**COVID-19 Vaccination Policy**

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| **Version** | **1.0** | | |
| **Drafted by** | Secretary – T Norman | **Approved by Board** | 18/1/2022 |
| **Responsible person** | President – P Yeates | **Scheduled Review** | 2/5/2022 |

# **Contents**

**1. Purpose**

**2. Scope**

**3. Definitions**

**4. Policy**

**4.1 Workplace Health and Safety Duty**

**4.2. Staff Vaccination Requirements**

**4.3 Visitors and venue access**

**5. Exemptions**

**5.1 For Staff**

**5.2 For Visitors**

**6. Breach of policy**

**7. References, Legislation & Industrial Instruments**

**8. Policy Reviews and Updates**

**8.1 Version History**

# **Purpose**

Oakbank Bowling Club exists to serve the local bowls community and protect and preserve the game while ensuring the health and wellbeing of those involved in the sport of bowls at the club.

As all are aware, the COVID-19 pandemic poses threats to the health and safety of all Australians. Oakbank Bowling Club embraces vaccination as an important tool for maintaining the health and wellbeing of members, staff, and the wider community and is committed to providing an environment free of recognised hazards.

# **Scope**

This policy shall apply to Club:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Staff** | **Board** | **Engaged Volunteers** | **Engaged Contractors** (including employees of contractors)  **& Suppliers** | **Players**  (including social bowlers) | **Visitors**  (to club venue) |
| **✓** | **✓** | **✓** | **✓** | **✓** | **✓** |

# **Definitions**

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| --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Definition** |
| **Authorised** **volunteers** | Volunteers who are appointed to club roles. This includes club committee members, volunteers, coaches, those asked to check the vaccination status of members and guests, etc |
| **Approved Vaccine** | Any COVID-19 vaccination that shas been provisionally registered for use in Australia by the Therapeutic Goods Administration |
| **Board Members** | As defined by the Club Constitution (Board / Committee definition). |
| **External Bookings** | A group who books the club facilities via the club for private function, either as a one off or ongoing. |
| **Fully Vaccinated** | This means having obtained the manufacturer’s recommended dosage of any Approved Vaccine.  *For example, where the manufacturer recommends a two-dose schedule, a person will be considered fully vaccinated when they have received both doses of the vaccine.* |
| **Medical exemption** | The approved exemption provided by a medical provider, in line with Government requirements, |
| **Players** | Defined as pennant players, social bowlers, anyone using the club facilities for training |
| **Staff** | Club employees |
| **Vaccination** | Refers to treatment with a vaccine to produce immunity against a disease for the benefit of individuals and the community |
| **Vaccination certificate**: | The Australian Government COVID-19 digital certificate or Covid passport.  *Suppose you receive a COVID-19 Pfizer, AstraZeneca, or Moderna vaccine while overseas, you can register your vaccination on the*[*Australian Immunisation Register*](https://www.servicesaustralia.gov.au/individuals/services/medicare/australian-immunisation-register/what-register/overseas-immunisations)*(AIR) when you return to Australia. At this time, if you've received a COVID-19 vaccine overseas which is not Pfizer, AstraZeneca, or Moderna, you cannot have it added to the AIR.* |
| **Venue** | Oakbank Bowling Club facilities in their entirety based at 7 John St Oakbank |
| **Visitors** | Anyone besides club staff visiting the venue. This includes spectators and venue hirers. |

# **Policy**

Oakbank Bowling Club requires those covered by the scope of this policy to be **fully vaccinated** against COVID-19, unless they have been granted a medical exemption when visiting or working at the Oakbank Bowling Club venue, in accordance with this policy by 20/1/2022.

## **4.1 Workplace Health and Safety Duty**

All employers have a [duty under the Work Health and Safety (WHS) laws](https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/covid-19-information-workplaces/industry-information/general-industry-information/duties-under-whs) to eliminate, or if that is not reasonably practicable, minimise the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace.

This policy supports recommendations within the following guidelines documents:

* Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation, [Australian Immunisation Handbook](https://immunisationhandbook.health.gov.au/).
* National Health and Medical Research Council in collaboration with the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care, [Australian Guidelines for the Prevention and Control of Infection in Healthcare 2019](https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/australian-guidelines-prevention-and-control-infection-healthcare-2019)
* [Fair Work Australia COVID-19 vaccinations: workplace rights and obligations](https://coronavirus.fairwork.gov.au/coronavirus-and-australian-workplace-laws/covid-19-vaccinations-and-the-workplace/covid-19-vaccinations-workplace-rights-and-obligations#lawful-and-reasonable-directions-to-get-vaccinated)
* Relevant State and Territory health agencies public health orders that require some workers to be vaccinated, for example, those considered to be working in high-risk workplaces.

