



## 2022 NBDCC HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

The 2022 National Barbie® Doll Collectors Convention Team is eager to welcome you to Chicago in July. We are planning and producing this Convention with your safety as our first priority. The health & safety protocols listed below reflect local mandates, national guidance for in-person events as published by the Centers for Disease Control, and community input.

We reserve the right to update these guidelines prior to the event, but please be advised that we do not intend to relax any requirements listed below regardless of law changes.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDEES

#### Vaccination Requirements

- **Proof of vaccination:** All attendees, non-registered helpers, and guests will be required to show proof of full vaccination to attend any and all Convention events. This includes individuals who are not staying at the hotel and those wishing to shop on Public Day.
- **Full vaccination definition:** People are considered fully vaccinated if they have received their second dose of a two-dose series or only dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, no later than June 20, 2022. Additionally, anyone who received their initial shot(s) prior to January 1, 2022, must also have received a booster shot by June 20, 2022.
- **Exemptions:** Any attendee who wishes to explore the possibility of a religious or medical exemption must contact the Convention Team directly at [2022bcon@gmail.com](mailto:2022bcon@gmail.com). These situations will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

#### Mask Requirements

- **All attendees, non-registered helpers, and guests must wear a mask in indoor settings**, other than when actively eating and drinking. These masks should fit well and cover the nose and mouth. No exemptions will be issued.

#### Health Acknowledgment

All attendees will be required to sign an acknowledgment at Convention Registration that confirms:

- Understanding of the protocols required to participate in Convention activities
- Being free of symptoms associated with COVID-19 at time of Convention check-in
- Lack of contact with anyone with confirmed COVID-19 symptoms or diagnosis in the previous 10 days
- Commitment to reporting symptoms to the Convention team if experienced onsite
- Recognition and assumption of risks associated with Convention attendance

On the following pages, we offer further insight into each aspect of these protocols, as well as some additional information related to logistics and questions you might have. You are also welcome to email us at [2022bcon@gmail.com](mailto:2022bcon@gmail.com). Individuals who cannot agree to follow these protocols have the opportunity to receive all monies paid returned to them, by cancelling through **March 5, 2022**.

We thank you for helping to keep our community safe. See you soon! – The '22 Team



## FURTHER INFORMATION – 2022 NBDCC HEALTH & SAFETY PROTOCOLS

### *Vaccination Requirements*

#### **How do I show proof of vaccination?**

An official CDC or immunization record card from the jurisdiction, state, or country where the vaccine was administered is appropriate. A photo of such is also acceptable, with the person's name, vaccine brand, and dates administered.

#### **What vaccines will be accepted?**

The 2022 NBDCC will accept proof of the Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson vaccines, or other COVID-19 vaccines approved by the World Health Organization.

#### **What happens if a second booster is recommended by the CDC?**

We will continue to monitor CDC guidance as well as local laws for adjustments to our policy. At this time, we are requiring proof of one booster if your original series of vaccination shots occurred prior to January 1, 2022.

#### **What is needed to obtain an exemption from the vaccine requirement?**

Anyone seeking an exemption must contact us directly at 2022bcon@gmail.com, no later than March 1, 2022. These concerns will be addressed on an individual basis.

#### **How will vaccination status be checked onsite?**

Attendees will experience a two-stage process at Registration. First, attendees will begin with our Health & Safety team, where cards and ID will be checked and the event's health acknowledgment will be presented. Once this step is complete, attendees will move on to receive their badge and registration goodies.

#### **How will you know my vaccination status has been verified?**

At the first step in the check-in process, verified attendees will receive a wristband they'll need to wear throughout Convention. This also helps the hotel verify that we are following local regulations related to these requirements. We'll have a Convention Team member available throughout the event to replace wristbands as needed.

#### **What happens if I forget to bring my vaccination information to Convention?**

No exceptions to the policy will be made onsite. Unfortunately, if you cannot provide proof of your adherence to the vaccination requirements, you will not be allowed to attend the Convention and your registration fees are subject to our standard cancellation policy.

#### **I'm not staying at the hotel. Do I still need to be fully vaccinated?**

Yes, the vaccination policy applies to all attendees, regardless of lodging status.

#### **I'm not registered but plan to participate in the Sales Room. Do I still need to be fully vaccinated?**

Yes, the vaccination policy applies to all participants and guests who will be at some portion of the Convention.



## ***Cancellation Options***

### **I want to cancel because of these protocols. What do I do?**

Please email [reg22bcon@gmail.com](mailto:reg22bcon@gmail.com) if you would like to cancel now. You are able to do so without any penalty through **March 5, 2022**. This means anything you have purchased to this point, including raffle tickets, VIP passes, workshops, etc., will be fully refunded without question.

### **Will you cancel my hotel room for me?**

No. Please contact the Hyatt Regency Chicago O'Hare to cancel your room if you choose not to attend the 2022 NBDCC. The hotel can be reached at (847) 696-1234.

### **If I cancel now but decide I'd like to attend later, can I get my spot back?**

If we have cleared our wait list and spots are available, you'd be welcome to register again. Otherwise, you'll need to join our wait list in hopes of a spot opening up.

### **I'm not ready to decide about attendance right now. What happens if I cancel after March 5?**

As stated in our Terms & Conditions, you have the opportunity to cancel from March 6 through May 1 under our standard terms. During that time, your registration fee would be refunded minus a \$50 administrative fee. All other items purchased are not refundable. Registrations canceled after May 1 will not be refunded unless a replacement registration is sold, in which case the registration only will be refunded at 50%. Registrations are non-transferable.

