

Ski Mountaineering Competition Canada COVID-19 Policies Published 2020-10-20, revised 2021-12-03

Ski Mountaineering Competition Canada (SMCC) has a responsibility to ensure the safety of all athletes, volunteers, hosts, and spectators given the current COVID-19 pandemic. These COVID-19 Policies will guide the SMCC for the upcoming (2022) Ski Mountaineering Racing season in Canada. Policies will be posted to smcc.ski website. With the fluid nature of COVID-19 and the frequent revisions to public health directives, SMCC policies for COVID-19 will require on-going revision.

Literature review points to many international athletic federations limiting 2022 competitions in scope. These changes in scope appear related to new variants and complications in international travel and quarantine restrictions.

SMCC COVID-19 Safety Guidelines for the 2022 season have been created to guide event organizers, athletes, volunteers, and spectators for events this season. This document outlines the concerns of COVID-19, identifies areas of risk in Ski Mountaineering Racing events, outlines protocols to reduce risks, provides education and links to screening questionnaires, and describes the SMCC communication plans and re-assessment protocols. These guidelines will be posted on the smcc.ski website.

Policy hierarchy will be as follows: Federal, Provincial, and Local Health Authorities, followed by the SMCC, Host Resort, and Event Organizer.

Policies:

1. SMCC will adhere to all directives from federal (Health Canada) and provincial health authorities where events are hosted. For the 2022 season the SMCC expects to host events in Alberta and British Columbia.
2. SMCC will ensure applicable insurance coverage for all events. If there is no insurance, SMCC will not sanction events.
3. All sanctioned SMCC events will undergo a full risk assessment using the SMCC COVID-19 Safety Guidelines and the World Health Organization (WHO) Risk Assessment and Mitigation checklist for mass gatherings in the context of COVID-19. The Event Organizer(s) are responsible to complete the assessment and submit to the SMCC. The SMCC Chair and Protocol Officer are responsible to review and sign off on the assessment.

4. In order to participate in an SMCC sanctioned event all athletes, volunteers, race officials, media, and spectators must comply with the policies of local health authorities, the SMCC, race directors, and the host resort. Noncompliance will lead to removal from the event.
5. All athletes and volunteers will be required to show proof of vaccination prior to each event.

Published 2020-10-20, revised 2021-12-03

Ski Mountaineering Competition Canada COVID-19 Policies Published 2020-10-20, revised 2021-12-03

References:

Government and Public Health

Government of Canada - COVID-19 Information

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/prevention-risks/measures-reduce-community.html>

Government of Alberta - COVID-19 Information

<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

Government of British Columbia - COVID-19 Information

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/about-bc-s-health-care-system/office-of-the-provincial-health-officer/current-health-topics/covid-19-novel-coronavirus?bcgovtm=20200506_GCPE_AM_COVID_9_NOTIFICATION_BCGOV_BCGOV_EN_BC_NOTIFICATION

WHO - Mass Gatherings and COVID-19

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/how-to-use-who-risk-assessment-and-mitigation-checklist-for-mass-gatherings-in-the-context-of-covid-19>

Sport Organizations

ISMF ISMF Covid-19 Prevention Guidelines for Local Organising Committees, teams and staff

http://www.ismf-ski.org/webpages/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/ISMF_Guidelines_for_COVID-19.pdf

viaSPORT - COVID 19 Updates

<https://www.viasport.ca/news/covid-19-updates-sport-organizations>

Alpine Canada - COVID-19 Return to Skiing Internal Risk Mitigation Resource Document

https://alpinecanada.org/uploads/documents/July_1_20_ACA_Return_to_Training_EN.pdf

The UIAA – International Climbing & Mountaineering Federation

<https://www.theuiaa.org/uiaa/uiaa-and-covid-19-resources/> Biathlon Canada -
<http://biathloncanada.ca/covid-19-resources/>

Nordiq Canada - <https://nordiqcanada.ca/nordiq-canada-covid-protocol/>
https://nordiqcanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/Scenario-Plan_July162020-1.pdf

Published 2020-10-20, revised 2021-12-03