

Guideline

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| Title: | WA Government Mandatory Vaccination Guideline |
| Date: | 23 December 2021 |

Purpose

This Guideline relates to the application of the WA Government Critical Business Worker (Restrictions on Access) Directions (**Directions**) to SLSWA affiliated Clubs.

This Guideline has been developed by SLSWA on the basis of external legal advice and is valid as at 23 December 2021.

Vaccination

1. The WA Government has put in place the Directions requiring mandatory vaccination for critical workers to enter critical business sites.
2. Clubs are included in the definition of Critical Business Site within the Direction.
3. Under this Direction, paid and unpaid volunteers and staff of Surf Life Saving Clubs who:
 - a) carry out activities, goods and/or services;
 - b) inside a Club;
 - c) at the Direction of the President/Board of that Club (**Critical Workers**)

must be vaccinated in accordance with the Government timeframes within the Directions in order to enter the Club.

4. This does not include:
 - a) SLSWA affiliated Club directed Volunteers, staff or contractors who carry out activities or provide goods or services on an ad hoc basis (as long as they stay 1.5m from any Critical Workers); or
 - b) A visitor, guest or patron to the Club.
5. In accordance with the Directions, in order for Critical Workers to enter a SLSWA affiliated Club to carry out their duties they will need to have received their first dose of an Approved Vaccine (any COVID-19 vaccination that have been provisionally registered for use in Australia by the Therapeutic Goods Administration) by **31 December 2021** and be Fully Vaccinated (i.e. having obtained the manufacturer's recommended dosage of any Approved Vaccine) by **31 January 2022**, unless they have been granted an exemption under the Directions.
6. Clubs should recommend that vaccination is undertaken on the advice of an accredited health practitioner (including health practitioners at any authorised COVID-19 vaccination centres).
7. All SLSWA affiliated Club Critical Workers should be required to provide evidence of being Fully Vaccinated to their affiliated Club in the form acceptable to their affiliated Club, including but not limited to:

- a digital certificate of immunisation (available after full vaccination from the Medicare website via <https://my.gov.au>); or
- an immunisation history statement (which is available after a first vaccination dose from the Medicare website via <https://my.gov.au> and must have the Individual Healthcare Identifiers and other vaccinations redacted).

Exemptions

The vaccination requirements set out above, will not apply if a person provides a medical exemption in a format acceptable to the Club. The medical exemption format that the Club could routinely accept is a copy of an immunisation history statement from the Australian Immunisation Register showing display of the exemption on the Register. In certain circumstances, a temporary exemption may be acceptable if approved by the WA Chief Health Officer for that purpose.

In order to ensure the health and safety of members at Club activities and events, Clubs may ensure that Critical Workers granted an exemption are subject to conditions or restrictions related to their role.

Information provided to SLSWA Affiliated Clubs

SLSWA affiliated Clubs should ensure that they treat all information related to COVID-19 vaccination status, including evidence of vaccination, sensitively and confidentially in accordance with any applicable Privacy Policy.

Obtaining information about vaccination

Clubs should advise Critical Workers in the first instance to consult with their accredited health practitioner about any concerns they may have in relation to receiving an Approved Vaccine, including the process for obtaining an Approved Vaccine.

Information about making a booking to receive an Approved Vaccine can be found at <https://rollup.wa.gov.au/>.

WA Government imposed Penalties

While we hope for Clubs that all Critical Workers will comply with the Directions to keep themselves, each other and the public safe, we do recognise and respect the fact that some will choose not to be vaccinated.

We recommend that Clubs should ensure that Critical Workers who do not wish to or fail to comply with the Directions are not be able to enter the Club to undertake their duties.

We note that under the Directions penalties for non-compliance with the Directions, without reasonable excuse, are \$20,000 for an individual and \$100,000 for an organisation.

Updates and Amendments

Clubs should continuously monitor the WA Government Mandatory Vaccination advice page for updates in relation to this Direction (including but not limited to formal notification of any mandatory booster shots). <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/document-collections/covid-19-coronavirus-mandatory-vaccination>

Health Directions

This Guideline applies in conjunction with and subject to any Health Direction issued by the WA Government. In the case of any inconsistency, the Health Direction will apply in such circumstances.