

BMX New Zealand Inc. Policy of BMX Sport within the COVID Protection Framework



Version Number	Date	Approved By	Author
03.22.A	28 March 2022	BMXNZ Board	BMXNZ H&S

BMX New Zealand (BMXNZ) as the National Sporting Body of BMX racing in New Zealand, has prepared a range of broad advice regarding the sports interaction with the New Zealand Government's **COVID Protection Framework (CPF)**. The following policy aims to deliver the intent of the mandates within the CPF while allowing BMXNZ to deliver BMX Racing to as many of our members as possible in a safe and protected way.

BMXNZ believes in individual choice and views, but also needs to work within the requirements of the Government during the current pandemic. Some outcomes in this document may not fit everyone's views, but the position taken is to enable our sport to continue and include as many of our members as possible.

BMX as a sport is based around a structure of racing. Racing is delivered by BMXNZ and its affiliated clubs. Any meeting of members, instigated by a club or using club facilities, is considered a 'gathering' as defined by SportNZ for the purpose of the CPF and this policy. This may include, but is not limited to, race days, training sessions, gate session or club nights.

A 'gathering' is defined within the SportNZ COVID Protection Framework Table on the following link <https://sportnz.org.nz/covid-19-response/covid-19-protection-framework/>

Rationale

The Delta and Omicron variants of COVID-19 carry significantly higher risks of transmission than previous strains of the virus. The Government has repeatedly emphasised the importance of vaccinations – to protect individuals and to give the country more ways to manage the virus. Vaccination is widely considered critical to protecting people's health and safety, by reducing the risk of transmission and minimising the clinical impacts of COVID-19 infection.

Under current legislative settings, all organisations can require visitors to their facilities, and/or participants in activities that they run, to be vaccinated as a condition of entry. With COVID Protection Framework [up to April the 4th 2022, vaccination status still remains a driving feature in](#) determining what is possible under each different setting (GREEN, ORANGE, RED).

This policy sets out the requirements as they apply to participants (riders), volunteers* and any attendees to BMX gatherings. It is designed to meet the CPF requirements, keep our people safe and remain aligned to the Government's objective of minimising the impacts of the COVID-19 and protecting the wider communities.

* including coaches, officials, managers etc

Position Statement

BMXNZ's position is to follow the guidance and advice of SportNZ, who have applied the Government's mandates in a sporting context. BMXNZ encourages and supports our members being vaccinated against COVID-19, which is currently the best protection to reduce the risk of exposure and transmission of the virus. Vaccination is an important part of providing you with a safer environment, in which more of us can undertake BMX Racing. We recognise that COVID-19 can pose a very real and serious risk to the safety of our members, particularly our under twelves who are the majority of the sport and are as of January 2022 able to start being vaccinated. So in accordance with our health and safety obligations, we are required to take all reasonably practicable steps to manage and minimise (or eliminate) any such risk to our members.

BMXNZ Sporting Requirements

All BMX 'gatherings' are regulated by the CPF requirements which are driven by three points,

- 1- A persons vaccination status
- 2- The gathering size and
- 3- Acceptance of the **COVID Vaccine Certificates (CVCs)**

Depending on the size of the gathering, the current CPF level and the use of CVCs, the requirements can change or be restricted as detailed below.

Full guidance for each level is available at the following link

<https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/covid-19-protection-framework-overview/>

As of the 25th March, SportNZ has updated regulation to allow more people to participate, as long as CVCs are still used until 11.59pm on Monday April the 4th.

RED LEVEL

Outdoor Gatherings accepting only CVCs – Unlimited Size

Outdoor Gatherings NOT checking CVCs – Bubbles of 25

ORANGE LEVEL

Gatherings– Unlimited size

GREEN LEVEL

Gatherings – Unlimited Size

Up to midnight of the 4th April, if gatherings are set not to accept CVCs (to include non-vaccinated people), gathering size limits are restricted as noted above. The use of bubbles for gatherings in a defined space allows the sport to have larger numbers on site at one time. The organiser of any gathering needs to be aware and manage the participant and attendee numbers on site and maintain allocated bubbles including separation. Please be aware that the restrictions to bubble sizes are the total number of attendees, not only riders.

The delivery of multiple bubbles must be in their own defined space, with a MINIMUM of 2m separation. This could allow up to two or three bubbles (of 25 in the CPF Level RED). BMXNZ recommends not having more than three bubbles at any gathering. As the need to keep bubbles separated is absolutely required.

Please note that the volunteers organising a gathering are considered a separate bubble and should be kept separate from all other bubbles when not delivering their role at a gathering.

As noted above, under the RED level, any club that wishes to check and accept CVCs, for all attendees, will be able to deliver UNLIMITED SIZE gatherings.

Results of a risk assessment undertaken by BMXNZ with guidance from Sport NZ, show that our sports staff/volunteers at gatherings are constantly at a medium risk profile, so the requirement of CVCs assist to protect our volunteers. BMXNZ recommend that wherever possible, CVCs should be used, checked and gatherings managed for the access of as many members as possible, in the safest possible way.

