



NW ASSOCIATION  
FOR  
BLIND  
ATHLETES

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June 28, 2021

Dear Athletes & Volunteers,

We are grateful to all of you for respecting NWABA's health and safety plan and each other as we have navigated Covid-19. As of July 1, NWABA will be lifting our mask mandate at *outdoor* programs.

Lifting our mask mandate does not change our priority of keeping the health and safety of our athletes, volunteers, and team members at the forefront. NWABA recommends anyone who is not fully vaccinated continue to wear a mask. NWABA encourages anyone who can receive the COVID-19 vaccine to do so. According to the CDC, the COVID-19 vaccines effectively keep you from getting COVID-19 and helps keep you from getting seriously ill if you contract COVID-19. We will be implementing a log for vaccinated athletes and volunteers to support contact tracing if exposure should arise. This information is strictly confidential and does not inhibit athletes or volunteers from participating in events. To access the log, go to [NWABA Health Log](#).

NWABA will continue to provide transportation from our designated pickup locations to *fully vaccinated* individuals. Before transport, we request that athletes complete the vaccination log request form. Masks are required inside NWABA vehicles at this time. To request transportation, reach out to the Program Specialist in your area.

- Fully vaccinated refers to a person who is two weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series or two weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine; there is currently no post-vaccination time limit on fully vaccinated status

NWABA programs team is fully vaccinated. As our communities continue to open and gather for NWABA in-person events, we ask that you respect every person's personal health choices. This plan will highlight the actions NWABA will be continuing to lower the risk of COVID-19 exposure and spread during programs and events. Please note, NWABA's health and safety response plan is contingent on local and state health guidelines. *This update is for outdoor programs only; we will be reviewing indoor protocols when the time comes. If you are going to Camp Spark this summer, the health and safety plan for camp differs from this plan. Please read the Camp Spark health and safety plan for the most up-to-date information.*

As always, thank you for your continued support and belief in our mission, vision, and programs. We hope you will join us online or in person soon. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly. To review our current Covid-19 policies and procedures, our website.

Sportingly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stacey Gibbins', written over a red horizontal line.

Stacey Gibbins

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## NWABA's Health & Safety Response Plan

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

(Updated 6/28/2021)

### Infection and Prevention Control Practices

- NWABA team members are fully vaccinated
- NWABA is encouraging anyone able to receive the vaccine to be fully vaccinated
- NWABA has a COVID-19 vaccination log for athletes, volunteers and team members
- Hand hygiene should be performed by all individuals as frequently as possible
- High-touch surfaces are often cleaned and disinfected
- All individuals will maintain physical distancing whenever possible
- NWABA team members will conduct a daily pre-shift symptom check
  - Any team members displaying any symptoms will remain home
- Athletes and volunteers will conduct a pre-event symptom check
  - Anyone showing any symptoms of COVID-19 will stay home
- If an athlete, volunteer, or NWABA team member begins displaying symptoms during an event, the individual will be distanced from the group and will return home of their own accord
- Athletes, volunteers, or team members who contract COVID-19 will not participate in programs until they have met CDC guidelines in returning to activities

### Hygiene:

- NWABA programs and events will maintain a supply of CDC approved hand sanitizer, disinfectant, EPA disinfectant, disposable masks, and paper towels
- All equipment used at events will be cleaned and sanitized before, during, and after the event.
- All attendees will be encouraged to avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth
- All attendees will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes by leaving your mask on and/or using your elbow shirt as added protection
- Attendees are encouraged to bring enough water for the duration of the event,
  - NWABA will have a refill station that will only be accessed by team members, the nozzle on the refill station will be disinfected between each use
- NWABA will provide single use snacks
- All attendees are responsible for maintaining[CA1] their belongings throughout the event
  - Please only bring what is necessary, pack light

### Face Covering Guidelines:

- All attendees using transported by NWABA must be vaccinated and wear a mask
  - Your mask should cover your face from the bridge of your nose to under your chin. It should be loose fitting but secure enough to stay in place
  - NWABA will provide disposable facemasks for anyone who is in need
  - NWABA reserves the right to ask attendees to wear a provided mask if team members do not feel it is not secure enough
- How to properly wear your facemask
  - Wash your hands before and after touching the mask
  - Touch only the bands or ties when putting on and taking off your mask
  - Make sure the mask fits to cover your nose, mouth, and chin
  - Make sure you can breathe and talk comfortably through your mask

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- Wash! Wash! Wash reusable masks after each use. If the mask is disposable, discard it when visibly soiled or damaged

#### **Physical Distancing:**

- Physical distancing of 6 feet must be maintained between all attendees to the best of everyone's abilities at all times. NWABA will have different tools to help support 6 feet of distance while participating in programs
- Physical distancing will be encouraged whenever feasible, given space, activities, and attendees age/abilities
- All attendees are requested to refrain<sup>[CA2]</sup> from greeting others with physical contact

#### **Maintaining Healthy Environment & Operations:**

- One NWABA team member will be assigned as the safety and health lead. This team member will be supporting the group in the recommended guidelines listed in this plan
- Cleaning and disinfecting will be conducted frequently using an EPA registered disinfectant that kills COVID-19. This will include high touch areas in vehicles, equipment, pre-packaged snacks, and water, as well as any other materials used at program events
- NWABA requests before transport, athletes complete the vaccination log request form. Masks and vaccinations are required inside NWABA vehicles at this time. To request transportation, reach out to the Program Specialist in your area.
  - Fully vaccinated refers to a person who is two weeks following receipt of the second dose in a 2-dose series or two weeks following receipt of one dose of a single-dose vaccine; there is currently no post-vaccination time limit on fully vaccinated status
- NWABA will be providing programming with limited group sizes to allow for proper physical distancing
- NWABA will be encouraging same household participation. Athletes and volunteers from the same household will reduce the number of new points of contact
- NWABA will minimize equipment sharing by providing individuals with their own equipment, when possible, for the duration of the event. When equipment is shared, frequent cleaning and disinfecting of said equipment will take place
- Attendees will engage in physical distancing while not actively engaged. During times attendees are not actively participating, attention will be given to increased physical distancing
- When applicable, NWABA will provide physical and verbal guides to make sure attendees are remaining 6 feet apart whenever possible
- If using communal spaces, NWABA will stagger use and will provide attendees with a disinfectant wipe to use

NWABA is in contact with state and local regulatory agencies to ensure the maximum health and safety for our programs and services. When guidelines change, NWABA will update our response plan accordingly. The health and safety of our athletes, volunteers, and team members are NWABA's highest priority, and this response plan is to support any questions or concerns you may have upon returning to our regularly scheduled programs and events.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacey Gibbins, Sr. Director of Programs and Services, at [sgibbins@nwaba.org](mailto:sgibbins@nwaba.org) or 360.718.2834.

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