For the 2022 National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG), all participants must be up-to-date with COVID-19 vaccination and have a booster when eligible. Participants are defined as a Veteran, family members, caregivers, VA staff, PVA staff, volunteers, sponsors or other stakeholder attending the NVWG. All participants must be registered.

VACCINATION STATUS
All participants are required to be up to date with COVID-19 vaccination, which means receiving all recommended COVID-19 vaccines including getting a booster dose when eligible.

CDC recommendations for when to receive a booster dose:
• 5 months after completing a primary 2 dose Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccination series.
• 5 months after completing a primary 2 dose Moderna COVID-19 vaccination series.
• 2 months after completing a single dose Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 vaccination.

All participants will be required to provide proof of vaccination, including a receipt of booster dose when eligible, onsite at registration. Bring your CDC COVID-19 vaccination card or a photo of your vaccination card.

FACE MASKS REQUIRED
A well-fitting NVWG approved face mask must be worn over the nose and mouth for the duration of the event. You will be provided an appropriate mask if your mask does not meet the standard of the NVWG medical team.

If participants cannot wear a face mask for any reason, they will not be able to participate in the in-person event, and at home opportunities will be offered.

The only exception to wearing a mask will be while actively participating in designated sports.

PRE-TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS
All participants MUST take a COVID-19 test within 24 hours prior to their arrival date at the 2022 NVWG. Both home tests (antigen tests) and PCR tests are acceptable forms of testing.

Self-confirming by testing negative for COVID-19 confirms you are safe to travel. DO NOT travel to the 2022 NVWG if you test positive for COVID-19.

COVID-19 TESTING
Participants must complete a COVID-19 test at arrival and daily throughout the event. All participants will be assigned a designated time and location for testing.

What if I test negative for COVID-19?
Participants with a negative test result at arrival will receive a wearable contact tracer and continue with registration.
Participants with a negative test result at daily testing will receive color specific day wrist band and continue participating in NVWG activities.

What if I test positive for COVID-19?
All participants with a positive test result will be directed to an area they can isolate to reduce the potential for spread to other participants. The NVWG COVID Response Team (CRT) will provide support and consultation for all participants for the duration of isolation.

ISOLATION
Any participant that tests positive will be immediately required to enter an isolation period, typically for 5 days, at the assigned hotel. Since a participant during an isolation period cannot leave their room, meals will be provided for the duration. Participants will be responsible for making the necessary changes for their transportation back home and any incidental costs associated.

CONTACT TRACING
All participants will receive a wearable contact tracer. The contact tracer only records when you are in close contact with another event participant. This information allows the NVWG staff to notify you if you come into close contact with a participant who tests positive for COVID-19. These tracers DO NOT track locations. Participants must wear their contact tracer to access official event spaces and event transportation vehicles.

SAFETY SUMMARY
Please do your part. Your actions protect others, and their actions protect you.

Preparing for travel to Tempe, AZ - Beginning 10 days before your NVWG arrival date:
1. Stay healthy.
2. Practice physical distancing.
3. Avoid anyone who is ill or exhibits signs of illness.
4. Pack your COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card or ensure you have a picture on your mobile device.
5. Test negative for COVID-19 within 24 hours of your arrival day at the NVWG.
6. If you have symptoms, waiting for results of test, or test positive for COVID-19, DO NOT TRAVEL.
7. If you are sick or not feeling well, please DO NOT TRAVEL.
8. Wear a mask during travel to avoid contracting COVID-19 during your travels.

While in Tempe, AZ
1. Wear a face mask at all times.
2. Avoid crowds and maintain physical distancing when possible.
3. Comply with all safety expectations listed in this Safety Playbook.
4. Give yourself extra time so you don’t need to rush or crowd elevators.
5. Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer frequently.

Returning Home
1. Wear a mask during travel.
2. Follow your local guidelines for COVID-19.
3. If you test positive for COVID-19 within 5 days of returning home, notify NVWG staff immediately.

For questions about this playbook, please contact Dave Tostenrude at david.tostenrude@va.gov.