



# 2022 PGDC COVID-19 FAQ's

*(Please see pages 2 & 3 for updates)*

For the upcoming 2022 Publix Gasparilla Distance Classic (PGDC) Race Weekend, the Gasparilla Distance Classic Association (GDCA) will be implementing health and safety measures to ensure a safe race weekend experience for all registered participants, Start & Finish Line contractors, expo vendors, expo attendees and expo volunteers, event sponsors, and our GDCA staff, board of directors and organizing committee.

Also, as in 2021, we will utilize reduced event caps to ensure a safe and enjoyable race for all participants.

## Reduced PGDC Event Caps

- PGDC 15K – 4,000
- PGDC 5K – 4,000 + 1,000 IN THE KASHI WALK & KELLOGG'S STROLLER ROLL
- PUBLIX GASPARILLA HALF MARATHON – 4,000
- PUBLIX GASPARILLA 8K – 4,000
- MICHELOB ULTRA CHALLENGE – 400
- MICHELOB ULTRA PURE GOLD CHALLENGE – 400
- BUD LIGHT SELTZER CHALLENGE – 400
- STELLA SOLSTICE CHALLENGE – 400

- **Proof of a qualified negative COVID-19 test result within 72 hours of Friday, Feb. 25, 2022 (Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022)\*\***, OR proof of a completed COVID-19 vaccination record concluded at least 14 days before Friday, Feb. 25, 2022 (Friday, Feb. 11, 2022), will be required for the following:

- **Entering the 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo**

2022 PGDC Race Weekend registered participants 5 years of age and over, expo vendors, expo volunteers, expo attendees – non-runners, TCC staff and GDCA board of directors, organizing committee members, and staff

- **Pick-up of 2022 PGDC Race Numbers & Goody Bags**

2022 PGDC Race Weekend registered participants 5 years of age and over

- **Entering "active athlete areas" - The 2022 PGDC Start & Finish Line Areas and Post-Race Celebration**

2022 PGDC Race Weekend registered runners & walkers 5 years of age and over, Start & Finish Line Event Personnel, Start & Finish Line volunteers, the media, GDCA board of directors, organizing committee members, and staff

**\*\*On-site testing will be available – please see page 2**

# 2022 PGDC RACE WEEKEND COVID-19 MITIGATION & PROTOCOL FAQs

## Why are these changes being implemented?

GDCA is committed to the safety and health of all participants, event personnel, event sponsors, vendors, and volunteers. We have been working for months with local leaders, health officials, and the Tampa General Hospital's Infectious Disease Team to create the safest event environment for our athletes, volunteers, event personnel, event sponsors and vendors.

These changes aren't driven by politics. As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, we are prohibited from supporting political parties. These vaccine, testing, and mask requirements align with our efforts and the Association's best efforts to provide a safe 2022 Publix Gasparilla Distance Classic (PGDC) Race Weekend for all.

## Do I need a COVID-19 vaccination to participate in the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend?

**No**, you do not need to be vaccinated. Non-vaccinated persons must provide proof of a qualified negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of Race Weekend, which is after 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022.

## I've had COVID-19 and have antibodies. What's preventing Proof of COVID-19 antibodies as an option for participating in the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend Events?

According to the CDC, scientists are still working to identify the threshold of protection for antibodies to the virus that causes COVID-19. There are too many unknowns as regarding their effectiveness.

The CDC's science and data show for protection during race weekend, our best and safest route is proof of a completed COVID-19 Vaccination Series concluded by Friday, Feb. 11, 2022, or proof of a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of race weekend (any time after 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022).

## What are the requirements for proof of a qualified negative COVID-19 test?

Proof of a qualified negative COVID-19 test means a printed document, email, or text message displayed on a phone from the healthcare provider or participating pharmacy that provided the COVID-19 testing showing results of a (rapid antigen or PCR) COVID-19 test conducted within 72 hours of Race Weekend, which is after 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022. The printed document, email or text message must include the person's full name, type of test performed, date of test, and qualified negative result.

For the above, a drivers license, government-issued ID, birth certificate, school or work ID card, library card, COVID-19 vaccination record or passport matching the name on their 2022 PGDC Race Number (if a registered participant) and COVID-19 vaccination record or qualified negative COVID-19 testing record will be required.

- Non-runners, identification must match name on proof of a qualified negative COVID-19 test.

## What is a qualified negative COVID-19 test?

A rapid antigen or PCR test administered by a healthcare provider or participating pharmacy.

- Over the Counter (OTC) COVID-19 Testing Results taken prior to the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend will not be accepted.

