



**U.S. Ski & Snowboard COVID-19 Risk Mitigation for Non-Athletic Related Gatherings:  
Officials Meetings, Coaches Education, Conferences, Seminars, Special Events &  
Executive Meetings**

10.1.2021

U.S. Ski & Snowboard is committed to maintaining health and safety while protecting the ability to train and compete during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our mitigation strategies detail best practices for athletes, staff, volunteers, and supporters. This statement details the current U.S. Ski & Snowboard COVID-19 policy for non-athletic gatherings (conferences, seminars, etc.) and has been developed by the U.S. Ski & Snowboard COVID-19 Panel. We recognize that COVID-19 has impacted different parts of the country in different ways and differing rates of vaccination exist. The COVID-19 Delta variant and other emerging variants remain a considerable concern at the time of publishing. The COVID-19 Delta variant is extremely contagious and appears to be causing higher rates of hospitalization in younger individuals as well as breakthrough infections for vaccinated individuals. COVID-19 is spread mainly from person-to-person through respiratory droplets and can lead to severe illness and death in high-risk individuals and the unvaccinated population, which includes those not eligible for vaccination.

**COVID-19 Vaccination**

Current guidelines from the CDC allow for increased freedoms for **fully vaccinated individuals**. The CDC has suggested that **vaccinated individuals** can resume many activities including attending gatherings while following [specific recommendations](#).

- To maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others, wear a mask indoors in public if you are in an area [of substantial or high transmission](#).
- Get tested for COVID-19 if you are experiencing [symptoms](#).
- If you've had [close contact](#) with someone who has COVID-19, you should get tested 3-5 days after your exposure, even if you don't have symptoms. You should also wear a mask indoors in public for 14 days following exposure or until your test result is negative.
- Isolate yourself for 10 days if your test result is positive.

The CDC recommends [delaying travel until individuals are fully vaccinated](#).

U.S. Ski & Snowboard policy reflects:

- Primary consideration: Event organizers must follow the rules and regulations set forth by public health authorities and state and local governments, which will be different across the country.
- All U.S. Ski & Snowboard staff & contractors are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Anyone who requires medical or religious exemption will complete an ADA process through the U.S. Ski & Snowboard Human Resources Department and will be subject to masking and physical distancing requirements and travel restrictions (in line with current CDC guidance).
- Meetings, seminars and/or education sessions should be held outdoors, if possible.
- Attendance at any indoor gathering requires proof of current up-to-date COVID-19 vaccination.
- We encourage the host to follow [CDC Guidance](#) and take mitigation steps including hosting in a space allowing for physical distancing and requiring masking indoors for all attendees.

### **Symptomatic Cases**

- In the event that a participant becomes symptomatic prior to an event they should not attend.
- If an attendee becomes symptomatic during an event that person should quarantine immediately and seek COVID-19 testing.

### **Considerations for Positive Cases**

- In the event of a positive COVID-19 test, the infected individual will begin an immediate isolation and will have no contact with others.
- Contact tracing will occur immediately and all **vaccinated** individuals who had [close contact](#) with the infected individual within 48 hours of the individual becoming symptomatic or testing positive will be required to mask indoors for 14 days.
- Close contact continues to be defined as being within six feet for more than 15 minutes, regardless of mask wearing.

### **Exit Plan**

Upon the completion of an event all individuals should adhere to post-travel requirements per their local health ordinance once they return home. Vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine post travel, but should test 3-5 days after arriving home from international travel. The CDC does not require testing before or after domestic travel at this time.

**Table 1. Gathering Guidelines 2021-22 Season.**

Gathering Guidelines		
Venue	Venue space	Meetings, seminars and/or education sessions should be held outdoors, if possible.
	Vaccination Requirement	Attendance at any indoor gathering requires attestation of full COVID-19 vaccination status.
	Indoor Requirements	Proof of vaccination, masking and limited capacity to allow for physical distancing
	Virtual Option	A virtual option will be offered for anyone who would prefer not to participate in in-person gatherings.
COVID-19	Symptomatic Cases	If a participant becomes symptomatic, they should not attend. If they become symptomatic during an event, they should immediately quarantine and seek medical advice regarding testing.
	Positive Test	Isolation for 10 days and at least 24 hours have passed since resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and other symptoms have improved. Return to Activity under medical advice.
Exposure to COVID +	Close Contact	Wear a mask in public indoor settings for 14 days. Can be discontinued if a COVID-19 test is performed 3-5 days after exposure and is negative.
Unvaccinated Individuals	Attendance	A virtual option will be offered to unvaccinated individuals.