

IHNZ Traffic Light System Guidance:

IHNZ has developed in conjunction with Sport NZ, Sporty and MBIE the following guidance document for use by clubs and regions to understand the details of the new system and the implications the new framework will have for the sport and recreation sector.

As the nature of Covid-19 continues to evolve, so too will the Government response but a key part of the new framework is the ability for businesses to operate and events to go ahead – even when COVID-19 is still present in the community.

This document covers:

- Principles of the Framework for Play, Recreation and Sport
- Traffic Light Settings
- Vaccination Guide
- Vaccine Pass Verifier App
- Developments for 2022 and ID Card
- Risk Assessment

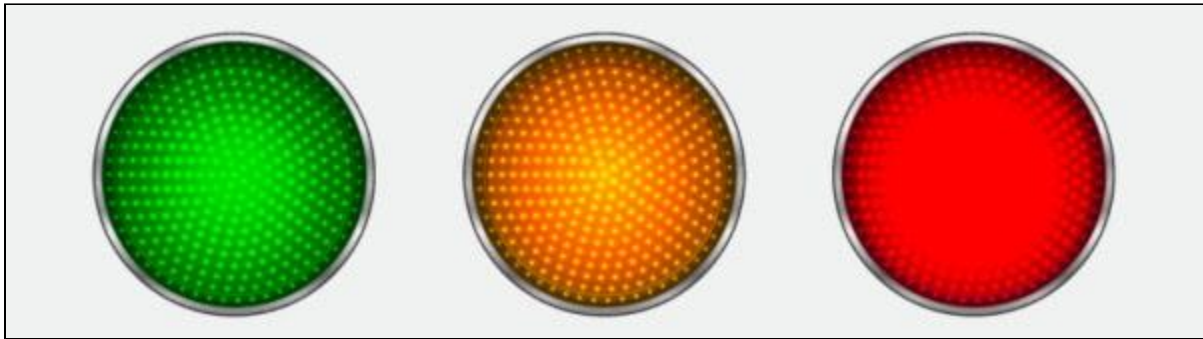
Although the outline of the framework is clear, policy work is still ongoing and there may be further changes to the system once the government has released their vaccination schedule for those aged 5 to 11 years.

Key principles of the COVID-19 Protection Framework settings for Play, Recreation and Sport :

- All outdoor parks, fields and playgrounds can open for use at red, orange and green
- Gyms can open at red, orange and green if vaccine passes are in use
- Sport and recreational facilities can open but will need to consider specific rules for the commercial premises that they run such as cafes.
- When participating at council-owned pools and recreation centres, the guidance for Public Facilities applies
- For community sport and recreation played elsewhere, the rules for Gatherings generally apply. The number of people that can meet at the Gathering depends on whether vaccine passes are required and checked or not
- Separate guidance is being prepared for events; the definitions for this are being confirmed and will be provided in a separate fact sheet as soon as possible. Sport and recreation organisers will need to decide if they operate as a Gathering or an Event
- A Gathering organiser, venue or facility need to make the choice to ask for proof of vaccination. In the first instance, organisations and venues owners should talk to each other about the plan to safely run the sport or recreational activities under the COVID-19 Protection Framework
- There can be multiple Gatherings at one venue, however each Gathering needs to take place in a defined space with distance maintained between groups. Spectators at an outdoor gathering can be treated as a separate gathering and the same limits apply to them
- There are no requirements for physical distancing while playing / participating; and you do not need to wear a mask when taking part
- You can cross regional boundaries, and move from red to orange for example, if you have a vaccine pass and/or a proof of a negative COVID-19 test. You should abide by the relevant settings for the area you visit; you no longer take your home settings with you.
- If you're sick, stay home.

Whilst we note the role that vaccination can play a role in helping us all get back to participating in the sport and recreation activities that we love as soon as possible, we are however mindful that some may consider that introducing mandatory vaccination for visitors/entrants could create an additional barrier to participation. We acknowledge that this may be a greater concern in some regions than others.

