PCA's SCC 2026 Public Health Policy

January 15-19, 2026 | Las Vegas, NV

At the time of writing of this policy (October 2025), community risk related to COVID-19 in Clark County is low. Cases around the U.S. are currently moderate whereas hospitalizations are low except for a couple of pockets in the south. The United States Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has predicted a winter peak in hospitalizations similar to or higher than that of the 2024-2025 season, with models projecting this peak to occur in January 2026. CDC expects the severity of influenza to be moderate (compared to last year's high severity) and RSV to be similar to last year, **with vaccination playing a key role in reducing hospitalization burden for both**. Seasonal uptick in the winter months is likely. Based on the current guidelines published by the CDC and information surveyed for Clark County, the PCA Sin City Classic (SCC) 2026 Policy is summarized as follows:

VACCINES AND BOOSTERS	MASKS	TESTS
Not required **Strongly recommended** for: • COVID-19 • Influenza • Others e.g. RSV, Mpox (defer to your medical practitioner to know if you or your community may be at high risk)	**Required** under the following circumstances: • Within 5 days after return from isolation due to COVID-19 or other respiratory illness • Within 5 days of an exposure in the home • Upon development of new symptoms • If visiting a health facility for PCA purposes (not planned) **Recommended** in mass transit	Not required **Strongly recommended** for: • Follow-up from exposure prior to travel • Follow-up from exposure while in Las Vegas • Development of new symptoms

***You may not participate for AT LEAST one full day after positive COVID-19 or other transmissible illness test or symptom onset and within 24 hours of being fever-free without medication**

PLEASE NOTE: PCA may change this policy at any time in response to changing guidance, approvals, local conditions, or other relevant criteria, as deemed in the best interest of the organization, its members, the entire SCC community, and the broader communities we serve. Should requirements change, all efforts will be made to provide sufficient notice of changing requirements, ample time to fulfill the new requirements, and assistance to help all members understand their options and act accordingly.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration and cooperation in making this a safe AND cheerful event for all! Please read the full policy text described below.

In order to participate, PCA will require all of its participants and volunteers at any/all PCA activities adhere to the following guidelines:

VACCINES AND BOOSTERS are not required for PCA participation but are **strongly** encouraged for COVID-19, Influenza, RSV, and other common illnesses. Keeping up to date with vaccines and boosters can protect yourself from severe outcomes and your community by reducing transmission. Please speak with your medical practitioner for health guidance involving vaccines or medical prophylactics for other illnesses. U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) vaccine resources can be found here (note page content may change from time of writing given 2025 changes in CDC leadership).

MASKS are welcomed at any time but will not be required except in the following circumstances:

1. You are within 5 days of returning from isolation due to a positive COVID-19 or other respiratory illness diagnosis - PCA **strongly** suggests you not fly or attend if you are in this category, for your own health and the health of others. You are expected to, at minimum, follow the CDC guidelines for Preventing Spread of Respiratory Illness when You're Sick and wear a mask at all PCA-sponsored events between your return from isolation and 5 full days thereafter. **You may not participate for AT LEAST one full day after positive COVID-19 test or symptom onset and within 24 hours of being fever-free without medication.**
2. You develop symptoms while in Las Vegas - PCA **strongly** suggests you take a COVID-19/flu test promptly if you develop symptoms consistent with COVID-19, influenza, or other common illness. With or without testing, you will attest to monitor your own health (as described below) such that if you develop symptoms that are atypical of your personal biology (e.g. a persistent cough), you will agree to wear a mask to prevent spread of whatever is causing your symptoms at official PCA events. Common symptoms of COVID-19 can be found here.
3. You are within 5 days of an exposure in your home - you will also attest (as described below) that you are either not aware of any exposures in the home within the last five days at the time of your travel OR that, if you have been exposed in the home, you will wear a mask through day five at all official PCA-events. If no symptoms develop, you are **strongly** encouraged but not required to test to confirm absence of illness and you may continue to participate without mask after day 5. If symptoms develop, you are **strongly** encouraged to test or isolate until you can obtain a test and will otherwise agree to mask at official PCA events.
4. You are visiting a health facility as part of an official PCA event - To keep health and care facilities safe and accessible for those who may be high-risk in these spaces, PCA participants will be required to mask at designated events (i.e. beneficiary-related clinic, office, etc.). **No events of this kind are currently planned. Hired buses will only require masking if the vendor requires it.**

In the event you are required to wear a mask, a minimum of 2-ply surgical mask is required. N95, KN95, KF94, or other higher quality masks are recommended. **Cloth masks are not allowed.**

TESTS for COVID-19 or other pathogens are not required at any time, but are **strongly** recommended prior to travel to inform your attestations. Additionally, tests are **strongly** recommended when:

1. Respiratory viruses are causing a lot of illness in your community or in Vegas.
2. You or those around you were recently exposed, are sick, or are recovering. Examples -
    a. You develop any symptoms while in Las Vegas
    b. You isolated for more than 24 hours following a diagnosis and your symptoms improving, but your symptoms begin to become more intense again
    c. A stunt partner or roommate develops symptoms or tests positive while in Las Vegas
3. You or the people around you have risk factors for severe illness.

