

Special Olympics BC Return to Sport Vaccination Proofing FAQs

This information is specifically for anyone assuming the Safety Volunteer role of checking participants' proof of COVID-19 vaccination. For a full description of the Safety Volunteer role, and participant FAQs, please consult the resources on the [SOBC Return to Sport homepage](#).

Thank you so much for your efforts to ensure safe environments throughout Special Olympics BC programs and events!

What is my role around proof of vaccination for Special Olympics BC program and event participants?

You are responsible for verifying all participants are fully vaccinated (2 doses) for COVID-19. This involves looking at each participant's proof of vaccination and government-issued photo ID.

- In sport programs, a check must be done at the first practice of the season for each sport the participant is in.
 - If the person agrees we can record their proof of vaccination status (so that they don't need to show it every week), ask them to initial the [attendance tracking sheet](#) in the vaccine card column.
 - If a person does not agree to recording their proof of vaccination status, you (or your replacement if you are unavailable one week) will need to check their proof of vaccination and government-issued photo ID at every practice.
- At one-time events, the check must be done on site and does not need to be recorded.

Please remember that vaccination status is personal medical information, and try to check each member's proof of vaccination as privately as possible.

What do I do if someone has concerns about the privacy of their medical information?

If a member has questions about the recording of their vaccination status, you can let them know we are asking to keep this record only to make it easier for them accessing SOBC programs and events moving forward, and direct them to the [SOBC Privacy Policy](#) for information on SOBC's commitment to protecting their information.

How do I check proof of vaccination?

Step 1: Verify proof of vaccination

You can perform a visual verification. Look at the person's [BC Vaccine Card](#), presented on paper or on their phone/device, making sure their name and vaccination details are visible. Note: Members of the Canadian Armed Forces aren't required to get a BC Vaccine Card and you have to perform a visual verification.

Vaccine card transition period to September 26

To give everyone time to get their BC Vaccine Card, up to and including September 26 people can show [other forms of proof of vaccination](#).

Step 2: Review ID

After verifying proof of vaccination, you must also review ID. By reviewing ID, you match the name listed on the BC Vaccine Card or other form of proof of vaccination with the person you're verifying.

Accepted forms of valid government photo ID, for example:

- B.C. driver's license or BC Services Card
- Passport

When names don't match

Some people may have their legal name on their vaccine card and a preferred or common name on their ID. You may also ask for a secondary piece of ID and use discretion.

Verifying out-of-province proof of vaccination

We may have people who aren't from B.C. accessing our events. They must follow the same requirements and provide proof of vaccination and ID.

Follow the same 2 steps: verify proof of vaccination and review ID for a name match.

People from other Canadian provinces or territories must show:

- Provincially/territorially officially recognized vaccine record
- Valid government photo ID

International visitors must show:

- Proof of vaccination they used to enter Canada
- Passport

[More information on the BC Vaccine Card](#)

Is it a requirement to record the proof of vaccination?

No. You don't have to record each participant's proof of vaccination. The only thing we are required to do is to see it on site. We are offering the *option* for weekly sport program participants to have their proof recorded, just to make it easier for them and for you as the Safety Volunteer, so you don't have to show/check the proof every week.

If they don't want to have their proof recorded, they can decline the recording and show their proof at every practice.

Do I have to keep a copy of each BC Vaccine Card?

No. You just need to see it, check that it shows the participant is fully vaccinated, and check that the name matches the government-issued photo ID. Organizations cannot take a photo of a participant's BC Vaccine Card, even if they consent.

What should the BC Vaccine Card look like?

Because Special Olympics BC participants need to be fully vaccinated, the card should have a green background. It should look like this:

Fully vaccinated



Do athletes and volunteers have to be fully vaccinated (2 doses) to participate in Special Olympics BC sport programs?

Yes. SOBC is requiring that members be fully vaccinated (2 doses) before starting a program. This requirement is in place in order to make it as clear and easy as possible for all members and for all volunteers to manage.

If someone has had their first dose but have complications about getting their second dose before the start of your program, they should please raise this with the Local for review.

What do I do with my program's attendance tracking sheet?

At the end of your season, please send it to the [SOBC Office Administrator](#) within two weeks of the end of the program. Special Olympics BC will be keeping the attendance records, and will delete the vaccination records once the proof of vaccination requirement is lifted (consistent with provincial requirements).

How do I know who is registered for my program?

Your Local will supply you program with a list of registrants. If someone comes to a practice who has yet not registered for this season, they must complete the [2021-22 registration form and waiver](#) BEFORE participating in anything.

The Special Olympics BC registration form and waiver must be completed annually.

Do I print the attendance tracking sheet, or will my Local supply it?

This will be up to your Local to manage the process that works best for all of you. Please talk to your Head Coach and/or Local Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator, Registrar, or Local Committee.

Why is Special Olympics BC requiring all members ages 12 and up to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination at this time?

It's part of a provincial health requirement.

Many facilities that we need for SOBC programs and events are requiring it.

It's important to make sure we can continue having a safe environment for all participants.

We are committed to keeping our community safe, especially because we know that people with intellectual disabilities are more at risk from COVID-19.

SOBC's strong safety measures are in place with consistency across all Special Olympics BC participants and activities, because we hope to make the requirements as clear and easy as possible for volunteers and for everyone to understand and manage.

The proof of vaccination requirement is necessary right now – not necessarily forever, but for right now – so we can keep safely offering the Special Olympics opportunities that mean so much and are so missed by so many.

Provincial public health officials continue to closely monitor COVID-19 case counts, hospitalizations, and deaths. At this time, they are still seeing a surge in cases primarily in groups of unvaccinated people. The [BC Vaccine Card](#) requirement is in place until January 31, 2022, and could be extended.

If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to contact SOBC Vice President, Sport, Lois McNary at Lmcnary@specialolympics.bc.ca or 604-616-1341.