

On Monday 29th November the NI Executive introduced a law requiring all licenced and event premises to carry out checks to determine a customer's Proof of Covid Status. This proof of covid status can be one of the following:

- Covid Vaccine Passport via COVIDCERT NI APP
- Proof of a negative latera flow/PCR test taken up to 48 hours before visiting the premises
- A paper COVID certificate (vaccine cards no longer accepted)
- The above must be accompanied by a valid identification confirming the customer is the person named on the Covid proof.

On reading the Regulations Cliftonville Social Club will implement the following procedures:

During the week (or at times when door staff not working) customers will be allowed enter the premises and prior to taking an order for drink, staff will ask for one of the proofs as noted above. If the Covid cert app is used, the staff will scan the barcode using the CertCheckNI app. If a customer doesn't have or is unwilling to prove one of the above covid proofs, they will be refused service and asked to leave the premises. If they refuse to do so, management should be contacted and if required call the police.

When door staff are working during peak times, they will carry out the covid checks before allowing entry, thus allowing waiting staff to focus on serving customers.

Justification for this approach:

Within the Regs section 16f parts 3 a & b it states that checks should be completed as soon as is reasonably practical. The above approach is considered to be adequate for a number of reasons:

- The Hospitality industry was the first to close and among the last to reopen during the lock down. Therefore it is not reasonable to expect venues to employ and pay additional staff to carry out covid checks especially during off peak periods. From a cost v benefit analysis it is not proportionate to employ additional staff.
- The checking of a covid proofs prior to serving will not have an impact of covid transmission as customers have to wear a mask when moving around the venue
- Staff welfare issues- staff cannot be expected to stand at the front door of venues in adverse weather for long periods of time. Unlike door staff Hospitality staff are not trained in conflict management and as covid passports and their use are an emotive subject, refusing entry could quickly escalate into a situation where staff could be harmed.

On top of these procedures regarding the covid proofs, the Social Club continues to operate in a covid safe environment due to the mitigations previously implemented which are still in place including:

- Track and trace
- Additional hand sanitizing stations throughout the premises
- Staff wearing PPE

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS A GRACE/EDUCATIONAL PERIOD FROM 29TH NOVEMBER TO 13 DECEMBER 2021 WHICH MEANS THAT IF A CUSTOMER DOES NOT HAVE THE REQUIRED EVIDENCE THEY CAN STILL BE SERVED BUT YOU MUST INFORM THEM FROM 13TH DECEMBER ONWARDS THEY WILL HAVE TO PRODUCE THE EVIDENCE OR THEY WON'T BE SERVED



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