### **Will you offer a virtual convention option for those of us who no longer wish to attend onsite?**

No. Our commitment continues to center on the production of an in-person Convention.

## ***Mask Requirements***

### **What types of masks are allowed to be worn?**

Masks must be made with at least two layers of breathable material and be secured with ties or ear loops. They must cover the nose and mouth, and fit well. Masks with valves, mesh material, or holes are not allowed. Scarves, gaiters, and similar styles are also not allowed. The Convention will provide KN95 masks for everyone throughout the event.

### **I am presenting a program or a workshop / participating in the Fashion Show. Do I need to wear a mask?**

Participants in activities may be maskless when presenting, but are certainly welcome to wear a mask if they feel more comfortable doing so. We will arrange event spaces to ensure presenters are set apart from other attendees. Similarly, Fashion Show participants may walk the runway without masks, but must wear them when backstage.

### **How do you plan to enforce the mask requirement?**

First and foremost, we expect all attendees to respect the protocol. If that does not sound like something you can comfortably do throughout Convention, please take advantage of our 'no penalty' cancellation period through March 5. Once onsite, we'll offer signage and reminders about wearing masks throughout Convention activities.

As a last resort, we will consider ejecting individuals from the remainder of Convention should they prove markedly unable to follow the mask requirement.



### **If the county changes their current mask regulations, will you remove the event’s mask requirement?**

We do not intend to relax our mask requirements, regardless of Cook County regulations at the time of Convention.

### **Am I required to wear a mask during room shopping?**

Yes, as an indoor mask mandate is in place at our hotel. This includes elevators, hallways, and other public areas.

## **Health Acknowledgment**

### **What is in the Health Acknowledgment that I will be required to sign at Convention check-in?**

Here is the language of the Health Acknowledgment that all attendees will be required to sign:

The safety of all event attendees and participants is paramount. Participants and attendees will act with the highest regard for the safety of the other attendees and participants of the 2022 National Barbie® Doll Collectors Convention. BConventions, LLC, cannot guarantee that its event participants will not become infected with COVID-19, its variants, or any other infectious disease. By attending the event, you agree to assume all risk.

Additionally by attending the 2022 NBDCC, you are confirming that you:

- Will abide by all health and safety protocols required by the 2022 NBDCC Convention
- Are not experiencing any of the following symptoms of COVID-19 identified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, including:
  - Fever or chills
  - Sore throat
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
- Have not knowingly been in contact with someone with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 symptoms without completing a 10-day quarantine
- Will contact the 2022 NBDCC Convention Team immediately upon experiencing symptoms or suspecting the development or exposure to symptoms related to COVID-19 throughout the Convention period

### **What happens if I refuse to sign the Health Acknowledgment once onsite?**

Signing the acknowledgment is required for receiving your Convention badge. If you refuse to sign it, you will not be allowed to attend Convention and your registration fees are subject to our standard cancellation policy.

### **I chronically suffer from a symptom listed in the Health Acknowledgement. Does that mean I can’t attend?**

The intention of the health acknowledgment is to ensure all attendees are free from symptoms of COVID-19. It is not necessary to disclose a chronic medical concern at the time of Convention check-in.



## ***Onsite Wellness / Safety***

### **What if I experience symptoms related to COVID-19 in the two weeks prior to Convention, or am exposed to someone who has the virus?**

First, please do not travel to Convention if this happens. Contact the Convention Team at 2022bcon@gmail.com as soon as you realize you are ill or have been exposed. We will work with you to address your situation.

### **Will you guarantee I can receive my gifts and doll if I am exposed to COVID-19 just prior to the start of Convention?**

Much like any other year, there is risk of illness, injury, or some other circumstance that prevents someone's attendance just before the event. We expect all attendees to respect their role in not spreading illness, and cannot offer a guarantee of shipping items or other refunds. As stated above, please contact us directly to address your situation.

### **What happens if I begin to feel ill with COVID-19 symptoms once I am onsite? What if this happens to my roommate or family member?**

Do not attend any further Convention activities if you realize you may be ill or have been exposed. Contact the Convention Team immediately. We will make sure all attendees know how to reach us once they arrive at the hotel. We are committed to working with anyone who may be affected by this type of situation, to ensure their well-being and the safety of the rest of the attendees.

### **What additional safety measures will be taken by the Convention to protect attendees?**

The Convention and Hyatt Teams are working to maximize the space and layout available for various activities. Hand sanitizer will be provided throughout Convention, as well as complimentary masks. Other adjustments, such as ensuring all food is handled by Hyatt employees rather than buffet-style, are in place. A member of the Convention Team will also be available to answer questions or assist with wellness-related concerns throughout the event.

### **What happens to Convention if the pandemic worsens?**

Put simply, we don't know yet. We reserve the right to make further adjustments to these protocols and Convention activities based on regulatory changes or best practices associated with hosting events of this scale. We remain committed to hosting the safest possible experience we can. But all attendees must recognize there is a measure of risk associated with their attendance that the Convention Team cannot eliminate.

## ***Important Dates***

Last day to contact the '22 Team about exemptions to the vaccine policy	March 1
Last day to cancel without any penalty; all monies returned	March 5
Last day to cancel, registration fee only minus administration fee	May 1

Vaccination series must be completed by June 20

*-and-* if your first series was completed by January 1, 2022, a booster shot must also be completed by June 20