

## **COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN - Caledonia Nordic Ski Club 2022 TECK BC CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**This document has been updated regularly, as the COVID 19 situation and legislation changed. It is unlikely to change before the commencement of the event.**

**EVENT:** 2022 TECK BC CHAMPIONSHIPS

**DATE:** March 4 – 6, 2022

**LOCATION:** 8141 Otway Road, Prince George, BC

**VENUE OWNER:** Caledonia Nordic Ski Club (“CNSC”)

**ORGANIZER:** CNSC XC Competitions Organizing Committee

### **PURPOSE**

The following plan outlines how the CNSC plans to safely run the TECK BC Championships competitions for cross country skiing athletes of British Columbia ski clubs in a COVID-19 environment that meets the Orders of the Provincial Health Officer, and Northern Health.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

1. The COVID-19 Safety Plan establishes the Order of the Provincial Health Officer titled, “Gatherings and Events – February 16, 2022” and guidance provided by viaSport’s “Return to Sport Restart 2.0” current to December 23, 2021, as the minimum standard. Northern Health-specific Covid-19 measures were repealed on January 20, 2022.
2. As per the PSO and NSO, “Clubs and organizing committees have Cross Country BC and Nordiq Canada’s support to implement additional rules, guidelines, and best practices that make sense where they operate. For example, we will support race organizing committees who limit participation in sanctioned events according to vaccination status”
3. Cross Country Skiing is an individual outdoor sport with no body contact;
4. Liability insurance coverage is provided by the National Sport Organization (Nordiq Canada) /Provincial Sport Organization (Cross Country BC);
5. The competition venue for the Cross Country skiing competition occurs outdoors on the ski trails. Indoor areas associated with the event, occur in the XC Technical building (i.e. timing, announcing, equipment storage, individual washrooms) as well as the main lodge (group washrooms) and the three small buildings housing the Race Office, the Volunteer Check-In, and Doping Control. The main lodge area will be closed to participants for this event. Heated tents will be provided for athlete and volunteer shelter, operated at 100% of their normal capacity. Limited ski waxing shelters will be available.
6. The bare minimum is insufficient for the following reasons:

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- Many volunteers are senior citizens who have been volunteering at the club for years and even decades and so this plan protects the club's most vulnerable people;
- Northern British Columbia is at least 3 weeks behind the southern part of the province in terms of the surge in Covid cases; adjustments for this reality were deemed necessary;
- The club is hosting the National Biathlon Championships the week following the Teck BC Champs and many volunteers will be helping at that event as well, so an outbreak at the Teck BC Champs could adversely impact the biathlon event.

### **TERMS**

- Participants- athletes/competitors, coaches and support personnel, officials/volunteers, and others attending the event;
- Venue Owner- occupier and operator of the Caledonia Nordic Ski Club;
- Competition Venue- area of CNSC set aside for the event;
- Coaches and support personnel- coaches, assistant coaches, parent helpers;
- Event Organizer- the CNSC XC Competition Organizing Committee.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### Caledonia Nordic Ski Club

1. Ensure COVID-19 safety precautions are met to ensure the health and safety of CNSC staff and volunteers;
2. Ensure the XC Competition Organizing Committee is aware of the requirements under the Provincial Officer of Health "Gatherings and Events – January 27, 2022";
3. Ensure space is set aside that supports and ensures adequate space to host the event under COVID-19 safety precautions;
4. Obtain contact information of participants and retain for minimum of 30 days.

#### CNSC XC Competitions Organizing Committee

1. Will require Proof of Vaccination for all participants. Proof of vaccination will be verified using the BC Vaccine Card Verifier app.

