

Corvallis Contra Dance COVID-19 Temporary Policy for 9/16/23 & 10/7/23 Dances

Subject to change at any time. To be reassessed in mid-October.

Updated 2023-09-10.

This policy reflects the Corvallis Contra Dance Committee and is approved by the Corvallis Folklore Society. It is intended to keep our community and dancers as safe, healthy, and happy as possible.

Participation in contra dance during the COVID-19 pandemic carries not only the typical risks associated with a physical activity, but also increased risk of exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

- COVID-19 and its variants are highly transmissible and can cause severe illness, long-term health complications, and/or death.
- COVID-19 is spread through person-to-person contact, through airborne droplets exhaled by an infected person, even without any apparent symptoms of infection.
- Vaccines are safe, widely available, and highly effective at protecting individuals against severe illness, hospitalization, and death resulting from COVID-19. However, vaccination does not provide complete protection from contracting and transmitting the virus.

Please note: People at higher risk of severe illness from the COVID-19 virus, or who are in regular contact with someone at higher risk, including unvaccinated people, should strongly consider the risks associated with attending contra dances at this time.

Contra dancing involves physical exertion and close contact with many people, and is therefore associated with greater risk of viral transmission than other common activities. To protect our community as much as possible, Corvallis contra dances will have the following precautions in place for a **trial period during the contra dances on September 16 and October 7**, to be reassessed in mid-October. Masking and vaccination requirements may be reinstated at any time in response to public health recommendations, the venue's policy, and other contra dance communities' policies. Requirements will meet and **may exceed** mandated COVID-19 safety guidelines.

All attendees are REQUIRED to:

- 1) Agree to all conditions for attendance.
- 2) Sign both the Corvallis Folklore Society waiver and the Gatton Hall waiver once, before your first dance of the 2023-2024 Corvallis contra dance season.
- 3) Provide an email address when signing waivers, to be used for contact tracing if needed.
- 4) Be mindful of others' variable comfort levels, especially with respect to masking, personal space, and level of touch (e.g., allow for different types of swings).
- 5) Consider taking a COVID-19 test before attending if you have recently traveled.
- 6) Stay home if you experience possible symptoms of COVID-19; you will not be admitted.

Attendees are STRONGLY RECOMMENDED to:

- Stay up to date on COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters. Please check health authority vaccine recommendations for your individual situation.
- Wear a well-fitted mask which covers your nose and mouth while in the building. Please bring your own mask(s). Increased breathing may result in a moist and less effective mask; consider bringing an extra/replacement(s).

Additional precautions taken will include:

- Unscented hand sanitizer available for use at the dance
- Attendees should wash their hands regularly
- Ventilation (open doors and windows, fans)
- Bands and callers may be unmasked.
- Dancers should notify organizers (corvalliscontra@gmail.com) of possible symptoms or positive tests within 7 days of the dance. Other attendees will be notified via email of reported positive cases (names of reported cases will be kept anonymous).