



Covid 19 Festival Protocols and Procedures

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Remember to be COVID Wise

- W – Wear a **mask or face covering where required**, or when you cannot maintain a physical distance of two metres (six feet).
- I – Isolate yourself from others when you are sick (and **get tested immediately** if you have **COVID-like symptoms**).
- S – Stay **two metres (six feet) apart** from those outside your household or your chosen social support person(s).
- E – Exercise **proper hand hygiene**; wash your hands regularly or use sanitizer especially before touching your face.

Preventing COVID-19 at the Festival

- Staff/Volunteers and competitors may not come to the Festival if they have symptoms of COVID-19.
- To assist in reviewing any symptoms or recent history, staff/volunteers and competitors will be required to complete a health-screening questionnaire before each session.
- If staff/volunteers or competitors develop symptoms while at the festival, they are asked to notify the front of house staff or the site manager
- Remember!** Respect physical distancing rules. Staff/volunteers and competitors must wear a cloth or disposable mask in common areas to help protect others from transmission at times when it is mandated by the Public Health Authority.
- Wash hands often with soap and water, or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth unless they have just washed their hands.
- Cover your cough and sneeze with a tissue or into your arm, not your hand.
- Stay home if you are sick.

Hand Hygiene

- All staff/volunteers and competitors are asked to practice hand hygiene before any contact with anybody on the Festival site and frequently during their time on site.(Even if gloves are worn).
- All staff/volunteers and competitors are asked to wash, rinse, and dry their hands or apply an alcohol hand rub before beginning work, after using the rest room, before and after accessing other areas in the Festival site.
- For routine hand washing:
 - o use the liquid lotion soap located in the dispensers in the washrooms, or use
 - o the hand sanitizer located at each in entry point
- Use antiseptic (antimicrobial) hand washing products or alcohol hand rub for hand hygiene before any expected contact with any other person on site.
- Perform hand hygiene frequently while on site.
- Avoid touching your face with unclean hands. This will prevent indirect contact contamination from the hands to the eyes, mouth and respiratory tract.

Masks

Employees/Volunteers and Competitors are asked to wear a cloth or disposable mask when in common areas to help protect others from asymptomatic transmission. This mask may be removed when warming up or in competition.

Instructions on proper use of a mask can be found in the Appendix.

A mask can be worn all day as long as it does not become damaged, damp or dirty.

- Do not share your mask with others.
- Remove your mask with clean hands when you are safely able to do so and wash your hands using soap and water or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Do not place your used mask into your pocket.

Cloth masks:

- Cloth masks can be re-used throughout the day if not soiled and undamaged. With clean hands, remove the mask from your face and fold it in half so that the outer surface is inwards (so that the contaminated outer surface is not contacting anything during storage) and place it in a clean, sealable bag until ready to use it again the same day.
- Should be placed directly into the washing machine once you return home. You can place a cloth mask in a plastic bag for a short time to transport it home to launder.

Disposable masks:

- Should be removed and replaced if soiled, damaged or hard to breathe through.
- Are for one time use only and need to be thrown into the garbage after use.

Vaccines

Vaccines are safe, effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses like COVID-19.

Vaccines work with your immune system so your body will be ready to fight the virus if you are exposed. This can reduce your risk of developing COVID-19 and make your symptoms milder if you do get it.

Vaccine Safety

Safe and reliable vaccines can help protect you and your family from COVID-19.

They will be an important tool to help stop the spread of the virus and allow individuals, families and workers to safely resume normal life. The corona virus (COVID-19) vaccine does not cause a corona virus infection. It helps to build up your immunity to the virus, so your body will fight it off more easily if it affects you.

After independent and thorough scientific reviews for safety, efficacy and quality, Health Canada has approved four vaccines for use in Canada:

- Pfizer-BioNTech – approved on December 9, 2020
- Moderna – approved on December 23, 2020
- AstraZeneca – approved on February 26, 2021
- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) – approved on March 5, 2021

They have additionally approved boosters to improve the efficiency of vaccines.

Covid-19 Vaccination Policy: Mandatory

Purpose

In accordance with Annapolis Valley Music Festival's duty to provide and maintain a space that is free of known hazards, the Festival is adopting this policy to safeguard the health of our staff, volunteers, competitors and their families, and the community at large from COVID-19. This policy complies with all applicable laws and is based on requirements set by the Nova Scotia Ministry of Health.

This Policy will be reviewed regularly and modified to the changing guidelines restrictions from the Nova Scotia Ministry of Health and risk of spread of COVID-19.

This Policy comes into effect September 30, 2022 and will remain in place until such time as the Nova Scotia Government mandates a change.

Scope

All staff, volunteers and competitors are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 unless a reasonable accommodation is approved and can be supported by documentation.

Procedures

1. All staff, competitors and volunteers are required to provide proof of one of the following to the Site Manager where appropriate:

- a) On an annual basis, or more frequently as per the Ministry of Health's recommendation for vaccination dosage, a copy of Vaccination Confirmation OR a signed Vaccination Attestation Form
- b) A letter from their primary care provider or other medical health professional that sets out:

- (i) A documented medical reason for not being fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and
- (ii) the effective time-period for the medical reason;

Reasonable Accommodation

Staff, volunteers or competitors who have not received a vaccine due to a held religious belief must submit a completed Request for Accommodation form to the Festival.

Accommodations will be granted where they do not cause undue hardship or pose a direct threat to the health and safety of others.

FAQ

Do I have to answer medical questions when coming to the Festival?

All employees, competitors and visitors will be required to answer questions regarding COVID-19 symptoms before entering our performance spaces. Individuals who refuse to answer health screening questions will not be permitted entry into the competition space.

What should I do if I feel sick?

Employees, volunteers or competitors who feel ill should notify the Site Manager or their Supervisor and not report to work. If you are already at the Festival and begin feeling sick, you should notify your Site Manager and go home immediately.

Do I have to wear a mask at work?

Unless required by a federal, provincial or local order, employees, volunteers and competitors do not have to wear a mask at Festival, although we would ask them to do so while in heavily populated areas, such as Front of House, in order to prevent asymptomatic spread.

What you do if you are being tested for COVID-19?

While you are waiting for test results, you should not go to the Festival and should self-isolate.

What you do if you are confirmed positive for COVID-19?

Employees, volunteers and competitors who test positive for COVID-19 are directed to self-isolate and not attend at the Festival.