



# RIVERSDALE BEACH SLSC

## COVID-19 POLICY v3 - DATE: 16-12-2021

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*Policy subject to ongoing review and amendment by RBSLSC Committee*

### OBJECTIVE:

1. The purpose of this policy is to provide clarity on Riversdale Beach Surf Lifesaving Club (RBSLSC) response to COVID-19: In particular to:
  - a. Protect the health and wellbeing of our lifesaving guards
  - b. Enable the continuity of provision of lifeguarding services to the Riversdale Beach community and visitors.

### BACKGROUND:

2. Surf Life Saving New Zealand (SLSNZ) have introduced guidelines for the surf lifesaving community regarding COVID-19. However, beyond legislative compliance (under the traffic light system) they have been clear that the responsibility for developing policy for both local events and club operation, sits with the controlling entity. This means that the responsibility for developing COVID-19 policy and monitoring compliance for the staff and volunteers, the operation of the RBSLSC buildings and the management of programmes and events sits with the RBSLSC Committee.
3. In developing this policy the RBSLSC Committee has placed priority on ensuring the health and safety of our lifeguards and delivery of lifeguarding services to the Riversdale Beach community particularly during the busy summer season.

### CORE POLICY PRINCIPLES:

4. RBSLSC Committee agree with and will abide by the SLSNZ mandate that all paid and volunteer lifeguards, patrol support and nipper coaches must be vaccinated for COVID-19 and provide proof through provision to the RBSLSC Club Administrator of a copy of their NZ COVID Vaccine Certificate (CVC) before undertaking any duties on behalf of the club.
5. RBSLSC is a COVID Vaccine Certificate entity. This means all members and guests entering the Riversdale Beach Surf Club buildings must be vaccinated against COVID-19 and provide proof through presentation of their CVC to the club administrator.
6. Frequent visitors to the RBSLSC building may provide “once only” evidence of their CVC on the basis they agree to have this recorded on the RBSLSC vaccination register. Otherwise, proof of vaccination status is required each time a person enters the premises.
7. Individuals not on the RBSLSC COVID-19 CVC register, can only gain access to the Club House by first presenting their CVC pass to the Club Administrator, or designated CVC register



manager when the clubrooms are staffed. Contact can be made via the doorbell system at building entrances.

8. The COVID-19 Contact Tracing App (CTA) is a separate system from the CVC register. All individuals accessing the Club building must scan in using the CTA. On-duty lifeguards are only required to 'scan in' once each day when starting their shift.
9. The Club House building access doors must remain closed and locked when not staffed by a designated CVC register manager.
10. Unvaccinated persons may not enter RBSLSC premises. Note this is to assist us in the protection of our lifeguards, coaches and supporters and the continued delivery of lifeguarding services to the community.
11. The wearing of masks on RBSLSC premises is optional – noting that:
  - a. The club will operate as CVC organisation – no vaccination pass – no entry.
  - b. Continued requirement to scan in using the COVID Tracing App.
  - c. High levels of basic hygiene will be encouraged including washing & drying hands, exercising caution, and using hand sanitiser after contact with high use touch points (e.g. (keypads & entry doors) and maintaining social distancing.
  - d. Effort must be made to avoid large groups of people congregating inside the club building.
  - e. Continued airflow will be maintained through the building while the building is occupied including open windows as weather conditions permit.
12. Individuals participating in the RBSLSC Nippers/Cadets programme who are over the age of 12 on 1 October 2021 must be vaccinated and provide evidence of this through presentation of their CVC prior to beginning the programme. Under 12's are currently not eligible for the vaccine. The RBSLSC policy relating to Under 12's will be reviewed should this change, but not until after 31 January 2022.
13. For the purposes of the COVID-19 Traffic Light System (TLS) requirements children participating in the Nippers Programme who are under the age of 12 as 1 October 2021 are considered vaccinated. From a COVID-19 perspective, under TLS Orange or Green there no maximum number of participants in a nipper's group.
14. It is acknowledged that RBSLSC do not have control over individual's general access or enjoyment of the beach. There will be no requirement for parents or supporters of children taking part in the Nippers Programme to be vaccinated or present a CVC. However, to maximise the health & safety of participants, nipper coaches & lifeguards, Nippers Programme activities will be conducted in a segregated area from parents and supporters.
15. All club members and visitors are encouraged to adhere to standard COVID-19 practices including:



- Advising the club administrator and avoiding lifeguard duty, nippers' attendance and/or accessing club buildings if you feel unwell or suspect you may have come into contact with a COVID-19 infected person
  - Getting a COVID-19 test should the above apply
16. COVID-19 policy for the Kids Triathlon on 15<sup>th</sup> January will be developed and communicated separately.
17. COVID-19 policy for the Riversdale Beach Surf Carnival will be set by Capital Coast SLS.

