

NAIGC Nationals 2022 COVID-19 Protocols - FAQs

Please review this document to answer any questions you may have regarding the NAIGC's Nationals 2022 COVID-19 protocols. If you still have additional questions, please contact us at nationals@naigc.org.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **How was the decision regarding COVID-19 protocols made?**
 - The NAIGC's COVID-19 task force in cooperation with the Nationals team presented [this](#) recommendation to the NAIGC Board. The recommendation is based on the COVID-19 Community level as of March 1, 2022. Using that data, the board determined that Nationals would be an "Orange Tier" event because the average COVID-19 community level at the time for the Nation (weighted by state) was Medium. The policies laid out in the [COVID-19 protocols document](#) are those that align with an orange tier event.
- **Why are we requiring everyone to be vaccinated against Covid-19 in order to participate?**
 - According to the CDC, "COVID-19 vaccination helps protect adults and children ages 5 years and older from getting sick or severely ill with COVID-19 and helps protect those around them." Please refer to the [CDC website](#) for more information on how vaccines are an effective tool at keeping populations safe. The NAIGC is allowing vaccine medical exemptions on a case by case basis. Please see below for more information.
- **I no longer feel comfortable attending Nationals, what should I do?**
 - [Per the NAIGC Website](#), "Fees paid for any part of NAIGC Nationals, including individual registration, team fees, and banquet tickets are eligible for a full refund or transfer within the same club. You may also transfer funds for an individual to a different club, if approved by the purchaser. We will provide refunds up until the beginning of open stretch of a team or individual's assigned first session of competition. To request a refund, please email treasury@naigc.org with order details including purchaser name and the items you wish to have refunded."
- **What documentation will the NAIGC accept to show eligibility for an exemption? Why does the NAIGC only accept these forms?**
 - The NAIGC will accept medical exemptions granted from workplaces or schools. Please email nationals@naigc.org with your documents. The NAIGC believes this is the best way to expedite the vetting process.
- **Do spectators need to be vaccinated or can they have their exemptions honored?**
 - We ask that all spectators be prepared to show proof of vaccination upon entrance to Nationals.

- **I don't have to wear a mask indoors where I am from, why do I have to wear one at Nationals?**
 - The NAIGC based its policies on the [CDC's recommendations](#) for what to do at various COVID-19 community levels. On average, at the time of the publishing of our protocols, the country as a whole is at a medium COVID-19 community level, but because we will be having people travel from all over the country, including several counties that have high community levels where mask wearing is recommended indoors regardless of vaccination status, we are requiring that people wear masks when they are not actively exercising, eating, or drinking. We appreciate everyone's diligence in following this policy.
- **Why do I have to wear either a KN95, KF94, N95, surgical mask or medical procedure mask?**
 - [According to the CDC](#), "Loosely woven cloth products provide the least protection, layered finely woven products offer more protection, well-fitting disposable surgical masks and KN95s offer even more protection, and well-fitting NIOSH-approved respirators (including N95s) offer the highest level of protection." This is why we are requiring that everyone wear at a minimum a surgical mask. If you have a cloth mask that you would like to wear (for example if your team got matching masks etc.) you are welcome to wear it over your approved mask, but not in place of a disposable mask.
- **What is a COVID-19 Community Level?**
 - COVID-19 Community Level is a measure of the impact of COVID-19 illness on health and healthcare systems. It is a metric that takes a holistic look at various individual indicators (hospital admissions, hospital beds, and new COVID-19 cases) to determine the level of risk of COVID-19 spread in a given community. For more information, please refer to the CDC's website on [COVID-19 Community Level](#).
- **Why do all participants not need to provide proof of a negative Covid-19 test?**
 - The CDC states that [vaccination significantly reduces one's risk of a breakthrough infection](#). Therefore, while we recommend that as many people as possible take a COVID-19 test before and after traveling to Nationals, we are only requiring that participants who have been granted an exemption to being vaccinated provide proof of a negative test result.
- **What happens if someone knowingly violates the COVID-19 protocols and does not correct their behavior upon being asked to do so?**
 - Any violation of the COVID-19 policies will be considered a violation of the [NAIGC's Code of Conduct](#) and will be dealt with accordingly.
- **I would have registered for nationals earlier if I knew that my exemption to being vaccinated would be honored by the NAIGC. Can I still purchase my nationals registration at the regular price?**



- Yes, if you reached out to the NAIGC about a potential exemption previously, please reach out again to nationals@naigc.org with proof that you were granted a medical exemption from being vaccinated by either your workplace or university before normal registration deadline and you will be able to purchase your registration at that rate.
- **I disagree with these policies and would like them to be changed. What should I do?**
 - The NAIGC volunteers have used the data and science from the CDC and health experts to create these policies. These policies are based on the current CDC guidelines. If you have any other questions or concerns please email info@naigc.org.
- **I have another question.**
 - Please reach out to nationals@naigc.org and we will try to answer your question and add it to this FAQ.