

Restarting the PCDC English Dance

Proof of Vaccination is required to attend a PCDC English Dance.

The PCDC board requires all participants to wear masks during indoor PCDC events

Lottery Registration is no longer required to attend a PCDC English Dance.

This is a long article, please, please, please read all of it and send questions to David (macemondavid@gmail.com).

The PCDC English Dance Committee is committed to following and enforcing the guidelines from the CDC, and State/local government. If their guidelines change, the policies for the dance will change.

7-27-2021: At the PCDC Board meeting (7-27-2021) after much discussion has reenforced their commitment to follow CDC, and State/local government guidelines and require all participants at indoor PCDC events to wear masks.

Here is the high-level information that you need to know. A more detailed explanation of how we decided these things follows.

The PCDC English Dance Committee is happy to announce that we will restart the weekly English dance series on July 2nd, 2021. (Keep reading, it's important)

Policies for attending the PCDC English Dance

All attendees (Dancers, Caller, Musicians) must show Proof of Vaccination, wearing a mask is **required.**

- At the first dance you attend:
 - o You must show proof of Vaccination to enter the Hall.
 - Proof of Vaccination = "CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card", or picture of card on your cell phone.
 - Note: The date of your final vaccine must be more that 2 weeks prior to dance
 - o All attendees will be required to provide their name, phone number and Email address for contact tracing.
 - There will be a form to fill out at the dance, or
 - You can complete [this on-line form](#) and not worry about writing legibility.
 - o All attendees will be required to sign a waiver.
- We will maintain a list of dancers who have previously attended the dance and, therefore, have met the requirements above and will not need to do so on subsequent dances (unless there is a material change in CDC/Government guidelines that require us to make a modification).
 - o You will be able to mark the list when you come to the subsequent dances.

We understand that requiring vaccinations will exclude children who are too young for vaccines at this time. We will miss them and look forward to dancing with everyone again someday.

We need your help managing the door.

We will no longer be able to leave the door unattended. We need more dancers who would be willing to commit to help at the door during the evening and miss a few dances.

If we do not have enough help to manage the door each week, we will not be able to have the dance.

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Borrowed from CDSS, they said it well:

Given all that we know now, we believe that running vaccine-required dances will do good. And we believe it is important for the healing and reunion to begin when and where it can be done safely. We know that this message will not affect everyone the same way. For some, this news will be welcome and a relief. Others will be disappointed or frustrated. Our larger community is not all on the same page. We know that dances will not feel normal for a while, no matter what. It is our sincerest hope that prevention and treatment options for this disease will continue to improve and that sooner as opposed to later we will be able to gather together in more and more ways.

Dances start at 7:30 – please arrive early enough to get checked in.

Dances are held at: Burlingame Water Tower Dance Hall, 8936 SW 17th Ave, Portland, OR 97219

Schedule for July / August

July 2: Caller Erik Weberg, Musicians: Lisa Scott, Betsy Branch, Bill Tomczak

July 9: Caller David Macemon, Musicians: Richard Sher, Lisa Zweben, Laura Kuhlman

July 16: Caller Ric Goldman, Musicians: Lisa Scott, Leslie Hirsch, Erik Weberg

July 23: Caller Laura Hatch. Musicians: Lanny Martin, Alan Rutherford, Laura Kuhlman, Jon Neff

July 30: Call Cynthia Stenger, Musicians: Carl Thor, Jon Neff, Leslie Hirsch, Laura Kuhlman

Aug 6: Caller Erik Weberg, Musicians: Richard Sher, Lisa Zweben, Lori Shaffer

Aug 13: Caller David Macemon, Musicians: Lisa Scott, Erik Weberg, Bill Tomczak

Aug 20: Caller Ric Goldman, Musicians: Heather Pinny, George Penk, Laura Kuhlman

Aug 27: Caller Cynthia Stenger, Musicians: Lisa Scott, Betsy Branch, Erik Weberg, Bill Tomczak

Questions / Answers:

So, what about the new PCDC Policy about masks at indoor events?

PCDC is committed to keeping our community safe by following guidelines from the CDC, State and local agencies. PCDC will follow the strictest guidance. Here is latest published guidance

As of 7/28/2021:

- Multnomah County issued guidance that everyone should wear a mask while in public indoor spaces, unless you are confident of everyone's vaccination status

(Reference: <https://www.multco.us/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/news/multnomah-county-issues-universal-mask-recommendation-covid-19-cases>)

- The CDC issued guidance that everyone should wear a mask while in public indoor spaces when you live in areas that have substantial or high transmission rates

(Reference: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>)

- Oregon issued guidance that, without any exceptions, we should wear masks while in public indoor spaces.

