

Golf Club and Facility Guidance (COVID-19)

COVID Protection Framework **RED**: updated 28 November 2021
(more detailed guidance to follow).

Golf is a permitted activity under the **RED** setting for both vaccinated and unvaccinated players subject to capacity limits as outlined below.

The number one priority should be the health, safety and wellbeing of your staff, members, golf participants and the wider community.

Golf New Zealand has received what Sport NZ is calling high level 'at a glance' guidance with detailed sector guidance to follow.

We have outlined what we know to date below. You can use this information to assist with your ongoing planning. We appreciate your patience as we continue to advocate for, and interpret all guidance we receive from the Government.

As we move away from Alert Levels, new rules and language come into force. "Bubbles" are no longer and there will be no requirement to take your Alert Level with you when travelling. The CPF guidance uses new language such as "Gatherings" which as you will see below is particularly relevant in a golf context.

Both organised and unorganised community sport, as well as outdoor exercise falls under the CPF category of a Gathering.

Under all colour settings:

- Golf clubs must display NZ COVID Tracer app QR codes, and are required to ensure that, as much as possible, record keeping is undertaken.
- If a golf club sells, offers, or provides food and/or drink to customers / members, the food and beverage service rules apply. See below.
- Vaccination will be required for all workers at golf clubs where customers need to show COVID-19 Vaccination Certificates. More information on this can be found here: [Vaccines and the workplace » Employment New Zealand](#)
- Businesses opting to run under My Vaccine Pass rules:
 - must display posters advertising if they require people entering to have a My Vaccine Pass.
 - must sight all customer's My Vaccine Passes, and it is strongly recommended you verify.
 - may either sight/verify the customers pass at point of entry (or as soon as possible after) or, if the customer is a member and gives consent, Clubs may record verification against their membership/access card.

RED GUIDANCE (More detailed guidance to follow).

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

Gatherings limits at RED

- The number of people that can meet at a Gathering depends on whether vaccine passes are required and checked or not.
- A Gathering organiser, i.e., a Golf Club will need to make the choice to ask for proof of vaccination or not.
- There can be multiple Gatherings at one venue. However, each Gathering needs to take place in a defined space with distance maintained between groups.
- Examples from a golf perspective are provided within the Gathering Limits table below.
- The table below is not applicable to hospitality – further guidance on hospitality is given in the next section.

Gatherings limits at Red	
If My Vaccine Pass verification is used:	If My Vaccine Pass verification is NOT used:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you check vaccine passes at a Gathering, then the capacity limit is determined by the size of the facility (based on the facility being large enough to allow 1m² of space per person). You can have a maximum of 100 people. • The capacity limits include children under 12. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass. • The capacity limits excludes workers. • At a Gathering, attendees including spectators do not have to physically distance themselves but need to stay 2 metres away from other Gatherings at all times. • Checking of vaccine passes is required as <u>best as reasonably practicable</u> in all settings. <p>Golf context if using My Vaccine Pass Verification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your Golf Club always has less than 100 people on the premises at any one time, then no Gathering restrictions or considerations need to apply. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you do not check vaccine passes at a Gathering, then the capacity limit is determined by the size of the facility based on the facility being large enough to allow 1m² of space per person. You can have a maximum of 25 people. • This capacity limit includes children. Children under the age of 12 who cannot be vaccinated are treated as if they have a vaccine pass. • The capacity limit excludes workers. • At a Gathering, attendees including spectators do not have to physically distance but need to stay 2 metres away from other Gatherings at all times. <p>Golf context if <u>not</u> using My Vaccine Pass Verification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Golf Clubs would need to ensure that Gatherings of 26 or over remain at least 2 metres apart from other Gatherings at all times.

- If your Golf Club exceeds 100 people at any given time, then capacity limits considerations must be made. Multiple Gatherings can be hosted at one venue, but each Gathering needs to take place in a defined space separated from other Gatherings occurring at the same time.

Outdoors this means that each Gathering should remain at least 2 metres apart from other Gatherings at all times.

Indoor Gatherings must be separated by walls and cannot share direct airflow. Please note, this reference to indoor Gatherings does not include your hospitality areas – please see below.

In a Golf context, various groupings such as one single fourball would be considered a Gathering. Therefore, from a practical perspective and due to the nature of Golf, golf course restrictions need not apply unless tee sheets or tournaments cause over 100 people to congregate as a Gathering (for example, corporate day registrations or certain tournament formats.)

Clubs do not always have personnel on site, and this is recognised in the guidance by stating that the checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable in all settings.

- By way of example, if every fourball was to maintain 2 metre distance from other fourballs at all times on the premises, then 'normal' golf could be played.

As the Gathering limit is 25, this means that groups of multiple fourballs (up to a maximum of 25 people) could congregate.

Clubs do not always have personnel on site, and this is recognised in the guidance by stating that the checking of vaccine passes is required as best as reasonably practicable in all settings.

RED – Food and drink service guidelines

Full MBIE guidance: [Food and drink services — business.govt.nz](https://www.business.govt.nz/food-and-drink-services)

Vaccination for all workers is required.

Businesses and services must display NZ COVID tracer app QR codes, and are required to ensure that, as much as possible, record keeping is undertaken (i.e., all those on premises must scan QR tracer codes, or other record keeping must be used).

Guidelines for Bars, cafes, club hospitality, restaurants and other food and beverage services	
If My Vaccine Pass verification is used:	Where no vaccine passes checked:
<p>You may open with up to 100 people and based on 1m distancing (whichever is the lesser) per defined space.</p> <p>Customers must be seated and separated.</p> <p>Face coverings are encouraged while customers are not eating.</p> <p>You must sight all customers' My Vaccine Passes, and it is strongly recommended you verify.</p>	<p>Contactless operation only.</p>

Please note: the government may update the rules for sport and recreation at any setting at any stage.

Further Information

For official government information, visit: <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

For specific sport sector information, visit: <https://sportnz.org.nz/>

For food and drink service information, visit: www.business.govt.nz

For Vaccines and the workplace information, visit: www.employment.govt.nz

Please be in touch with Golf New Zealand for any general queries.

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