## Will on-site COVID-19 testing be available during the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend?

For anyone who does not have proof of a qualified negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of Feb. 25, 2022, the Gasparilla Distance Classic Association (GDCA) has identified a less expensive testing option than previously offered. GDCA will be offering rapid antigen testing in the Tampa Convention Center's MR 24. The test will be administered by a licensed registered nurse. This test will provide results within 15 minutes.

– There are two options for on-site testing:

- Pre-payment of a \$25 testing fee during online registration is required before Monday, Jan. 31, 2022. In this case, GDCA will purchase the test in your name. Your test will be waiting in the convention center's MR 24.
- A rapid antigen OTC COVID-19 test can be purchased and brought to the convention center's MR 24 for testing.

*Prior to on-site testing, for verification purposes, you will be asked to show a valid photo ID.*

*Once test results are in, our licensed registered nurse will validate the results at which time, you can proceed to Ballroom D for COVID-19 negative test verification and pick-up of the required 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband.*

- Are you already registered? A separate [COVID-19 testing payment portal](#) has been created to purchase COVID-19 on-site testing.
  - A qualified negative COVID-19 test result will satisfy the testing requirements to pick up your 2022 PGDC Race Number, enter the 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo, and into Race Day Start & Finish Line Areas.
- During online registration, registered participants are encouraged, if needed, to purchase COVID-19 testing for family members or friends wishing to attend the 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo. For this purpose, please utilize the above COVID-19 testing payment portal.

### What if I'm not associated with a registered participant and would like to attend the 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo? Will I be able to purchase COVID-19 on-site testing?

- Yes. Anyone not associated with a registered participant that would like to attend the 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo, and is not fully vaccinated (Moderna – two doses, Pfizer – two doses & Johnson and Johnson – one dose), will be able to purchase COVID-19 on-site testing through a dedicated [Non-Runner COVID-19 testing payment portal](#) or, they can purchase a rapid antigen OTC test on their own to bring to the convention center's MR 24. Test will be administered by a licensed registered nurse.

### When and where will GDCA offer COVID-19 on-site testing?

- GDCA will offer COVID-19 on-site testing in the TCC's MR 24 according to the following schedule:
  - Friday, Feb. 25, 2022: 9 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.
  - Saturday, Feb. 26, 2022: 5 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.
  - Sunday, Feb. 27, 2022: COVID-19 on-site testing WILL NOT be offered

### What are the requirements for proof of a completed COVID-19 vaccination?

The CDC's definition of fully vaccinated is as follows:

- Two weeks after a second dose in a two-dose series for Pfizer or Moderna vaccines (Verification of two doses with dates, and the second dose date must be at least 14 days prior to Fri., Feb. 25, 2022 (Feb.11, 2022))
- Two weeks after a single-dose vaccine for Johnson & Johnson's (J&J) Janssen vaccine (Verification of a single dose with the date being at least 14 days prior to Fri., Feb. 25, 2022 (Feb.11, 2022))
- If you haven't received your booster shot, the CDC encourages that you do so.

**This is not a requirement for 2022 PGDC Race Weekend participation.**

### What records are acceptable as proof of vaccination?

- CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (printed copy or photo of vaccination record displayed on cell phone)
- World Health Organization (WHO) Vaccine Record Card (printed copy or photo of vaccination record displayed on cell phone)
- Documentation of vaccination from the healthcare provider or participating pharmacy that provided the COVID-19 vaccines (printed copy or photo of vaccination record displayed on cell phone)
- Any individual age 12 years and over (if applicable) must produce identification bearing the same identifying information as the proof of vaccination (government-issued ID, birth certificate, school ID, library card, or passport).
- **For children 5-11 years of age, a parent's or supervising adult's ID can be utilized as identification for verifying proof of vaccination**

### What additional information will I need to know about the GDCA COVID-19 vaccine & qualified negative test requirements before the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend?

- Registered participants must show a photo ID and proof of vaccination or qualified negative test after entering the Tampa Convention Center (TCC). The verification process will take place in the TCC's Ballroom D. Upon verification, a 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband will be placed on the registered participant's arm of choice by a volunteer and will be required when picking up your 2022 PGDC Race Number.
- For those 16 years of age or older, proof of COVID-19 vaccination or qualified negative COVID-19 test result will be cross-checked against a photo ID that matches the name on their 2022 PGDC Race Number. Photo ID may be an original or copy of a driver's license, government-issued ID, school or work ID card, or passport.

