

To the Administrators of The ManKind Project USA
and others within MKPUSA privileged to act as gatekeepers of the NWTAs:

We, the undersigned of MKP Intermountain, in consideration of the following, request to host a traditional (non-pandemic) NWTAs September 16-19, 2021 to which vaccinated men (staff and participants) will be invited.

- Currently in the Intermountain region, the Covid vaccines are free and universally available. We believe that this changes the dynamics of hosting an NWTAs. Rather than being a basis for exclusion, we have a condition (vaccination) that men may choose or not.
 - There is precedent for elective participation in a specific NWTAs. For example, men may choose to participate in a gateway (Raw, Urban, GBTQ, or Young Warriors) weekend, or they may choose to attend a regular weekend. MKP honors men's choices regarding a range of options; our proposal continues that tradition.
 - In the lead-up to an NWTAs, MKPUSA and its screeners routinely tell men "this might not be your time" for a variety of reasons. Don't choose to be vaccinated? That's ok; this might not be your time. Again, there is clear precedent.
 - In sponsoring a weekend for vaccinated men (when the vaccine is universally available without regard for ability to pay) MKPUSA promotes safe and positive community-building behavior—something wholly congruent with our mission.
- We call on MKPUSA and its leaders to weigh the benefit of allowing an advanced/vaccinated weekend against the risk¹ of further Project attrition and loss of interest and inertia, to the point of irrelevance.
- We ask MKPUSA and its leadership to consult with the various regions regarding their desires and their individual Covid situations/readiness. We request reciprocal and mutually beneficial dialog between MKPUSA and the communities and cultures that have unified with it, lest we risk ignoring regional and cultural differences in favor of a one-size-fits-all approach.
- As a Project, we must not let the perfect be the enemy of the good. The invitation and opportunity is for the Project to become congruent with our rhetoric. If we say the world is "on fire," let's *act like it is*.

Resolved,

[40 men responding in favor, 3 opposed]
[names available for verification upon request]

¹ The risks of attending an NWTAs are already specifically and robustly disclaimed by the 4-page Agreement Regarding Assumption of Risk, Indemnification, and Release required of all NWTAs Participants.

Medical Considerations Regarding the NWTA

We, the undersigned, have become aware of MKPUSA's deliberations regarding medical safety on the NWTA in reference to the Covid-19 pandemic.

It is our understanding that MKPUSA has recently proposed specific modifications to the way certified NWTA Leaders lead the weekend instead of requiring the Covid-19 vaccine. Currently, vaccination is the best and only necessary way to mitigate for Covid-19.¹

From the standpoint of medical risk, mandating mitigation procedures without requiring vaccination would demonstrate that MKPUSA is fully aware of the risks of Covid-19 infection but is unwilling to fully protect against them by requiring the vaccine. Such a course would likely increase liability and risk to the Project.

The CDC now says "...fully vaccinated people no longer [need to] need to wear a mask or physically distance in any setting" (reference <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>). In accordance with this best-available guidance, we support the request for a "traditional" (pre-Covid) NWTA for vaccinated men, until the NWTA can safely be offered without regard for vaccination status.

Signed,

D.K., MD [Contact information redacted]

T.M., Ph.D./RN [Contact information redacted]

T.M., PA-C [Contact information redacted]

D.G., MD [Contact information redacted] (consulting, not in Intermountain region)

¹ As it is not a "covered entity" under HIPAA, MKPUSA *can* ask for vaccination status and require vaccinations as part of the medical clearance for a weekend. See <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-professionals/covered-entities/index.html>