Current CDC recommendations on testing can be found here.

IF YOU ARE OR RECENTLY HAVE BEEN ILL

- **You may not participate for AT LEAST one full day after positive COVID-19 test or symptom onset and within 24 hours of being fever-free without medication.**
- **You should not fly if you are actively sick. If you get sick within five days of your planned trips to or from Las Vegas, refer to your medical practitioner and/or CDC guidelines.**
- **If it has been AT LEAST one full day after a positive COVID-19 test or respiratory illness symptom onset AND symptoms are improving AND you have been fever-free for AT LEAST 24 hours without medication, you are encouraged to rest. You may, however, follow the CDC guidelines for leaving isolation, masking continuously for 5 days following your return from isolation. You are expected to return to isolation if your symptoms return or get worse.**
- **If you are ill with something other than COVID-19 or respiratory illness and are actively experiencing symptoms or fatigue, you are strongly recommended to isolate and rest, but may participate and will be required to mask as per the attestation.**
- **If you have recently been ill with something other than COVID-19 and your symptoms have resolved, defer to your medical practitioner for best practices.**

ATTESTATIONS to the following will be required as part of your registration:

- In the 24 hours prior to my travel to SCC 2026, I have not tested positive for COVID-19 or other illness, nor have I been instructed to isolate due to concern of such illness. **I understand that I may not participate with PCA for AT LEAST one full day after positive COVID-19 test or symptom onset and within 24 hours of being fever-free without medication and that I must mask continuously for five days following return from isolation.**
- In the 24 hours prior to my travel to SCC 2026, I have not experienced any symptoms of transmissible illness OR I will agree to wear a mask for five full days from symptom onset.
- In the 24 hours prior to my travel to SCC 2026, I have **EITHER** not been exposed to anyone in my home who has tested positive for or been exposed to COVID-19 or other respiratory illness **OR** have been exposed in the home and will wear a mask for five days following the last exposure.

- I will conduct a self health-check for common symptoms of transmissible illness each day that I am participating with PCA at SCC 2026. If I develop symptoms of transmissible illness while at SCC 2026, I agree to wear a mask for five full days from symptom onset.
- If I receive a positive COVID-19 or other transmissible illness diagnosis while at SCC 2026, I agree to follow the CDC's recommendations for isolation and immediately refrain from PCA. participation for AT LEAST one full day, until symptoms are improving, and I have been fever-free for AT LEAST 24 hours without medication. I understand that I am encouraged to share my results with those who may be impacted and/or PCA Leadership to help others manage their risk, with my consent. To inform PCA, I will contact president@pridecheerleading.org.
- I agree to wear a mask when visiting a designated facility as part of any official PCA events.
- If I am required to wear a mask per conditions stated in the above policy, I agree to wear a minimum of 2-ply surgical mask and I understand that cloth masks are not allowed.
- I acknowledge that my team or organizational leadership may have requirements above and beyond PCA's policy and agree to act accordingly.
- I acknowledge that participants may pick their own mitigations and will support their choices.
- I acknowledge that PCA has the right to change these policies at any time in the best interest of the organization, event, participants, and the broader communities we serve.
- I certify that the information provided in this form is true and accurate. I understand that knowingly providing false information regarding my health and/or exposures may render me ineligible to participate in this or future PCA events.

PCA will not:

- **Monitor exposures.** We ask participants to be honest and transparent about their health, thereby providing the best information for others to assess any impacts to their health by those who develop symptoms or have positive test results while at the event.
    - If you develop symptoms or test positive for COVID-19 or other transmissible illness during the event, **you are encouraged to share your test results with those who stand to be most impacted** and/or PCA Leadership to help others manage their risk, with consent. To inform PCA Leadership, please contact president@pridecheerleading.org.
    - If you test positive for COVID-19 or other transmissible illness within the week following the event, we **encourage** you to notify president@pridecheerleading.org. The PCA Board will help you notify individuals at elevated risk of exposure based on your participation OR issue a notification to all PCA participants, protecting your anonymity if you prefer.
- **Monitor mask wearing or other mitigations outside of PCA time.** While PCA encourages all its volunteers to comply with all local and national regulations and follow public health recommendations based on conditions at the time of the event, PCA will not monitor or control mitigation strategies used by its members outside of official PCA events. Moreover, PCA will not make any decisions about participant eligibility for official events based on mitigations used or not used during non-PCA time. We encourage all volunteers to talk openly with their stunt partners and roommates about comfort levels and risk tolerance **prior to** the event to set realistic expectations and goals.