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2. Will create an online race registration that collects athlete registrant information;
3. Appoint a Chief COVID Officer. Responsibility for the role includes:
  - a. Provide CNSC and the XC Competitions Organizing Committee their COVID-19 plan for this event;
  - b. Provide oversight of the recommendations below and maintain a check list indicating they were done, and by who and when:
    - Ensure there is a central contact point for all participants for COVID-19 questions and concerns;
    - Ensure coaches, officials and key volunteers are informed on COVID Safety Protocols.
4. Three cabins along the biathlon fence will house the Race Office, the Volunteer Check-in and Doping Control. Only authorized individuals will be permitted to enter the buildings, along with physical distancing of 2 metres, wearing masks (covering nose and mouth), and disinfecting equipment as necessary;
5. The XC technical building will house the timekeeping room and the jury meeting room. Only authorized individuals will be permitted to enter the building, along with physical distancing of 2 metres, wearing masks (covering nose and mouth), and disinfecting equipment as necessary;
6. Fencing systems (net fencing, link fencing, V-boards, etc.)- installation, removal and transporting will be handled carefully and Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) will be used as each volunteer deems necessary;
7. Jury meetings, protests meetings, etc., will be held outside whenever possible maintaining physical distancing and wearing masks (covering the nose and mouth) when in close proximity;
8. The competition formats for this event will be mass starts and individual interval starts. Competitors are asked to immediately leave the finish area at the end of races and arrive in the start area in advance of their start time and without a support
9. The number of officials in the start and finish areas will be limited to the minimum number required, and masks will be voluntarily worn by these individuals. Officials are able to spread out within the stadium and around the competition course to easily maintain comfortable physical distancing;

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10. The person-to-person transfer of competition bibs will not be allowed. The athlete will remove their own bib after they cross the finish line and take it to a designated drop-off point. A safe method of handling/washing the cloth bibs will be determined by the event organizers;
11. Athletes will be responsible for their own water/food/refreshments, clothing and equipment (i.e. before and after racing). Volunteers will not be handling any of these items. A small post-race pre-packaged snack and juice will be provided to each athlete.

### Participants

1. All athletes and coaches are required to register online and provide proof of vaccination;
2. Proof of vaccination will be verified using the BC Vaccine Card Verifier app at the parking lot entrance for those who did not provide proof of vaccination online or participants who are not athletes or coaches;
3. Providing proof of vaccination at the time of registration will speed up entrance to the parking lot. Wristbands for athletes and coaches who registered online will be provided to teams, along with the bibs, on Friday morning. Athletes and coaches who do not provide proof of vaccination at the time of registration will be required to present proof of vaccination to the Secretary (or designate) in the Race Office to obtain a wristband. The wristband will allow athletes to compete and coaches to access certain restricted areas;
4. All volunteers are asked to provide proof of vaccination by e-mail to their respective Chief or at the time of volunteer check-in. Providing proof of vaccination in advance of the event will speed up entrance to the parking lot;
5. Athletes will be required to bring all their own equipment and supplies (backpacks, filled water bottles, food, cameras, etc). Sharing of these items is not permitted;
6. Warm-up activities will be conducted outside where physical distancing is possible (i.e., warm-up loops or a designated area near the stadium);
7. Face masks (covering the nose and mouth) are required in all indoor areas, including tents, except while seated, eating or drinking;
8. Reasonable physical distancing should be practiced to help reduce the spread of Covid 19; and
9. The person-to-person transfer of competition bibs will not be allowed. The athlete will remove their own bib after crossing the finish line and put in the designated bin.

### **POST COMPETITION CONSIDERATIONS**

1. The daily awards ceremonies will be modified significantly to:
  - a) Accommodate for physical distancing; and

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- b) Allow for photo opportunities taking into consideration the above guidance.
- 2. The Saturday evening outdoor Awards Event, for distributing the BC Cup Aggregate Awards and Club Championship Trophy, will be held at Otway Nordic Centre. People in attendance are asked to be immunized, to reasonably socially distance and wearing of masks is left to everyone's discretion. Masks are required inside all indoor spaces, including tents.

The CNSC recognizes and acknowledges the Northern Health Authority, has the power and right to cease the 2022 TECK BC Championships if they deem it in the best interest of public safety.

**Caledonia Nordic Ski Club  
Date: March 1, 2022**