## ADDITIONAL POLICY GUIDELINES

### LIFEGUARD PATROL & OPERATIONS

18. Lifeguards will only have to provide proof of their vaccination status on one occasion, through presentation of their CVC to the Club Administrator before they start their first patrol of the season, on the basis the lifeguard agrees to proof of their vaccination status being kept on the club register.
19. Lifeguards are required to maintain 2m social distancing whenever possible while on duty or accessing the club buildings. Mask wearing is not required while lifeguards are on duty except where they:
- Are treating a patient (in any situation out of the water)
  - Enter the first aid/medical room for any reason
20. The socialising of lifeguards in large groups and/or in close proximity to each other inside the club building is discouraged. Where possible, lifeguard meetings & get togethers should be held outdoors (e.g., on the deck). Where this is not possible mask wearing during lifeguard meetings is encouraged.
21. The health of the RBSLSC lifeguards is critical to delivery of our services. Good hygiene, including hand washing, use of hand sanitiser on entering the club facilities must be practiced.
22. Lifeguards should self-isolate, notify the club administrator and seek advice from their GP or Healthline immediately if they:
- a. have COVID-19 symptoms
  - b. believe they may have come into contact with a person infected with COVID-19
23. Further information on the vaccine mandate for surf lifeguards can be found here: <https://www.yumpu.com/en/document/read/65990895/vaccine-mandate-for-the-role-of-surf-lifeguard>
24. Further information on rescue guidelines can be found here: [https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/media/995491/covid-19-rescueguidelines-nsop\\_final.pdf](https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/media/995491/covid-19-rescueguidelines-nsop_final.pdf)



25. Further information on emergency care guidelines can be found here:

[https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/media/995558/2-covid-19-emergency-care-nsop\\_final.pdf](https://www.surflifesaving.org.nz/media/995558/2-covid-19-emergency-care-nsop_final.pdf)

## NIPPERS PROGRAMME

26. Nipper Coaches are only required to provide proof of their CVC on one occasion, through presentation of their CVC to the Club Administrator before they start their first Nippers Programme of the season, on the basis the lifeguard agrees to proof of their vaccination status being kept on the club register.
27. Nippers & Cadets over the age of 12 on 1 October 2021 must provide proof of vaccination (via presentation of CVC) prior to starting the programme.
28. Nippers & Cadets under the age of 12 on 1 October 2021 are considered vaccinated for the purposes of event and or gathering numbers. This means there is no COVID-19 based limit on the number of children in a nipper's group.
29. Parents & supporters of children participating in the Nippers programme are considered members of the public and not considered part of the RBSLSC nippers' event/gathering. They are not required to present CVC's or be vaccinated unless they wish to enter Club Buildings.
30. To assist with management of the clubs COVID-19 Policy. On-line registration for the Nippers programme is strongly encouraged.
31. All efforts will be made to run the Nippers Programme in an area segregated from the public and the public (including parents and supporters) are asked not to interact with Nipper's participants while the programme is running.
32. All interactions on the beach between parents/ supporters and the Nippers Programme coaches and participants should be via the Head Nippers coach.
33. Most nippers will be ineligible for vaccination. Being in close contact in a confined indoor space increases the risk of transfer of COVID-19. To reduce this risk the Nippers programme will operate outdoors only for the 2022 season. This means that if weather conditions are unsuitable for the programme to run outdoors the programme for a particular or all age groups may be cancelled for that day.

## CLUB HOUSE BUILDING ACCESS AND OPERATION

34. Access to RBSLSC buildings is limited to COVID-19 vaccinated persons.
35. A COVID Vaccination Certificate (CVC) register will be maintained by the Club Administrator. This will mean frequent users including lifeguards, committee members and specified volunteers will only have to present their CVC once prior to first entering club buildings after the activation date of this policy.



36. Any person who does not wish their vaccination status to be maintained on the club CVC register must present their CVC to the club administrator or alternate CVC register manager prior to each entry into the building.
37. Doorbells are installed at external entrances to allow non-registered persons to notify administrator. Simply put, no CVC no entry.
38. Persons that are not on the RBSLSC CVC register can therefore only enter club buildings of the Club Administrator or alternate CVC register manager is present.
39. External doors should be kept closed and locked at all times to ensure COVID-19 vaccination status checking can be maintained.
40. All other windows and deck doors should be kept open to maximise airflow whenever weather permits.
41. All users of the club facilities will be encouraged (including signage where appropriate) to practice good hygiene, including washing & drying hands before kitchen use, using hand sanitiser when entering club facilities and social distancing.
42. The COVID-19 Contact Tracing App (CTA) is a separate system. All individuals accessing RBSLSC buildings must scan in using the CTA. On-duty lifeguards are only required to 'scan in' once each day when starting their shift. It is acknowledged that the Tracer App process is an important part of Surf Lifesaving patrol continuity plans – i.e., to limit the number of lifeguards and members that may need to isolate in the scenario where a club member either shows symptoms of or tests positive for COVID-19.
43. Given the range of other controls in place, mask wearing inside the surf club buildings will be optional but is encouraged when an individual is present in the club buildings for periods of longer than 15 minutes or where social distancing risks being compromised.