

# QLD Covid-19 Update



Dear Queensland Golf Clubs and Facilities,

Golf Australia has continued to be involved in meetings and discussions with Queensland Health (QH), the Office of Liquor and Gaming Regulation (OLGR) and Clubs Queensland (CQ) in relation to the 17 December vaccination mandate.

We have been advised that the Public Health Directive (PHD) will not likely be released until a week before 17 December 2021. However, Golf Australia have been able to obtain some further clarity which will assist clubs and facilities with planning, leading up to 17 December 2021.

**The information below is based on the information provided currently on the QH website and may be amended by the release of the PHD.**

Golf Australia encourages clubs and facilities to stay across the FAQ's published on the COVID-19 website in relation to Queensland's restrictions from 17 December 2021, which can be accessed by [clicking here](#). Golf Australia will also monitor these and advise clubs if any change to the below information is required.

## Golf Operations

The information below is based on the information provided currently on the QH website and may be amended by the release of the PHD.

- Unvaccinated people can play golf, including associated activities i.e. golf course practice facilities, mini golf etc
- Unvaccinated people can play golf in the same group as fully vaccinated people
- Unvaccinated people can share a golf cart with a vaccinated golfer
- Unvaccinated people can use the 'drinks cart' service
- Unvaccinated people can enter and use Proshop services
- Unvaccinated people can purchase take away food and drink to consume on the golf course and practice facilities. They cannot eat and drink in the Proshop
- A golf club or facility may also choose to self-impose rules to deny an unvaccinated person admission to play golf, however the club should seek their own legal advice before doing so

Golf Australia continues to encourage both golf participants and workers to get vaccinated as soon as they are able as the above information may change at any time.

# QLD Covid-19 Update



## Coaching

No guidelines or information has been made available relating to coaches and coaching. As soon as information becomes available, we will let you know.

Coaches delivering school-based programs should check with the school regarding requirements.

## Clubhouse

The information below is based on the information provided currently on the QH website and may be amended by the release of the PHD.

There are different requirements for vaccinated and unvaccinated patrons:

- Vaccinated patrons can use all hospitality services of a golf club/facility
- Unvaccinated patrons may enter the clubhouse to collect take away food and beverage for consumption whilst playing golf
- Unvaccinated patrons may enter the clubhouse to use the toilets and or locker rooms

The Queensland Government has now published resources and information on the COVID-19 website to assist clubs and facilities and can be accessed by [clicking here](#).

Clubs and facilities are encouraged to review this information and resources and develop ways to distribute this messaging to members and patrons, via email and through social media.

We have been advised that acceptable forms of vaccination status will include:

- Vaccination information displayed on the Check in Qld app (CIQ App)
- A COVID-19 digital certificate from the Australian Immunisation Register
- An online immunisation history statement, or
- An International COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate printed or electronic from the Department of Home Affairs

Additionally:

- A person can verify their vaccination status either through printed or electronic means
- A facility must accept the evidence 'on face value' and it is not a requirement to scrutinise the validity of the evidence being shown
- There will also be no expectation on facilities to verify that the identity shown on the vaccination evidence is in fact the person physically entering the facility

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## Restriction Enforcement and Exemptions

DLGR has advised that it will be taking a similar approach to the enforcement of vaccination verification as it has to other restrictions in the past. That means it will be taking an educative approach initially and focusing attention on venues that are deliberately not doing the right thing or who have no processes in place to ensure a patron's vaccination status is being confirmed.

- Clubs and facilities must be using 'best endeavours' to verify vaccination status. This may mean different things for different clubs and facilities. For example, small clubs with no dedicated reception area may need bar and gaming staff to ask patrons if they have 'checked-in' and ask to see the 'green tick'.
- Evidence of a medical exemption will need to be recorded by an eligible health professional on the Australia Immunisation Register for the relevant person. This exemption will then be published on a person's COVID-19 Digital Certificate.
- A person with an exception listed on a COVID-19 Digital Certificate will still have a 'green tick' shown on their app for the purposes of entry to a venue. GA is in discussions whether evidence of an exemption will be limited to this.

## Workforce

The requirement for staff or volunteers to be vaccinated will be subject to the publishing of the PHD.

We understand that the delayed publishing of the PHD is causing a significant number of problems in terms of knowing what staff and volunteers the mandate may apply to and how to navigate potential terminations and subsequent recruitment.

At this point, the Queensland Government has advised that from the 17th of December, all hospitality workers will be required to be fully vaccinated in order to attend work. We will continue to seek clarification if a similar requirement will apply to grounds, retail, coaching and office workers.

A Workers Mandatory Vaccination Policy template developed by Clubs Queensland and Clubs Australia is available by [clicking here](#).

Golf Australia continues to encourage workers to get vaccinated as soon as they are able.

## Further Information

Golf Australia will continue to work with industry partners and government around potential issues and restrictions regarding golf club and facility operation. As soon as more information is confirmed, we shall pass it on.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact

David Webber  
Golf Australia Clubs and Facilities Support Manager - QLD & NT  
[David.webber@golf.org.au](mailto:David.webber@golf.org.au)

Or Luke Bates  
Golf Australia State Manager- Queensland  
[Luke.bates@golf.org.au](mailto:Luke.bates@golf.org.au)