



ACA COVID-19 PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS

AGREEMENT AND WAIVER

Congratulations, you have decided to register to compete at the USA Slalom Olympic & National Team Trials (in 2021) (“Trials”) at U.S. National Whitewater Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, on April 12-14, 2021 and hope to be nominated to the U.S. Canoe & Kayak Team (“Team”) this year. Your ability to train and compete at the Trials and travel, train, and compete with the Team during the COVID-19 pandemic is contingent upon your agreement to the rules outlined in this COVID-19 PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS AGREEMENT AND WAIVER and the terms and conditions described in the documents referenced herein.

Please make sure that you read these documents carefully before you complete the registration:

1. This ACA COVID-19 PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS AGREEMENT AND WAIVER
2. [ACA Slalom Olympic & National Team Trials \(in 2021\), COVID Mitigation Plan](#)
3. [ACA Trials COVID Response and Review](#)
4. [Minimum Trials Participant Conduct Requirements](#)
5. [Athletes Code of Conduct, amended 02-19-2021](#)
6. [Authorization for Release of Medical Information \(COVID-19\)](#)
7. [Guidelines Regarding Authorized Identifications for the Games of the XXXII Olympiad Tokyo 2020](#)

If you are 18 or older, you are also a subject to the Safesport and NCSI background check requirements. More information regarding these requirements can be found at:

8. [Safesport](#)
9. [NCSI background checks](#)

If you have any questions before signing, please contact the Trials contact person Stacy Hepp stacey@heppcreativesolutions.com.

The ACA is committed to protecting athlete health. As part of this commitment, we have developed an infectious disease management strategy designed to reduce the risks of transmission of COVID-19 at events while allowing athletes to train and/or compete.

COVID-19 is a disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. This highly contagious virus is spread primarily through respiratory droplets from infected individuals. There is no effective treatment for COVID-19, and it can result in serious health problems, including death. Until effective treatments are developed, or vaccinations are widely deployed, the primary method of prevention of COVID-19 is through physical distancing, personal hygiene measures (e.g., hand washing, proper coughing/sneezing etiquette), wearing facial coverings, not sharing equipment, thorough cleaning procedures, identification of infected

individuals or those exposed to infected individuals (i.e., contact tracing), and quarantining those individuals until they are no longer infectious.

While it is impossible to eliminate all risk of COVID-19 transmission, the ACA has implemented a rigorous infection prevention program to keep you and your fellow participants as safe as possible during training and competitions. For this program to be successful, we need everyone to commit to the process. As such, in consideration for you being allowed to travel, train and compete at the Trials and subsequently with the Team, you agree to comply with each of the following:

1. Attend a COVID-19 education session on your arrival at the Trials venue.
2. Prior to engaging in any training or competition activities undergo required COVID-19 PCR tests.
3. Comply with all infection prevention and training guidelines, which may be updated from time to time.
4. Abide by the isolation protocol outlined below (or as otherwise required by the local health authorities) in the event you are exhibiting symptoms and/or have been exposed to someone with COVID-19.

1. Education & Infection Prevention/Training Guidelines

As noted above, you are required to attend an education session and follow all applicable infection prevention and training guidelines to train and compete at the Trials and with the Team. The education session and required infection prevention and training guidelines are based on current guidance provided by public health authorities concerning COVID-19 and its risks as well as best practices for mitigating the spread of the disease. Note that this guidance is frequently changing, and the ACA reserves the right to update infection mitigation plans and training guidelines and other rules of participation at any time. The ACA will inform you of such changes when they occur. Currently, the infection mitigation and training guidelines that you are required to comply with include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Complete a daily self-symptom survey and temperature check, and accurately report findings from these assessments to the applicable ACA staff via email.
- Wear facial covering at all times when at Training or Competition venues except during training where the facial cover would inhibit exercise or potentially be dangerous.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a facial tissue or your elbow.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Wash your hands for more than 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer frequently.
- Stay more than six feet away from people when not exercising or more than 12 feet away when exercising.
- Do not share food, water bottles, towels, or other personal hygiene products.
- Access only those areas you have been authorized to access and follow all local venue cleaning protocols (which includes cleaning all equipment before and after use).
- Do not come to training or competition if you are sick, experience symptoms, or you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19. In such cases, notify the applicable ACA staff immediately.

