

SAVEM COVID Guidelines

Purpose: These COVID Guidelines have been developed to assist SAVEM to reduce the risk of SAVEM members and activities spreading COVID 19.

The following policy guidelines are to be complied with whenever possible. If unable to comply with these guidelines the SAVEM Commander must be informed immediately

	Topic	Mitigation Strategy	Alternate Strategy
1	Workplace COVID Safe setting	Only fully vaccinated personnel to be activated for operational activities. Volunteers not disclosing vaccination status will be deemed to be unvaccinated.	If resources shortages require unvaccinated personnel to be used for operations, they will not be deployed into the field because of the close proximity to other personnel and potential interactions with the public
2	Vaccination Requirements	Volunteers should be vaccinated	Unvaccinated volunteers shall not be deployed into the field
3	Vaccination Status	Volunteers may be required to show evidence of their vaccination status	
4	Face Mask	Wearing a mask in all indoor settings and where social distancing can not be maintained is required at all times. Regular change of mask and correct disposal (e.g. cutting ear loops) is the responsibility of each volunteer.	SAVEM can supply surgical masks. Volunteers may elect to provide their own P2 masks. Cloth masks are acceptable but must be laundered and changed regularly.
5	Site Attendance	All SAVEM sites restricted to approved personnel who are vaccinated and wearing a mask	Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis through the SAVEM Coordinator
6	Operations	Masks are worn at all times except to eat and drink with social distancing.	Personnel with medical exemptions for mask wearing should not be activated for operations
7	Field work	While travelling in vehicles masks must be worn at all times. Field teams may be restricted to two personnel. No eating in vehicles. Field team members will work together as a unit for a few days before changeover to new teams.	Eating, drinking and 'cooling down' must be done outdoors with appropriate social distancing before masking-up in pre-cooled vehicle for returning/resuming.
8	Meals	Individual meals / single person serving. No eating in vehicles. No shared utensils or equipment.	Ensure enough provisions on board to limit stops at retail outlets.
9	Training	When training events resume, current SA Health guidelines must be followed as a minimum standard. Additional safeguards may be required, issued at the discretion of the SAVEM Coordinator.	Face-to-face training is suspended until 1 March 2022, to be reviewed at that time.