Traffic Light Settings



Under the new COVID-19 Protection Framework, sport, active recreation and play can take place with restrictions implemented geographically to protect at-risk people and minimise the risk of community transmission. Your setting will depend on where you are in New Zealand.

All outdoor parks, fields and playgrounds can open for use, along with public facilities, which will operate under specific settings. Most sport and recreation can be played under Gatherings restrictions. The number that can meet at a Gathering depends on whether vaccine passes are required and checked or not.

Settings Guidance:

Red

Red is designed to protect at-risk people and the health system from an unsustainable number of hospitalisations.

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

Orange

Orange is designed to reduce increasing community transmission that is putting pressure on the public health system and at-risk people.

https://sportnz.org.nz/media/4676/snz-cpf-orange-guidance-at-a-glance-5_10.pdf

Green

Green is designed to minimise the cases of COVID-19 community transmission.

https://sportnz.org.nz/media/4677/snz-cpf-green-guidance-at-a-glance-5_10.pdf

Vaccination Guide:



Every region in New Zealand is either Red or Orange under the new traffic light system from 3 December 2021.

It can therefore become problematic to manage sports events unless vaccination certificates are used. In many instances sports will require people to have a valid Vaccine Pass.

Vaccination Guide:

https://sportnz.org.nz/resources/vaccination-guidance-for-the-sport-and-recreation-sector/?fbclid=IwAR1N7Z4JPfgn67QalY-zskjkRI_7kNA-PRtStFomLRGy2_I2HYn5abetmMA

My Vaccine Pass:

<https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccination-certificates/my-vaccine-pass/>

NZ Pass Verifier

The NZ Pass Verifier is a tool that businesses and organisations can use to help stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep their community safe.

When the COVID-19 Protection Framework is in place, businesses and organisations are encouraged to check customers' My Vaccine Pass with the NZ Pass Verifier app in certain traffic light settings.

This App can be used to scan and verify a Pass. It is available on both Google Play and the Apple Store.

Attached is a link to a video to show how to download, install and use the App.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRIU7eQ20r4>

NZ Verifier App:

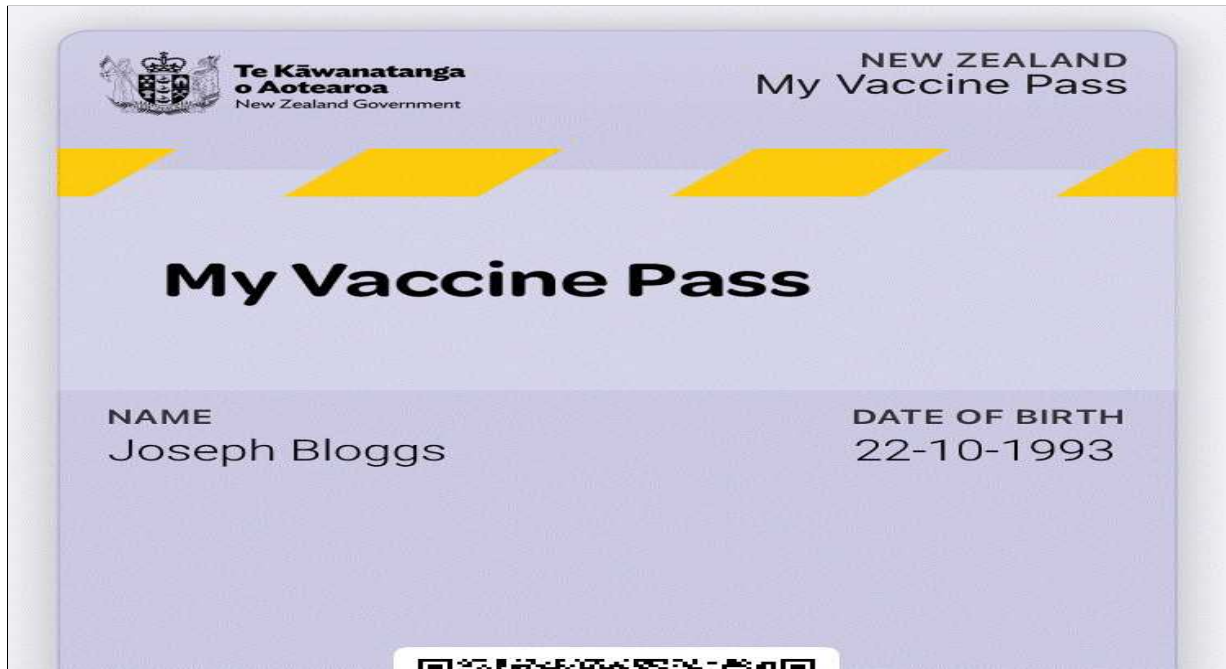
<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/my-covid-record-proof-vaccination-status/nz-pass-verifier>

