

Proof of Vaccination Required: Release of Hockey Nova Scotia COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

On September 8, 2021, Nova Scotia Public Health advised that they were delaying the effective date of Phase 5 of the Province's reopening plan to October 4, 2021. This also delayed the effective date of [Nova Scotia's Provincial Government Proof of Vaccine Policy](#) which requires that those above the age of 12 participating in amateur sports be vaccinated.

On September 23, 2021 Hockey Nova Scotia ("HNS") released its [COVID-19 Vaccination Policy](#) (the "Policy") with immediate effect.

The Halifax Hawks Minor Hockey Association ("Hawks") and all players, officials, coaches, team officials and other volunteers who are aged twelve (12) and older must comply with the HNS vaccination requirements set out in the Policy.

The HNS Policy requires proof of vaccination by certain key dates. It is important to note that proof of vaccination by one of these key dates means that the dose of vaccine must have been obtained fourteen (14) days before the key date set in the HNS Policy.

What this means for Hawks' coaches, officials, teams officials, volunteers and players is:

- **Coaches, Officials, Team Officials and Players 19 and Older:** You must provide proof "Full Vaccination" by October 4, 2021 or earlier. This means that you must have received your last dose of an approved vaccine **no later than September 18, 2021;**
- **Hawks Players (Aged 12 to 18):** You must provide proof of "Full Vaccination" the same as above **OR** comply with the following Alternative Schedule:
 - **Proof of your First Dose:** Proof of your first dose of an approved vaccine by October 4, 2021 (meaning your first dose was obtained on September 28, 2021 or earlier); and then
 - **Proof of your Second Dose:** Proof of your second dose of an approved vaccine by November 9, 2021 (meaning this dose was obtained on October 26, 2021 or earlier).
- **"Grace Period" for Players Turning 12 This Year:** If you have just turned 12 this year the applicable Grace Period is:
 - If you turned 12 between January 1 and October 4, 2021, you have until December 31, 2021 to provide proof of full vaccination;
 - If you turned 12 after October 4, 2021, you have three (3) months from your birthday to provide proof of full vaccination.
- **Hawks Players (Under 12):** There is not requirement that players younger than 12 be vaccinated.

The HNS COVID-19 Vaccination Policy provides a process for exemption to vaccination for those who have a bona fide medical contraindication to vaccination. Exemption requests may be submitted to the Hawks for approval by HNS.

The HNS COVID-19 Vaccination Policy does not assign authority or responsibility for spectators to the Hawks. As such, more information with respect to the vaccination of spectators will be release when that become clearer.