

## Bowls Wellington statement



### Vaccination Policy

**3/11/21**

Recently the Government and Ministry of Health released information around how New Zealand will approach Covid-19 by way of introducing a traffic light system.

Under the new system, there will be vastly different levels of freedom afforded to people and organisations that are vaccinated and those unvaccinated.

Some of these variances include vaccinated clubs being able to open their greens and clubrooms at all traffic light levels, while unvaccinated clubs will remain either closed or with significant restrictions applied impacting their ability to provide bowls to their membership. 'Vaccinated' clubs are defined as those who permit entry only to those of have been fully vaccinated (ie double-jabbed).

Given the potential health risk posed to our community and the restrictions imposed on those clubs and persons who are unvaccinated, Bowls Wellington will be only running events and competitions at clubs that are 'vaccinated' upon the region moving from the current Alert Level to the traffic light system.

This will incorporate all events including Tournaments, Interclub, Pennants, Champion of Champions and Bowls3Five<sup>3</sup> amongst others. Clubs that are unvaccinated will not be permitted to host Bowls Wellington events, including any previously scheduled 'home' matches in Interclub and Pennants. Players who have already qualified for the Ryman Healthcare Champion of Champions must be vaccinated if they are to represent their club at this event.

All clubs have the right to decide their own vaccination policy but we would encourage clubs to be vaccinated, given this is the only way to ensure that they can continue to provide bowls opportunities to their membership and community under the new system.

It is important to note this situation is extremely fluid and we are still waiting on information around how the vaccination passport, and exemptions for those who cannot be vaccinated, will be implemented. Bowls Wellington will continue to monitor the situation and our position and requirements are liable to change as more information comes to light.

In the meantime, please take time to discuss your own club's policy and start preparations for the new system which will come in to effect upon District Health Boards achieving 90% vaccination.

Board of Bowls Wellington