

# Thistle Curling

6920 – 114 Street, Edmonton, AB Ph: 780.477.8142  
thistlecc@shaw.ca www.thistlecurling.ab.ca

## **Thistle Curling Restrictions Exemption Program**

Thistle Curling (TC) is committed to providing and maintaining as safe and healthy an environment as possible for all. Consistent with this commitment and in response to the current Alberta COVID-19 public health actions, TC has implemented the Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) as of September 20, 2021. All participants, patrons, volunteers, and visitors aged 18 and over will be required to provide proof of vaccination, or proof of a medical or religious exemption.

Youths aged 12 to 17 will only be required to provide proof of vaccination, or proof of a medical or religious exemption if they wish to access the main floor dining area or the second floor of the facility.

Children aged under 12 are exempt.

### **Regular League/Program Participants**

As a condition of participation in TC leagues and programs, upon entrance to your first regular league/program event for the 2021/2022 season, you will be required to complete a *Vaccination Confirmation Consent Form* agreeing to provide proof of vaccination status, or proof of a medical or religious exemption, along with a government issued identification to a designated TC representative. The TC representative will review and validate the documentation and will submit the completed form to TC's Privacy Officer. No copies will be made of any of the provided documentation. TC will adhere to its Privacy Policy which is in accordance with Alberta's Personal Information Protection Act (PIPA).

It is recommended to arrive early prior to your first league/program event to allow for the processing of your consent form and to process all participants' proof of vaccination or medical/religious exemption.

### **Casual Participants, Patrons, Volunteers, and Visitors**

Prior to accessing TC facilities, all patrons, volunteers, and visitors will be required to provide either proof of vaccination or proof of medical or religious exemption along with government issued identification. Upon entering, a TC Representative will review and validate the documentation. No copy will be made.

### **Proof of Vaccination**

Proof of vaccination includes:

- A picture or paper record of a valid Alberta Health Services, MyHealth Records, pharmacy, First Nations, or physician immunization record prominently displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration, or
- Canadian armed forces immunization record, displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration, or

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- An immunization record from another Canadian Province or Territory, displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration, or
- Valid Government of Alberta Vaccination QR code (when available).  
<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/7cd02856-6cc3-4a3d-a47b-38205b224151/resource/b998bc19-5d6a-4f9d-874e-a17c0fc43333/download/covid-19-information-requirements-restrictions-exemption-program-2021-09-24.pdf>

## **Proof of Exemption**

Due to the serious health threat COVID-19 presents to the public, an individual who is not vaccinated must provide proof of medical or religious exemption.

Any individual wishing to apply for a medical or religious exemption to vaccination must provide the following documentation:

### Medical exemption

An original signed letter from a physician or nurse practitioner that includes:

- The name of the person in the written documentation that matches the identification provided.
- The physician's or nurse practitioner's information is complete by including, name, phone number, contact information, professional registration number, and signature of the physician or nurse practitioner.
- Statement that there is a medical reason for the individual's exemption from being fully vaccinated against COVID-19.
- The duration that the exemption is valid.
- <https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/7cd02856-6cc3-4a3d-a47b-38205b224151/resource/b998bc19-5d6a-4f9d-874e-a17c0fc43333/download/covid-19-information-requirements-restrictions-exemption-program-2021-09-24.pdf>

### Religious exemption

An original letter of support from a religious leader or community clearly stating, "their belief that they cannot be vaccinated is sincerely held and connected to their faith".

(<https://www.albertahumanrights.ab.ca/covid/Pages/vaccines.aspx>).

In the event of any dispute surrounding exemptions, the matter will be referred to the TC Board of Directors' REP sub-committee. The sub-committee's decision shall be rendered in writing to the person applying for exemption.

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The exemption accommodation process is a shared responsibility. All parties should cooperatively engage in the process, share appropriate information, and consider potential accommodation solutions.

Individuals who are requesting an exemption are required to:

1. Make the accommodation needs known to the best of their ability, preferably in writing, in a timely manner.
2. Answer reasonable questions or provide information about relevant restrictions or limitations, including information from health-care professionals or religious leaders.
3. Take part in discussions about possible accommodation solutions.
4. Cooperate with any experts whose assistance is required to manage the accommodation process.
5. Meet agreed-upon performance and safety standards and requirements, once accommodation is provided; and
6. Work with TC administration on an ongoing basis to manage the accommodation process.

## **Thistle Curling Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) Card**

Upon completion of the consent form and validation of proof of vaccination or exemption, a TC REP card will be issued to regular league/program participants who have either met the full vaccination or medical or religious exemption criteria. Individuals who are partially vaccinated will be provided the card two weeks after their second dose upon the provision of full vaccination documentation to TC Administration.

## **Other Public Health Actions**

TC will continue to adhere to all other Alberta public health actions as revised from time to time. The REP does not apply to masking. Masks are required in places that implement the program with some exceptions. Masks are required to always be worn within TC's facilities other than while either participating on-ice or while seated at a table to eat or drink.

For more details on the Restriction Exemption Program visit: <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-public-health-actions.aspx>

Although these measures will be challenging, we feel this is the best course of action at this point to allow us to continue to operate safely. We truly appreciate your understanding and patience during this time.

Sincerely,  
Thistle Curling Board of Directors

September 28, 2021