Door Posters:

When you are ready to check visitors' My Vaccine Pass with the NZ Pass Verifier app, you can display posters to let everyone know.

[Download door posters – Unite against COVID-19](#)

ID Card 2022



Within the Sporty System IHNZ uses for registration purposes we are introducing the (optional) ability to include a question field for a person's Vaccine Pass that performs a live verification with the Ministry of Health system.

The ability to let people pre-verify at the time they register for sport or an event or holiday program is designed to remove the need to physically scan people in at the time of the gathering or event.

The Vaccine Pass field will allow a person to scan their Vaccine Pass QR code or upload their Vaccine Pass PDF. Sporty then makes a live call on the MoH system to validate the pass. The verification response from the MoH system returns to Sporty the person's name, DoB and expiry date of their pass. These details will be recorded along with the person's vaccination status on their registration record.

A Vaccine Pass can also be added to a person's record at a later point in time if preferred. This can be achieved by the registrant following a link in their registration confirmation email to return to their record, or by their sports administrator scanning a Vaccine Pass for the person at a later date.

Risk Assessment

Under current legislative settings, organisations can legally require that visitors to their facilities and/or participants in events that they run, must be vaccinated. This requirement can be made a condition of entry to the facility or event. Although it is not required, organisations may wish to conduct a risk assessment for visitors before confirming their vaccination policy. This assessment could help to communicate the reasons behind the policy that is ultimately adopted.

If you decide to make vaccination a condition of entry, this will allow for anyone who has concerns about the mandatory vaccination requirement to make contact with you before entering your facility or event to clarify any specific situations should they arise.

If you wish to undertake a Risk assessment the following guidelines are recommended:

- Step 1 – conducting a health and safety risk assessment about the risk that unvaccinated visitors/entrants would pose
- Step 2 – identifying other controls and measures that could be used (such as physical distancing, mask wearing etc) and the extent to which these would reduce the risk posed by unvaccinated visitors/entrants
- Step 3 – considering the practical implications and consequences of an outbreak of COVID-19 at a facility/event.

- The health and safety of people on your sites:

The risk of Covid-19 is an additional factor to consider in the health and safety planning that you would carry out for any event you were preparing to host. As part of this you will need to consider the health and safety of your own staff (including volunteers) as well as the health and safety of visitors and participants.

Note that while you cannot require volunteers for your organisation to be vaccinated, you can decline to engage a volunteer who is not vaccinated. If you choose to make vaccination a condition of entry to your facility or event, then any volunteers within your organisation would only be able to attend and work at the event if they were vaccinated.

- Compliance/enforcement:

Consider what systems or processes you will need to have in place to enforce your policy (i.e. how you will check that visitors or participants are vaccinated if you make vaccination mandatory. It will be easier in some settings than in others e.g. easier at indoor, controlled facilities, harder at outdoors, 'uncontrolled' facilities).

- Development of the COVID-19 Protection Framework:

Consider if a mandatory vaccination policy will provide greater certainty about an event being able to go ahead by introducing a mandatory vaccination requirement.