

COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

Last review date: November 2021

Last changed date: November 2021

Purpose

NZRDA is committed to keeping its people safe from the risks of contracting and transmitting COVID-19. Under the Governments COVID-19 Protection Framework we are a close contact service requiring vaccination certificates to operate safely. Our workplaces are also at high risk of transmission as we work closely to others (often less than 1m), often within close spaces, for a length of time (over 15 minutes) and with vulnerable people. The organisation will store and maintain vaccination information in line with the requirements of the Privacy Act (2020), the Code of Rights and under any applicable COVID-19 legislative requirements.

Policy Statements

- Vaccination Certificates displayed as My Vaccination Passes will be required for all those who must be vaccinated under this policy or have a government approved exemption. Groups can use the government provided app to validate passes or can just sight them. The vaccination status of individuals will be recorded in a safe depository such as the Stable.
- All volunteers, employees and contractors such as contract coaches, horse managers, etc. (“RDA People”) on site must be fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine approved for use in New Zealand by authorised vaccinators.
- Anyone participating in the RDA Programme on site as a Rider, caregiver/whanau must be fully vaccinated if they are 12 years and 3 months old or older with a COVID-19 vaccine approved for use in New Zealand by authorised vaccinators.
- Any visitors to the site who may have contact with riders, RDA People or visitors who will be present at a time when riders or RDA People are also present must be fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine approved for use in New Zealand by authorised vaccinators.
- All RDA People and everyone on site who may have contact with riders or RDA People or visitors, must have had their first dose by 3 December 2021 and be fully vaccinated by 17th January 2022. From 17th January 2022, any persons wishing to become RDA People or to be on site and have contact with riders, RDA People or visitors must be fully vaccinated before being permitted to do so.
- Anyone participating in the RDA Programme on site as a Rider, caregiver/whanau, if they are 12 years and 3 months old or older, must be fully vaccinated by 11.59pm 2 December 2021.
- We will accept any exemptions and alternate vaccines as set out by the government. These may be mitigated with regular negative covid tests and ongoing social distancing or face coverings. Alternate roles may be required that reduce the risk of contact with our riders.

- Plans for unvaccinated caregivers/whanau and riders over 12 years old and others who don't meet the policy requirement will be based on a documented risk assessment process. For example, this could be applied to rider drop offs or rider assessments. However, if the assessed risk is High and it cannot be mitigated, they will not be allowed on site.
- Where an approved Ministry of Health issued exemption from COVID-19 vaccination has been issued, that the Group is aware of, the RDA Group will have a documented risk assessment detailing how the person can be safely included in RDA activities, this must include the use of PPE, physical distancing and increased hygiene controls. If there is no safe way to include an unvaccinated person, they are not allowed on site.
- For any unvaccinated visitors or contractors who are onsite only when Riders are not present (such as a contractor who is performing maintenance during a non-riding day or over a term break, or a farrier on a non-riding day) there must have been undertaken a documented risk assessment. This includes taking appropriate mitigating measures such as a recent negative COVID-19 test, masks, limiting contact, remaining outdoors etc. If the risk of transmitting COVID-19 remains high or is not able to be managed they will not be able to enter the site.
- Contractors such as one-off plumbers and infrequent contractors like farriers, can be asked for their vaccination certificate. If we don't have it, we must assume they are unvaccinated and require them to undertake a documented risk assessment so that appropriate mitigation measures may be taken. If the risk of transmitting COVID-19 remains high or is not able to be managed they will not be able to enter the site.
- NZRDA aims to respond quickly and effectively to the developing requirements of government COVID-19 policy and will issue practical advice which will be deemed to be part of this policy if issued in writing and titled "NZRDA Covid-19 Vaccination Policy Update".
- Schools will need to know that all RDA Groups are operating under terms of the NZRDA COVID-19 Vaccination Policy. A copy of the policy should be provided to any school requesting it.
- This Policy should be clearly displayed in all RDA Groups to inform everyone about the vaccination requirements.
- The COVID-19 vaccination requirements **do not apply** to those who are performing services remotely, never meet with riders, RDA People or visitors, and are never on site.
- If anyone contracts COVID-19 they will need to provide a negative test before coming on site.