- For those 12-15 years of age, proof of being fully vaccinated for COVID-19 or a qualified negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend (after 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022) is required. Identification, such as government-issued ID, school ID, library card, or passport, must bear the same identifying information as the proof of vaccination or qualified negative test result.
- **For children 5-11 years of age, proof of a qualified negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend (after 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022) or proof of being fully vaccinated for COVID-19 by Monday, Feb. 11, 2022, is required. A parent's or supervising adult's ID can be utilized as identification for proof of either.**
- **On race morning, registered participants will not be able to enter their designated 15K or 5K Start Corral (Saturday) or Half Marathon or 8K Start Corral (Sunday) without a 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband.**
  - Anyone not wearing their 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband will be required to re-prove they're fully vaccinated (by Monday, Feb. 11, 2022) or re-prove they've tested negative for COVID-19 within 72 hours of the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend (after 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022) in the TCC's Ballroom D.
  - After verification, a volunteer will place another 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband on the participant's arm of choice. The 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband is required to gain entry to the 2022 PGDC 15K, 5K, Half Marathon or 8K Start Corrals.
  - Two verification windows in Ballroom D will be set aside for this purpose.

### Can someone else pick up my 2022 PGDC Race Number and Goody Bag?

Yes.

#### Info for person picking up another's 2022 PGDC Race Number & Goody Bag

- You must go to the TCC's Ballroom D and show your proof of a qualified negative COVID-19 test result within 72 hours of Friday, Feb. 25, 2022 (Feb. 22, 2022), OR of a completed COVID-19 vaccination record concluded at least 14 days prior to Friday, Feb. 25, 2022 (Feb. 11, 2022).
- Upon verification of the above, the verifying volunteer will place a 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband on your arm of choice.
  - The 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband is required for entering the 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo where 2022 PGDC Race Numbers and Goody Bags will be located.
- When approaching the 2022 PGDC Race Number Pick-Up Counter, you must have a [Race Number Pick-up Authorization Form](#) completed and signed by the registered participant (for whom you're picking up) and also, a copy of their identification card that matches the name on their assigned 2022 PGDC Race Number. ID can be driver's license, government-issued ID, birth certificate, school or work ID card, or passport.\*\*

*\*\* You will not be receiving a 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband for the registered participant you are picking up for. Please see below for next steps.*

#### Info for registered participants that chose to have their 2022 PGDC Race Number and Goody Bag picked up by someone other than themselves.

- **On race morning (Saturday and Sunday), registered participants choosing the above will not be able to enter their designated 15K or 5K Start Corral (Saturday) or Half Marathon or 8K Start Corral (Sunday) without a 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband.**
- Registered participants must re-prove their vaccination or qualified negative status in the TCC's Ballroom D and receive their 2022 PGDC Verification Wristband to enter the 2022 PGDC 15K, 5K, Half Marathon, or 8K Start Corrals.
- Two verification windows in Ballroom D will be set aside for this purpose.

### What happens if I test positive for COVID-19 within 72 hours of the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend and cannot participate? Will I receive a refund?

Refunds will not be offered since the event is not canceled. Registered participants who show proof of a positive COVID-19 test can defer their entry to 2023 after paying a \$30 deferral fee. You will need to email a photo of the positive result which occurred in the testing window (no sooner than 9 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2022) to [registration@rungasparilla.com](mailto:registration@rungasparilla.com), and we will reach out with how to claim your deferral for 2023.

### What are other mitigation efforts planned?

- Hand sanitizer will be readily available at the 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo, throughout the Start/Finish area, and at all portable restroom locations at the Start/Finish and on course.
- Masks **will not** be required for all inside TCC as well as attending the 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo.
- Masks will be required for event personnel and volunteers in the designated Start and Finish Areas.
- Masks will be encouraged for all athletes in the designated Start and Finish Areas.
- 2022 PGDC Race Weekend volunteers in non-active athlete areas will be masked appropriately and will use hand sanitizer throughout their volunteer duties.
- The bell ringer used for the PARRRRGH Bell located in the Q105 Post Race Celebration's new location (Tony Janus Park – across from Publix Bayshore location between the Brorein Street Bridge and Platt Street Bridge) will be cleaned with hand sanitizer wipes after each use.

### To create spacing and reduce congestion during the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend, the GDCA will implement the following measures:

- The 8 On Your Side Health & Fitness Expo floor plan will be well spaced.
- Each starting corral will include no more than 500 athletes and will be properly segmented.
- GDCA may add other mitigation measures if conditions change with COVID-19.

**You can trust that if in February 2022, the science, data, and COVID-19 positivity rates support making changes to the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend Mitigation Protocols, the Association will review and update the protocols according to the facts and overall safety of all participating in the 2022 PGDC Race Weekend.**

**Thank you for taking the time to read this important 2022 PGDC Race Weekend Announcement thoroughly. We're confident there will be additional questions. The FAQs are fluid and will be updated as needed. Please submit your questions to [susan@rungasparilla.com](mailto:susan@rungasparilla.com).**