- *OHA's recommendation aligns with the CDC's new guidance issued today that everyone, including fully vaccinated persons, wear a mask in public indoor settings.*

OHA's recommendation applies statewide, and not just areas with higher infections and high transmission, as cases have increased across the state in recent weeks due to the Delta variant.

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(Source:

<https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-face-coverings>

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDHS/bulletins/2ea4ad0>

- Models show the transmission rates for the Delta variant to peak in Sept/Oct.

What can I expect when I come to the dance?

We are thrilled that you can attend the dance. When you arrive you will:

- Be wearing a mask as you enter the hall
- If you did not [fill out the on-line form](#) you will legibly fill out the paper form with your contract tracing information.
- Show your Proof of Vaccination to the folks sitting at the door (Hardcopy or picture of card)
 - o We will not make copies of your card. We will notate that we have seen it.
- You will sign a waiver or give us your pre-signed waiver.
- You will pay the admission fee.
- You'll then go into the hall, continue to wear your mask, and be able to enjoy our new world of dancing.

What do you expect to be different about the dance?

Everyone will be wearing a mask appropriately (No exposed noses)

Everyone at the dance will be operating from their own comfort level and we all need to be aware of that. As we see friends that we haven't seen in over a year, here's some things to consider:

- Some friends will decide to wear gloves and do things that will allow them to feel comfortable attending the dance. All that is acceptable, expected, and good.
 - o You may not question or attempt to educate anyone about why their decisions are bad, wrong, or anything like that. Everyone's decisions are correct for them.
 - o If someone's actions are truly unsafe, please inform a committee member and we'll manage this.
- This may be overwhelming for some people. Be aware and read people's body language and provide friends the space they need.
- Some of us are huggers, many people are not.
 - o If you feel the need to hug, offer one from a distance. They will let you know if they are more comfortable with a distanced or closer hug.
- While dancing, leave comfortable space. A nose-to-nose gypsy probably isn't the best option when dancing with someone outside of your pod.
 - o Some might say that a nose-to-nose gypsy might never have been, and never will be acceptable without explicit consent.

Why do you need information for contact tracing?

We believe that it makes sense to have this information in case someone who attended one of our dances tests positive for or is diagnosed with COVID. That way we can readily identify and notify everyone who was at the dance they attended.

Can we read the Waiver before we show up to the dance?

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Yes, you can access the waiver here: [PCDC Waiver](#)

You can print it out, sign it and bring it with you to the dance if you'd like. We will also have plenty of copies at the door.

What information did you use to create the Proof of Vaccination and masks required policy?

The overriding information about whether it is safe to dance together will always come from the CDC and State/local government. Please see the next 2 questions below for more about that.

Taking the CDC and Oregon guidelines and rules into account, we then went to the survey that many of you completed. [Click here to see the questions we asked for the survey:](#)

Our goal is to create an environment and policies in which the needs of most people are met. It was obvious from our survey that most dancers will feel more comfortable with everyone providing a proof of vaccination. Also, more people indicated that they were likely to attend a dance where masks were optional rather than required. Note: While the survey data did not change, the conditions have changed, and PCDC is now requiring masks at all indoor events.

Why do you feel it's safe to restart the dance now? Why not wait?

We chose to believe CDC's interpretation of the science when they told us to wear masks, socially distance and wash our hands. We continue to believe CDC's interpretation of the science when they say that it is safe to gather in public places when wearing a mask.

The current CDC guidelines for vaccinated people are here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>

We recommend you read these and decide if you are comfortable with dancing with vaccinated friends when wearing a mask is optional.

The State and Local gathering rules are here:

State Guidelines: <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-oha-face-coverings>

Local Guidelines: <https://www.multco.us/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/news/multnomah-county-issues-universal-mask-recommendation-covid-19-cases>

Do you have more information about groups requiring proof of vaccinations to attend events?

The best article we've come across (*Explaining HIPAA: No, it doesn't ban questions about your vaccination status*) quotes multiple experts answering the question of: Can we ask about vaccine status, and can we require proof of vaccination to attend our event?

This link: [Explaining HIPAA: No, it doesn't ban questions about your vaccination status](#) will take you to the direct link for the article. Since the article is behind a paywall, the text of the article is available in the same link.

What questions do you have that have not been answered? Please contact the ECD Committee by sending David (macedmondavid@gmail.com) an Email. We'll get an answer to you and add it to the ever-growing document.