canada, followed by one dose of a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine authorized by Health Canada, or
  - iii) three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine not authorized by Health Canada; and
- b) they received their final dose of the COVID-19 vaccine at least 14 days before providing the proof of being fully vaccinated



[durham.ca/novelcoronavirus](https://durham.ca/novelcoronavirus)

Durham Health Connection Line | 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



## What are some examples of organized sports that are included in these instructions?

Organized sports include indoor training, practices, games and competitions. Some examples include sports leagues, organized pick-up sports, dance classes, martial arts, swimming classes etc.

### Scenarios

|   | Scenarios  | LOI Requirements  |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Natasha is a hockey player and is 11 years old. She is turning 12 on March 14, 2022.               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Natasha has 12 weeks from her birthday to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19. She must be fully vaccinated to continue to enter the facility after June 6, 2022. In the meantime, she may be required to provide personal identification to provide her age, prior to June 6, 2022.</li></ul> |
| 2 | Kathy is a martial arts instructor and is 30 years old. She is currently unvaccinated.             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As of December 20, 2021, Kathy cannot enter the martial arts facility until she is fully vaccinated.</li></ul>  |
| 3 | Emily is a dancer and is 13 years old. She is currently unvaccinated.                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Emily has until December 20, 2021 to be fully vaccinated to enter the facility.</li></ul>   |
| 4 | Elliott is a 15-year-old indoor soccer player and a volunteer coach. He is currently unvaccinated. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As a volunteer coach, Elliott is required to fully vaccinated by December 20, 2021.</li><li>As a soccer player, he is required to be fully vaccinated by December 20, 2021 to continue to enter the facility.</li></ul>   |

## Are employees of indoor areas of facilities used for organized sports and recreational fitness activities in Durham Region required to provide personal identification and proof of vaccination upon entry to their workplace?

Employees of the facility are not required to provide personal identification and proof of vaccination when entering the facility for the purpose of employment. They should already be subject to workplace vaccination policies, the Region's workplace class order and provincial occupational health and safety requirements (including active screening, PPE as required, etc.).



[durham.ca/novelcoronavirus](https://durham.ca/novelcoronavirus)

Durham Health Connection Line | 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



## What indoor sports facilities are exempt from these instructions?

The following listed recreational sports and recreational settings and activities are exempt from the instructions issued by this letter and detailed below due to sector specific legislation, directives and/or guidelines currently governing these settings with and for COVID-19 measures:

- Recreational settings used within a health care provider setting and health care entity as defined in Section 77.7 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act, 1990, for the purposes of rehabilitation who are subject to the Chief Medical Officer of Health's Directives issued thereunder;
- Recreational and sport activities, for students and student participation, within schools and school boards licensed under the Education Act, 1990;
- Recreational and sport activities within schools and private schools within the meaning of the Education Act, that are operated in accordance with a return to school direction issued by the Ministry of Education and approved by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health;
- Recreational and sport activities, for students and student participation, associated with Ontario provincial post-secondary institutions;
- Recreational and sport activities within childcare settings licensed under the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014; and
- Recreational and sport activities taking place within an operational camp for children otherwise operating in accordance with Ontario Regulation 503/17 for recreational camps and Ontario Regulation 364/20 for day or overnight camps.

## When are these instructions in effect? How long must people comply with these instructions?

The instructions set out above shall be in full force and in effect until further notice despite any changes that may be made by the Province to Durham Region's step of reopening under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020, as amended from time to time.

## How is this being enforced?

Individuals and corporations who do not comply with the above noted requirements may be fined, pursuant to the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020.

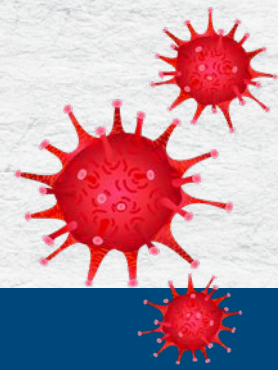
## Resources:

[Reopening Ontario \(A Flexible Response to COVID-19\) Act, 2020](#)

[O. Reg. 364/20: Rules for Areas in Step 3 and at the Roadmap Exit Step](#)

[Ministry of Health Proof of Vaccination Guidance](#)

[Durham Region Section 22 Class Order for Workplaces](#)



**[durham.ca/novelcoronavirus](https://durham.ca/novelcoronavirus)**

Durham Health Connection Line | 905-668-2020 or 1-800-841-2729

If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.