Vaccination Status & CVC Use

For gatherings and events up to midnight of April the 4th, where CVCs are required, the host club or BMXNZ will require individuals to disclose, and/or provide proof of, their vaccination status. This proof is primarily presented as the MOH CVC in the form of a digital QR code on a mobile device or a printed version of this CVC can also be accepted. Purple vaccination cards, negative PCR/RAT tests or non-MOH documentation cannot be accepted. Information regarding vaccination status is checked for the purposes of our health and safety management planning, implementing this policy, and to identify any relevant support measures (related to Covid-19). No personal detail is handled within this process, in accordance with the Privacy Act 2020.

BMXNZ recommends the use of the MOH NZ Pass Verifier app, available on apple or android phones to check CVCs. The app is free, easy to download and use.

Attendees are not required to give this information and should anyone choose not to provide proof of having received the vaccine, or do not wish to disclose their vaccination status, then the organisers of any BMX gathering/event will respect everyone's personal choice and right to that privacy. In the interests of health and safety, those unable or unwilling to provide proof of vaccination when requested, will be treated as though they have not been vaccinated.

Note - Anyone may participate regardless of vaccination status after the 4th of April when the use of CVCs is removed.

Eligible People for CVC Use

All gatherings using the CVC process (to allow increased numbers), need to verify all people that are 12yrs and 3months or older. Please note, while children 5-11yrs are eligible for vaccination, they are still not included in the CVC requirement.

Vaccination Exemptions

BMXNZ respects the rights of individuals to choose whether to be vaccinated, and acknowledges that there may be medical or other reasons or circumstances, for not being vaccinated, for which people may seek an exemption. Where a member, volunteer or parent/supporter seeks an exemption from the requirement to be vaccinated and is successful, these people will be supplied an official CVC covering their vaccination exemption directly from the MOH.

Additional Measures

Regardless of the levels or regulations, BMXNZ recommends all clubs and members maintain a range of appropriate and complementary measures prior and during its gatherings to further minimise the risks associated with COVID-19, which is aligned with all public health guidance by SportNZ.

Action points before taking part in BMX activities include:

- Stay home if unwell
- Prepare your CVC to gain access to events run using this requirement up to the 4th April
- Update yourself on the CPF Levels before attending sporting events
- You do not have COVID-19 nor are you awaiting the results from being tested for COVID-19
- You are not a household contact with any known cases

Processes during BMX gatherings include:

- Produced evidence of vaccination (CVC) on entry (up to the 4th April)
- Practice good hygiene e.g. washing hands, sneeze in your elbow
- All attendees are recommended to wear a mask, except when participating in racing
- Respect others concerns & needs with any distancing or masking

Shared Equipment

No restrictions apply under the CPF.

SportNZ Regulations and Advice

The following link details all the core advice for all sport to be delivered under the CPF. BMXNZ have followed this guidance to build this policy.

<https://sportnz.org.nz/covid-19-response/covid-19-protection-framework/>

Supervision of Children

As an outcome of the CPF, children are being dropped at gatherings unsupervised. It is illegal in New Zealand, to leave children under 14yrs unsupervised at home or another place. BMXNZ recommends that all parents and guardians follow this legal requirement.

Code of Conduct

BMXNZ understands that members, their friends and family can have different views on the COVID19 situation in New Zealand, and that this may induce negative reaction to the position BMXNZ is required to deliver for the sport. BMXNZ will not accept any abuse or poor conduct directed at its staff, volunteers, or members. As per the BMXNZ code of conduct, riders will be held accountable for the actions of their parents, supporters and any other persons in their company. Persons with opinions or views contrary to the existing regulations on sport within the CPF, should communicate their views to the relevant authorities. BMXNZ, its clubs and members do not dictate these government regulations.

Policy Evolution

BMXNZ acknowledges that best practice in the minimisation and mitigation of the impacts of COVID-19 is evolving rapidly. Given this, BMXNZ confirms to its members its intention to work in good faith, as new information and recommendations come to hand, and to do its utmost to introduce the latest and complementary measures to further minimise risks to our members, ease the burden on clubs and make the sport accessible to members.

BMXNZ notes that this policy is based upon the information currently available from Government, and SportNZ and is always subject to change. This policy may be revoked, amended or replaced at BMXNZ's sole discretion, on reasonable notice within the circumstances at that time.

Review

This policy is managed by the BMXNZ Board Health & Safety portfolio holder. A COVID19 review group, led by the BMXNZ Board portfolio holder will take responsibility for reviewing and updating this policy and risk assessment as needed in consultation with BMXNZ's Board

Policy reviewed by: BMXNZ Board

Date reviewed: [28/03/2022](#)

Policy updates noted in – [BLUE TEXT](#)

Next review date: When appropriate as new information is available or required, or as a result of Governmental mandate changes.