



## **NOTICE OF VACCINATION REQUIREMENT** **for Participation at the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympic & Paralympic Games**

The U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee will require all athletes, USOPC employees, NGB staff and other constituents as detailed below to be fully vaccinated<sup>1</sup> against COVID-19, or to obtain a medical or religious exemption prior to accessing USOPC facilities (as defined in the [COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement](#) document), all events or activities hosted by the USOPC's internally managed sports<sup>2</sup> and **all USOPC delegation events such as the Olympic and Paralympic Games.**

In order to foster a safe and healthy environment at the Beijing 2022 Olympic & Paralympic Games for all participants, the USOPC will require all Team USA delegation members to **be compliant** with its vaccination requirement as a condition of participation. For complete details surrounding this new mandate, please visit [TeamUSA.org/vaccine](https://TeamUSA.org/vaccine). Individuals should read both the Vaccination Requirement document, along with the FAQs in close detail.

All potential Team USA delegation members (i.e., individuals on the Beijing 2022 Long List)<sup>3</sup> must submit proof of vaccination or be granted a medical or religious exemption by **December 1, 2021.**

Note that exemptions must be granted, and appeal decisions made no later than the Dec. 1 date. Therefore, individuals on the long list for the Beijing Winter Games should have their request for an exemption submitted to the USOPC no later than November 14, 2021 in order to allow sufficient time for it to be reviewed (which could take up to 7 days) and appealed (if the individual elects to appeal a denial of their exemption request). Further, in the event an athlete or other participant was (a) not otherwise on the long list and (b) qualifies after December 1, they will have to submit their proof of vaccination to the USOPC or receive a vaccination exemption upon the earlier of 30 days or their departure for the Beijing Winter Games.

Note that while the USOPC may honor an exemption for the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, rules of other third parties (e.g., Chinese government, local organizing committee, IOC/IPC, international federation) may also apply and the USOPC has no control over those rules or their enforcement. Nothing in the USOPC's vaccination mandate can replace or limit the rules of those third parties. [Beijing 2022 recently announced principles surrounding its vaccination policy](#) in which it indicated that "*Athletes who can provide a justified medical exemption will have their cases considered.*" Their policies will be detailed in the Playbooks to be released in late October and revised in December; thus, it is important to note that any exemption granted by the USOPC does not guarantee that the exemption request will also be approved by Beijing 2022.

<sup>1</sup> Currently, the USOPC follows the CDC's definition of "fully vaccinated," which means two weeks after the second dose of a two-dose vaccine (i.e., Pfizer or Moderna), or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine (i.e., Johnson & Johnson, Janssen).

<sup>2</sup> Internally managed sports include: Para Alpine Skiing, Boccia, Para Cycling, Para Nordic Skiing, Para Snowboarding, Para Swimming and Para Track and Field.

<sup>3</sup> The vaccine requirement may extend beyond the Long List in the case where an NGB designates it as a condition of participation at Beijing selection trials, qualifying events or other activities involving potential Beijing participants. If this is the case, the NGB will notify athletes and other participants immediately upon receiving approval from the USOPC.

Other COVID-19 mitigation measures will be outlined in the USOPC Olympic & Paralympic Delegation Rules for COVID-19, the Beijing 2022 Playbooks, and other rules may be required from other third parties (e.g., Chinese government, local organizing committee, IOC/IPC, international federation). The [USOPC Olympic & Paralympic Delegation Rules for COVID-19 Mitigation Measures](#) and the [Beijing 2022 Playbook](#) will be posted, pending publication.

**RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO YOU:**

Questions about the USOPC's Vaccination Requirement? Contact USOPC Athlete Services at [athleteservices@usopc.org](mailto:athleteservices@usopc.org).

For independent, confidential advice or assistance with dispute resolution, contact the Office of the Athlete Ombuds at [ombudsman@usathlete.org](mailto:ombudsman@usathlete.org) or 719-866-5000.

Questions on how to submit your vaccination status? To preserve confidentiality of your status, please direct these questions to the vaccination confirmation team at [usopcer@ilgdenver.com](mailto:usopcer@ilgdenver.com).

Questions on how to challenge a denial of an exemption request? Contact the USOPC Dispute Resolution Unit (DRU) at [dru@usopc.org](mailto:dru@usopc.org).

Questions as it pertains to trials, if applicable, or the selection process in general?  
Contact **Shane Domer** at [SDomer@usspeedskating.org](mailto:SDomer@usspeedskating.org)