



TRR Protocols for Paddling Events with respect to COVID

The CDC has moved to a metrics-based approach for mask wearing. The CDC still advises everyone to [Stay Current](#) on their COVID vaccinations which includes the latest booster shot. In all areas of the country, you should [get tested](#) if you experience symptoms. The CDC provides a tool for checking COVID-19 risks by county: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>.

With respect to isolation, those currently experiencing COVID symptoms within the past 5 days shall not participate in TRR events (vaccinated or not). A negative COVID test will be required for all that have experienced symptoms within the last 10 days.

Within any organization - business, government or nonprofit, there are conforming standards we may not agree with, but they must exist to prevent chaos and should be followed. We ask that our regional and chapter coordinator as well as trip leaders follow as best possible the below protocols. Hopefully this document will give guidance and alleviate confusion on how best to conduct TRR events.

Please carefully read the following as we attempt to structure a safe paddling environment for all.

Assumptions and Statements

1. TRR protocols are in place to protect our veteran participants and volunteers.
2. TRR protocols cannot cover all situations and guarantee the safety for participants and volunteers. Waivers acknowledging this should be signed and for the interim for each event separately. This will serve as a reminder that we are not out of the woods.
3. Participating with TRR is an opportunity for fun and growth. It is a privilege to participate, not a right. If individuals feel the protocols intrude on their beliefs, they have the right to not participate.
4. TRR paddling events may be planned and held, in accordance with local ordinances at this date (August 2, 2022) but TRRN reserves the right at any time to stop any local, regional, national TRR event. Any event still held when asked not to, or not under the TRR protocols, can result in the chapter and participants being removed from the organization.
5. TRR chapters should recognize that unsafe activities could negatively impact the organization as a whole and our ability to help many veterans.

6. The CDC currently states that vaccinated individuals should have a high probability of protection from COVID symptoms but there have been cases of individuals vaccinated who have fallen sick post vaccination. Vaccines help prevent severe cases that require hospitalizations, a small percentage of vaccinated individuals will still get infected. **All participants and volunteers should assume some personal responsibility in determining the safety of attending TRR events.**
7. TRR event leaders **may** ask individuals if they have been vaccinated with the sole purpose of identifying individuals for activities, lodging and transportation.
8. TRR event leaders and attendees should refrain from sharing personal thoughts, beliefs on the use of vaccinations, and mask use just as we do refrain from sharing personal views of politics, religion, race issue or sex. All questioning during screening should be conducted in a respectful and non-threatening manner.
9. Attendees (at this point) are not required to have vaccines but are highly encouraged. Trip leaders may not mandate the requirement to have a vaccine to participate. An exception to this is overnight stays in CDC designated high risk counties (see above) which do require vaccinations.
10. Spacing, and sanitation are always encouraged.