We strongly encourage you to minimize community activities outside your accommodations when not at the training or competition venue. Try to minimize your activities outside of the shelters to essential errands (e.g., food shopping, going to the pharmacy, getting gas) and activities (e.g., individual training outside with your equipment) to protect yourself and the athletes and staff you train with from COVID-19 infection. Please try to avoid situations and activities that expose you to groups of people when physical distancing cannot be maintained.

2. Isolation Protocols Due to Exposure

If you are experiencing symptoms or are exposed to someone with COVID-19, you will be isolated following the current CDC guidelines and the **applicable ACA COVID Mitigation Plan**. Your family member or a legal guardian will facilitate this process and any necessary medical care.

2.1. Responsibility for Costs. You will be responsible for all costs and expenses in connection with the COVID-19 diagnosis or exposure to a third party.

3. Acknowledgment

In consideration of being allowed to travel, train, and compete at the Trials and with the Team, I agree to comply with all rules and procedures outlined in this COVID-19 PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS AGREEMENT AND WAIVER. I understand all rules and procedures are subject to change based on changes in public health guidance and that such changes will be communicated to me. I UNDERSTAND THAT MY FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES OUTLINED IN THIS DOCUMENT, OR ANY UPDATED HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES MAY RESULT IN TERMINATION OF MY ACCESS TO TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS WITH THE TEAM. I understand that any violation of this agreement or ACA's COVID-19 Mitigation Plan that occurs during the Trials and which results in my removal from participation will be handled through the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC) Trials Administrative Board (TAB), and violations that occur outside of the Trials will be handled in accordance with the ACA grievance procedures.

Whenever I use any of the training and competition facilities, I will keep in mind that COVID-19 is extremely contagious. No treatment is yet available, and people who have COVID-19 may be asymptomatic or experience mild symptoms that go undetected. While the ACA is implementing best practices to reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread, the ACA cannot entirely eliminate this risk. Even with best practices, it is not possible, currently, to eliminate the risk of contracting COVID-19 while outside or in semi-public places, including while traveling and at training and competition venues. I understand that as a member of the ACA member, I must take adequate precautions to protect myself and others.

I expressly understand and affirm that, by electing to travel, train and compete at the Trials and with the Team, I am assuming the risk of possible exposure to or infection with COVID-19. I hereby: (1) release the American Canoe Association (ACA), United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC), and any and all Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) from any liability associated with COVID-19, (2) waive any and all claims against the ACA, USOPC, and LOCs arising from or related to COVID-19, and (3) agree to hold the ACA, USOPC, and LOCs harmless in connection with any matter arising from or related to COVID-19.

Electronic signature – Persons over the age of 18

I have read this COVID-19 PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS AGREEMENT AND WAIVER, fully understand its terms, and sign it freely and voluntarily without any inducement.

Electronic signature – Parent or Legal Guardian (for persons under the age of 18)

I represent that I am the parent or legal guardian of the below-named minor and that I am not prohibited by a court order or otherwise from consenting to this COVID-19 PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS AGREEMENT AND WAIVER on behalf of the below-named minor. I have read this COVID-19 PARTICIPATION IN TRAINING AND COMPETITIONS AGREEMENT AND WAIVER, fully understand its terms, and sign it freely and voluntarily on behalf of the below-named minor without any inducement.

OFFICE OF THE ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

The Office of the Athlete Ombudsman is available to provide independent and confidential advice to elite athletes on sport-related rules, policies, and processes and assist in resolving athlete concerns and disputes. Athletes may contact the Office of the Athlete Ombudsman at ombudsman@usathlete.org or 719-866-5000 or 719-866-2299, or by visiting their website (<https://www.teamusa.org/athlete-ombuds>) for more information.