

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To: s 22(1)(a)
Cc: s 22(1) Fitzgerald, Susan; Leahy, Megan; s 22(1)(a)(ii) s 22(1)(a) Flint, Matthew; s 22(1)(a)(ii)
Subject: Update on quarantine arrangements for international sporting arrivals [SEC=PROTECTED]
Date: Wednesday, 20 October 2021 3:49:42 PM
Attachments: [image002.jpg](#)
[image003.png](#)

~~PROTECTED~~

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii),

We've received intel from Home Affairs on travel arrangements for some upcoming sport events in Australia which I wanted to pass on to you.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) there is an existing exemption category for elite sporting teams where their arrival is supported by the State Government s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Australian Open

Tennis Australia approached Home Affairs this morning following [comments from the Victorian Premier](#) about it being unlikely unvaccinated athletes would be allowed into the country. Home Affairs advised Tennis Australia that the exemption process will be the same as outlined above, and an unvaccinated Tennis player can travel to Australia if that person obtains an exemption.

However, quarantine arrangements are a decision for the State.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

Kind regards,

s 22(1)(a) | Senior Adviser

Immigration, Multiculturalism and Sport

Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

p. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

e. s 22(1)(a)(ii)

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The Department acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present and emerging Elders and Traditional Custodians of Country, and the continuation of cultural, spiritual and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

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WHOLE OF GOVERNMENT TALKING POINTS

Subject	WOG TPs on the Tennis Australia matter
Date	9 January 2022
Type	Whole of Government
Version	3
Australian Border Force Media Line: 02 6264 2211	

s22(1)(a)(ii)

If asked: about Mr Djokovic and his visa cancellation:

- Mr Djokovic arrived in Australia holding a valid visa, however he failed to produce sufficient evidence to meet entry requirements, and his existing visa was cancelled.
- Following his detention at Tullamarine Airport, Mr Djokovic was transferred to an Alternative Place of Detention.

- The Australian Border Force will continue to ensure that those who arrive at our border comply with our laws, including entry requirements.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

If asked: why was he not questioned or asked about his vaccination status earlier or at the time of his visa application?

- Consideration of vaccination status is not a criteria for visa grant.
- Criteria for the grant of a visa are outlined in Migration Regulations and for a short stay, might include an invitation to attend an event or other evidence related to the visit.
- In addition to holding a visa, there are entry requirements that are associated with the pandemic, like COVID-19 tests and travel exemptions. It's as part of these processes that vaccination status is considered.
- Airlines are responsible for checking that a passenger has a visa as well as meets vaccination requirements, or else that a passenger has evidence to indicate a medical contraindication preventing them from having a COVID-19 vaccine, prior to a passenger checking-in.
- It is the passenger's responsibility to ensure they meet all entry, quarantine and any other arrangements for each state or territory to which they are travelling.

If asked: about other tennis players that have been approved to enter the border with the same letter of medical exemption:


- The Australian Border Force (ABF) investigation into the visa status of two other individuals connected to the Australian Open has concluded.
- The ABF can confirm both individuals have now voluntarily departed Australia.
- We will not be making any further comment about these individuals at this time.
- All travellers who enter Australia must do so in accordance with our strict laws and entry requirements, regardless of their status or their reasons for entering the country.
- The ABF employ a multi-layered approach to border management. This includes avenues to investigate, locate and detain non-citizens who have been found, after their arrival into Australia, to have breached our border entry requirements.

If asked: are you sure there were only two more individuals in the same situation? Are you investigating any others?

- The Australian Border Force does not comment on operational matters.

- Non-citizens who do not hold a valid visa will be liable for detention and removal from Australia.
- The ABF conducts a range of post border compliance activities to ensure non-citizens are lawfully in the country.
- Visa holders are expected to abide with Australian laws and public health directives and any non-compliance could enliven grounds to consider visa cancellation.
- Where visa holders are subsequently found to have not have met requirements to enter Australia, their visas may be cancelled, potentially resulting in detention and removal from Australia.
- Similarly, where a non-citizen holds a valid visa but does not abide by its conditions, the visa may be cancelled, potentially resulting in detention and removal from Australia.

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If asked: about ABF Asking Vic Gov to sponsor Mr Djokovic's visa?


- The Commonwealth did not request the Victorian Government to support an individual visa application for Mr Djokovic. Mr Djokovic already had a valid visa.
- The ABF reached out to the Victorian Government to validate their public statements about their support for Mr Djokovic's entry, and whether the Victorian

Government had further information related to his medial exemption document provided by Tennis Australia.


If asked: What happened at the airport when Mr Djokovic landed?