## **4.2. Staff and Club Volunteers Vaccination Requirements**

Oakbank Bowling Club acknowledges that, generally, personal health management outside of your employment or engagement as a volunteer is your own affair. However, health related matters that impact or affect the health and safety of yourself and others, particularly our staff, volunteers, and members; or Oakbank Bowling Club’s ability to deliver its mission, are a proper focus of Oakbank Bowling Club policy.

Accordingly, Oakbank Bowling Club recognises the importance of a significant level of the population being vaccinated and, to that end, requires **ALL** staff and volunteers to be fully vaccinated.

* As of 20 January 2022, all staff and volunteers will be required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 unless they have been granted an exemption.
  + *Vaccination must be undertaken on the advice of an accredited health practitioner (including health practitioners at any authorised COVID-19 vaccination centres).*
  + *For those of an age ineligible to be vaccinated at the time of this policy coming into effect, the requirement to be fully vaccinated comes into effect six weeks after the date they become eligible.*
* All staff and volunteers will be required to provide evidence acceptable to Oakbank Bowling Club of being fully vaccinated.
  + *Oakbank Bowling Club will accept, for these purposes, a copy of your Immunisation History Statement, or alternatively a copy of your COVID-19 Digital Certificate (both of which can be obtained through your MyGov account).*

## **4.3 Visitors and venue access**

As a condition of entry to the Oakbank Bowling Club’s venue, all visitors must:

* As of 20 January 2022, be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 unless they have been granted an exemption.
  + Vaccination must be undertaken on the advice of an accredited health practitioner (including health practitioners at any authorised COVID-19 vaccination centres).
  + For those of an age ineligible to be vaccinated at the time of this policy coming into effect, the requirement to be fully vaccinated comes into effect six weeks after the date they become eligible.
* Agree to follow Oakbank Bowling Club staff and authorised volunteer directions, including:
  + Agree to provide evidence of their COVID-19 vaccination status to the Oakbank Bowling Club staff and authorised volunteers, including as required by any government health directive, law, or regulation;
  + Agree to the Oakbank Bowling Club staff and authorised volunteers, sighting evidence of visitor's COVID-19 vaccination status, and if a regular visitor to the club, record their status for future reference. This will be managed in line with the Oakbank Bowling Club Privacy Policy.
* All external venue bookings by third-parties must agree to this policy prior to booking and take on the management of ensuring that their guests meet the requirements of this policy.

**5.** **Exemptions**

Only those who can provide evidence of the following reasons will be granted an exemption under this policy:

1. Medical exemption provided by a medical provider in line with Government requirements
2. Being ineligible to receive the vaccination because of their age
3. For those who were ineligible for the vaccine before 10 January 2022 due to being under 12 years old, an exemption will be granted until 15th March 2022

In order to ensure the health and safety of all club staff and volunteers, individuals granted an exemption may be subject to conditions or restrictions related to their job, access, and/or safety requirements (e.g., masking).

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This policy does not apply to any person who enters the club because of an emergency.

# **6. Breach of policy**

Anyone covered by the scope of this policy, which Oakbank Bowling Club identifies as breaching this policy, will be subject to appropriate action.

* For staff, this could include termination of employment.
* For volunteers, this could result in termination of your volunteering role
* For engaged contractors and suppliers, entry will be refused
* For visitors, entry will be refused

Vaccination status of staff and volunteers may be monitored (depending on health recommendations / orders).

For further information on this policy, please contact Oakbank Bowling Club’s President or Secretary.

# **7. References, Legislation & Industrial Instruments**

* Workplace Health and Safety legislation
* Anti-discrimination legislation
* Privacy legislation
* Oakbank Bowling Club Privacy Policy

# **8. Policy Reviews and Updates**

This policy will be reviewed in May 2022 or sooner should the COVID-19 landscape dramatically change.

## **8.1 Version History**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Version** | **Changes** | **Endorsement date:** | **Endorsed by:** |
| 1 | Initial version | 18/1/2022 | T. Norman |
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*Please note, a most recent version of information needs to be located at the top of the table.*