

Vaccination Policy – Merriment Alpine Club

1 February 2022

Introduction

1. **Merriment Alpine Club (the Club)** is located at 38 Burradays Road Perisher Valley NSW 2624
2. The Club is a member/associate of the Ski Lodges Organisation of Perisher Smiggins and Guthega Inc (**SLOPES**), which represents the 88 ski clubs of the Perisher Range Resorts of Perisher, Smiggin Holes and Guthega.
3. The Club recognises the significant adverse health and economic impacts that the COVID-19 pandemic has had and continues to have in Australia.
4. The primary objective of the Club is to take all reasonable steps to ensure the health and safety of all people who are employed by the Club and/or choose to stay in and use the facilities of the Club. The purpose of implementing this vaccination policy is to enable the Club to fulfil this primary objective.
5. The Club has identified the following risk profile:
 - a. During the winter season large numbers of members and guests can visit the premises and come into close contact with each other;
 - b. Many of the facilities at the premises are shared;
 - c. There are times where it is not possible for the Club to have an authorised representative on the premises to enforce physical distancing or hygiene measures which may be required pursuant to the Club's COVID Safe Plan;
 - d. The age profile of some members increases the risk and the potential severity of symptoms that person may experience if they are exposed to COVID-19; and
6. Due to those identified risks and the current lack of other suitable control measures to eliminate that risk as far as is reasonably practicable the Club has decided that vaccinations should be a requirement to entry onto the premises unless an exemption has been granted in accordance with this Policy.

Condition of Entry

7. The Club reserves the right to refuse entry and the right to refuse to provide services to any person.
8. Before entering the premises of the Club, a person must provide proof that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. As of 1 February 2022, this means a person must have received two doses plus booster of a COVID-19 vaccination that has been approved by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (refer to <https://www.tga.gov.au/covid-19-vaccine-provisional-registrations>).
9. The requirement outlined in paragraph 8 above will apply to every person seeking to enter the premises of the Club, with three exceptions:
 - a. People under 12 years of age;
 - b. People who cannot be vaccinated against COVID-19 because of a medical condition, and that medical condition is supported by written evidence provided by a medical practitioner (as defined in section 5 of the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (NSW)*); and
 - c. A person who has been granted an exemption in accordance with paragraph 16.

Providing Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination and negative COVID test

10. Before entering the premises of the Club, each person (except those as outlined in Clause 9 above) must provide

10.1 evidence that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19:

- a. Persons staying at the Club accommodation will be required to email to the Bookings Manager a copy of their COVID-19 digital certificate at the time of making the booking;
- b. Any visitors to the Club will be required to show an electronic copy of the COVID-19 digital certificate or immunisation history statement to the satisfaction of the Lodge Captain prior to entry to the Club

10.2 a signed Waiver of Liability which states they (and each of the children 12 years or older in their care) will take a COVID test (either RAT or PCR test) 24 hours before the date of arrival of their stay and that they will not proceed to the lodge if the test is positive

11. Unless required to do so by law, the Club will not collect or store vaccination information about any person.

12. For the avoidance of doubt, the Club has no access to data provided via the Service NSW app.

13. If none of the options are available in paragraph 10 then it is the obligation of the person visiting the premises to contact the Club in advance to discuss what steps must be taken to provide the relevant proof of vaccination and COVID negative test result.

Exemptions

14. Where a person is unable to be vaccinated, they will be required to notify that Club no later than 14 days prior to their visit or entry onto the premises that they seek an exemption to the requirements of this Policy.

15. Exemptions will be considered in the following circumstances:

- a. The circumstances in paragraph 9(b) apply;
- b. The person has a genuinely held religious belief; or
- c. Other exceptional circumstances exist which justify an exemption within the reasonable opinion of the Club.

16. A person who is granted an exemption does not have to comply with the requirements of paragraphs 8 to 13 hereof.

17. A person who is granted an exemption will be required to take a polymerase chain reaction (**PCR**) test or Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) for COVID-19 and receive a negative result as per the above in Clause 10.2. Upon request a person must provide proof of the negative test result. This must be done by providing a copy of the text message displaying the negative PCR test result.

Effective Date and Review Period

18. This Policy is effective from 1st February 2022.

19. This Policy will be reviewed on a regular basis and updated as required.

20. This Policy has been adopted by the Club as the best way to reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19 at the Club's premises. The Club acknowledges that risk profiles may change and alternative measures to eliminate the risk may become available over time. The Club will continue to review its risk profile and in circumstances where it forms the view that there are alternative control measures other than mandatory vaccinations then the Club may either vary, replace or discontinue this Policy upon further notice to members.