

West End Lawn Tennis Club (WELTC, The Club) COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

Background

The Government has announced a new COVID-19 Protection Framework (Framework) under which we will adopt a 'traffic light' approach to managing COVID-19, including through the use of vaccination certificates. WELTC has taken the time to assess all options, gather input from other clubs, sports and national bodies around the safest way to implement such a policy.

The inputs into our policy decision making include:

- General guidance from Sports NZ, Tennis NZ and Tennis Auckland (ongoing)
- The health and safety of our members and contractors and our associated obligations
- the objectives of the club stated in WELTC constitution

Risk assessment

When considering the various factors above, we have used a rule of thumb to test our proposed rules and restrictions established by this policy, which is:

"in allowing unvaccinated members to continue to access the club, would a vaccinated members playing at the club have any greater exposure to unvaccinated people than they would to being exposed to an unvaccinated person as they walk down a footpath".

When assessing the new rules and restrictions, our conclusion is no – the risks to our members are the same.

Members will continue to be in control of their exposure, largely without any impact on their typical engagements with the club – members control who they play against and with on a court (the only time this might change is on social nights or events the club organises like competitions and club champs, hence the restrictions). High risk areas such as indoor areas (international data highlights the minimal chance of infection in outdoor settings) are limited to current MVP (My Vaccine Pass) holders and this will be monitored and enforced. Please note that Sports NZ and Tennis NZ guidance for monitoring and enforcement compliance is "reasonable" efforts. We believe the procedures we are putting in place, exceed the legal requirements.

One area of cross contamination that might be of concern for members relates to balls crossing from one playing court to the other. Attached is a study that highlights the very remote likelihood of such contamination, but should any members be concerned, we ask any players so concerned not to touch balls straying onto their courts.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7350886/>

It is important to note, we cannot and are not forcing a member to reveal their vaccination status and if a member chooses not provide evidence of this we would never force them to. However if a member choose not to provide a vaccination passport or other approved evidence then we will assume they are un-vaccination and will treat them as such.

Should you have any queries or concerns around this policy, please do not hesitate to contact Chris Mundell, christophermundell@gmail.com

COVID-19 Policy

To have the best chance possible of ensuring compliance with our health and safety obligations, reducing the risk of exposure to, and transmission of, COVID-19, and operating safely and optimally at all levels of the Framework, while being true to the objects of the club as set out in our Constitution, the WELTC committee (Committee) has confirmed a new COVID-19 policy as outlined below:

This policy will expire on April 30th 2022 unless renewed or updated by the Committee on or before that date.

1. We strongly encourage all our eligible adult members to get vaccinated, and to acquire and maintain a current MVP.
2. WELTC will restrict the access to certain facilities, events and programmes of any member over the age of 12 and three months who is unwilling or unable to present a current MVP (other than a member with a valid exemption, as determined by the manager in her sole discretion), in accordance with the Restrictions set out below, as amended from time to time. Certain restrictions will also extend to non-members including contracted coaching staff, visitors, spectators and non-member playing partners and service providers (for specific details, see below).
3. The WELTC Manager (Manager) and the Manager's specific delegates (if any) will be the sole parties responsible for determining the current MVP status of any member or other applicable parties. No other Committee member, or WELTC member shall be entitled to enquire as to the vaccination status of a member, and WELTC will not store or retain personal data beyond the information captured using the government's tool for determining a valid MVP and confirmation of verification and MVP expiry date linked to membership.
4. The Committee will review and amend this policy as new information comes to light, including as regards changes in levels and any other information the Committee thinks relevant.
5. Should any members be uncomfortable with the implementation of this policy (whether vaccinated or unvaccinated) WELTC will allow the member to terminate their membership and will grant a refund (pro rata) for any paid fees. Alternatively, WELTC will offer the affected member the chance to suspend their membership for a specific period of time.
6. The Committee will continue to comply with any and all legal requirements imposed as part of the government's Covid-19 response. In particular, the Committee will comply with the requirements associated with events and gatherings that have caps on attendance numbers based on the applicable Framework setting from time to time and the Committee may invoke special rules and restrictions in order to comply with such requirements.
7. There is a zero-tolerance approach applied to any hostility or aggression towards the Manager or their delegates as a result of their implementation of this policy. The Manager and delegates are simply implementing the policy as decided by the Committee and any WELTC member or other third party on WELTC grounds breaching this provision will be asked to leave and may be banned permanently from the club.

Restrictions in force from 1 February 2022 to 30 April 2022 (the Initial Period)

	Vaccinated	Unvaccinated
New Membership	Yes	No
Private tennis		
Access to Zones 1,2 and 3 (other than as relates to Events)	Yes	No
Access to Zones 4	Yes	Yes
Events		
Social tennis organised by the club	Yes	Unable to attend
Other Events and Gatherings that may result in the club NOT being able to operate within the government capacity limits may be amended from time to time.	Yes	Unable to attend
Coaching		
Individuals	Yes	No
Groups	Yes	No

The water fountain will remain closed.

“Vaccinated” for these purposes means all current members aged 12 and three months and under, all other members holding a current MVP as verified by the WELTC manager or their delegates and anyone medically unable to be vaccinated, as verified to their satisfaction by the manager or their delegates

“Unvaccinated” means any member not falling in the definition of Vaccinated.

“Event” means any club organised function or recreation event that is considered an Event for the purposes of the Framework.

“Gathering” means any unorganised sports and recreation activities. See below for defined spaces applicable to each such gathering.

The Manager may declare certain events and gatherings to be “MVP only”, meaning that notwithstanding the ability of the event to meet the capacity restriction based on the vaccination status of attendees, only vaccinated people (as defined above) may attend.

For the purposes of the Framework the Manager may also declare any and each zone of the club a "defined spaces" for the purposes of any event/gathering activity or series of events/gatherings provided that such a declaration does not run contrary to the restrictions set out above. For the purposes of the Framework, Zone 1 and 2 is a defined space

"Zones" means each zone as identified in the aerial photo on page 7 of this document, as amended from time to time.

Details on third parties

1. Contracted coaching staff - on court - the club requires all on-court coaching staff to be vaccinated and hold a current MVP.
2. Spectators (including parents) - treated as unvaccinated and subject to the restrictions stated above unless the Manager is satisfied the person holds a valid exemption or current MVP or is under 12 years and three months.
3. Unless approved by the Manager in advance (and in all such cases the Manager must have seen each such player's current MVP in advance of entry to the club, such details are recorded in the non-members register maintained for such purposes by the club, and the person must be recorded in the club's booking system), third party non-member adult playing partners of PLTC members are unable to play tennis at the club for the duration of the Initial Period.
4. Third party service providers (other than contracted coaching staff) - the Manager in their sole discretion to determine whether to require third party service providers to prove they hold a current MVP vaccination status depending on the service to be provided and the area to be accessed (and any other factors the manager determines relevant to the service to be provided).
5. For the avoidance of doubt, the contracted coaching staff are treated as "members" for the purposes of this policy.

West End Lawn Tennis Club Zone Map
For the purposes of the COVID protection Framework



Zone 1: Courts 1-6, inside the fence

Zone 2: The Clubhouse - Upstairs, from the doorway at the bottom of the stairs. Including bar and bathrooms

Zone 3: The Clubhouse - Downstairs, including coaches area, storage area, managers office and bathrooms

Zone 4: Outside the clubhouse, including the Deck, below deck, hitting wall, viewing area

Please note, all areas outside of a zone within the Club are accessible by all members