

Vaccination Passports TPOTI Regionals, Karāpiro 2022

Te Puku o Te Ika is committed to hosting safe and enjoyable Regional Sprint Champs leading up to the Waka Ama World Sprint Champs in 2022. However, with the situation of the COVID-19 outbreak in Aotearoa we have a duty of care for our region's paddlers and whānau and would like to ensure that we protect everyone from the spread of COVID-19.

After considering all the information about COVID-19 Protection Framework and Mighty River Domain guidelines, TPOTI Executive Committee has made the decision to run an open event on Saturday 22nd January 2022, with Vaccine Passports being mandatory.

At this point in time, under the new Covid Protection Framework: Orange Level, we will follow these guidelines and our event will require vaccine passports for entry to the event, no matter what your role is (paddler, support, administrator etc.). In addition, while the World Sprint Champs in London are still scheduled to go ahead, they will require all paddlers to be fully vaccinated.

Therefore, we want to support our waka ama community to meet these criteria. Unfortunately, paddlers not fully vaccinated will not be eligible to participate in Te Puku o Te Ika Regional events.

For our upcoming Regional Sprint Champs, we require all paddlers, supporters and spectators at the event, 12 years 3 months or older to provide their vaccination passports at entry to the event. While on the water, paddlers are not required to wear masks. However, while on land we ask that all attendees wear masks.

We all need to work together to minimise the effects of COVID-19. Included below is a list of common questions related to our stance on vaccinations.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Can I still paddle in the region if I am not vaccinated?

- You can still paddle for your own club and in your own time but not in Te Puku o Te Ika sanctioned events as there is a risk of you being exposed and or potentially exposing others to COVID-19.

How does the entry system work for paddlers?

- All attendees at events: paddlers, volunteers, organisers, support crew, and spectators will be required to provide vaccination passports. If you have not signed the form, you will not be eligible to enter any events organised by Te Puku o Te Ika.

If you have not been vaccinated to date, is it still possible to enter the upcoming Regional Sprint Champs?

- There is less than 3 weeks until TPOTI Regional Sprint Champs, which means if you need the second vaccine there is enough time to get double vaccinated for our upcoming Regionals.
- If you require both vaccines, unfortunately this is outside of the timeframe for the upcoming regionals. Full Vaccination requires a 5-week time frame.

How do I access my vaccine passport without a photo ID?

- You can access your Vaccine Passport by creating an My Health Record account (<https://identity.health.nz/>). If you do not have a photo ID, you can use your Birth Certificate Registration number as identification to download your Vaccine Passport.
- Chemists are providing support for people to print their Vaccine passports. A list of Chemists helping with support are available here <https://www.healthpoint.co.nz/covid-19-vaccination/?primaryBranch=pharmacy>

Where can I get more information about the vaccine?

- Go to [FAQs: Doctors Stand Up For Vaccination](#).

Ministry of Health COVID Website	https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-health-advice-public
Immunisation advisory centre	https://www.immune.org.nz/
COVID-19 Website (Vaccines)	https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/
Te Rōpu Whakakaupapa Urutā	https://www.uruta.maori.nz/
Vaccination Information Webinar with Dr Matire Harwood, Dr Anthony Jordan and Dr Jamie-Lee Rahiri	https://www.wakaama.co.nz/stories/read/1005780

Where can I get General Government information and updates?

- Go to [Unite against COVID-19](#).
- <https://wakaama.co.nz/stories/read/1005798>