- If a passenger has not properly completed an Australia Travel Declaration (ATD), or has declared on their ATD that they are medically exempt, unvaccinated or do not meet vaccination requirements, they will be referred for manual processing at the Australian border to clarify their status.
- In Victoria, where a passenger is identified as medically exempt, they are referred to state authority for the determination of health status and the required quarantine treatment.
- On this occasion, our assurance steps identified that Mr Djokovic's medical contraindication requirements were not fulfilled. This was a requirement for entry into Australia.
- As Minister Hunt and the Prime Minister said last week, Tennis Australia were made aware in November last year of the border entry requirements.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)



s 22(1)(a)(ii)



Pre-border

- Before departing for Australia, passengers must ensure they meet all entry, quarantine and any other arrangements for each state or territory to which they are travelling.
- Passengers must provide critical health information, which includes their COVID-19 vaccination status, before departing for Australia. This information is shared with state and territory public health authorities, to support them in managing the ongoing challenges of COVID-19, including for contact tracing purposes.
 - For passengers who are over 12 years and 3 months old, the provision of their COVID-19 vaccination status is required by section 44 of the Biosecurity Act 2015. Passengers who fail to comply with the requirement may be liable for a civil penalty of \$6,660 under section 46 of the Biosecurity Act 2015.
 - Passengers must provide this critical health information through the Australia Travel Declaration (ATD), unless exceptional circumstances apply.
 - The information provided in the ATD is used to refer these passengers to the relevant state and territory officials upon arrival.
 - The ATD does not assess whether the passenger has a valid visa or travel exemption.
 - The ATD contains a link to the vaccination exemption information: <https://covid19.homeaffairs.gov.au/vaccinated-travellers#toc-6>
- Before departing for Australia, passengers must ensure they meet all entry, quarantine and any other arrangements for each state or territory to which they are travelling.

- Airlines are responsible for checking that a passenger has a valid medical exemption from the COVID-19 vaccine if that is what they claim prior to check-in.
- Airlines work with the ABF's Border Operations Centre (BOC) for guidance on some travellers, where airlines require further advice on travellers' eligibility on meeting border entry requirements. This may include seeking further information regarding traveller documentation (e.g. passport and visas, but not ATD and not medical exemptions).
- Airline Liaison Officers (ALOs) and BOC support the airlines in their decision-making.

At the border

- Upon arrival, passengers must comply with all of Australia's entry, immigration and customs requirements.
- The vaccination information provided in the ATD is used to refer these passengers to the relevant state and territory officials upon arrival. States and territories are responsible for quarantine arrangements.
- The Australian Border Force also conducts a variety of compliance assurance processes on arrival to Australia.
- The ABF also have a range of discretionary cancellation powers that may be enlivened as a result of information considered in the immigration clearance process.

Post border

- The ABF conduct a range of post border compliance activities to ensure that non-citizens are lawfully in the country.
- Visa holders are expected to abide with Australian laws and public health directives and any non-compliance could enliven grounds to consider visa cancellation.
- Where non-citizens are subsequently found to have not have met requirements to enter Australia, visas may be cancelled, potentially resulting in detention and removal from Australia.
- Where non-citizens hold a valid visa but do not apply by its conditions, visas may be cancelled, potentially resulting in detention and removal from Australia.

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TALKING POINTS

Subject	TPs on the Djokovic matter and related issues
Date	14 January 2022
Type	Agency
Points of contact:	Media@homeaffairs.gov.au (6264 2244), Media@abf.gov.au (6264 2211)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

- All travelers who enter Australia must do so in accordance with our strict laws and entry requirements.

s 22(1)(a)(ii)

- It is the responsibility of incoming international travellers to ensure they meet all entry, quarantine and any other arrangements for each state or territory to which they are travelling.
- The ABF employs a multi-layered approach to border management. This includes avenues to investigate, locate and detain non-citizens who have been found to be in breach our border entry requirements after their arrival into Australia.

Mr Djokovic:

- Mr Djokovic arrived in Australia holding a valid visa, however the decision maker judged he had failed to produce sufficient evidence to meet entry requirements, and his existing visa was cancelled.

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If asked: Did the Australian Border Force change its medical exemption certificate policies on January 6 2022?

- Claims that Australia's border policies changed on 6 January 2022 are incorrect.
- As set out on the [Department of Health's website](#), previous infection with COVID-19 is not considered a medical contraindication for COVID-19 vaccination in relation to Australia's entry requirements.
- Since 15 December 2021 fully vaccinated eligible visa holders can travel to Australia without needing to apply for a travel exemption, and enter eligible states and territories quarantine free.
- If an arriving individual is not vaccinated, they must provide acceptable proof that they cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons to be able to access the same travel arrangement as fully vaccinated travellers.

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