

This COVID & Health Policy replaces the Covid Safety Plan.

The Qld Government has removed the “traffic light” system and is now treating Covid like any other respiratory disease, however the health and safety of our members remain our top priorities.

The risk of infection from respiratory diseases such as Covid & Flu remains ever-present. Our aim is to take a sensible approach to reduce the risk to acceptable levels by adherence to this policy.

Your attendance or not at the club for face-to-face play will be entirely your decision. If you have any listed health ailments that put you into a vulnerable category, you should consult your GP to help you make the decision on whether to attend. Those who feel their health may be compromised by attending the club are able to continue to play online in BBO and other online forums run by the ABF.

Whilst not mandated, the club encourages the ongoing application of strong hygiene discipline such as hand washing/sanitising, and the common-sense approach to attendance at the club if you have recently been unwell.

If you are suffering or have been suffering from a respiratory disease, prior to returning to the club a prudent approach would be to verify with your GP that you are no longer contagious, and ask for a certificate to confirm this. The certificate may be confidentially lodged with the club committee or shown to the Director of the day.

If a member who suffers from allergies, or has recently been unwell but is no longer contagious attends the club, they may show signs such as coughing or sneezing.

If you sneeze or cough at the table, make sure you turn away from the table and cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your elbow. Tissues & refuse bins will be available throughout the room.

Please sanitise your hands immediately after this. If anyone accidentally does not cover their sneeze/cough and does not turn away from the table, this may be a serious matter. If there is reason to believe the board in play has been contaminated by an unprotected sneeze or cough, call the Director immediately to allow someone to access wipes and immediately wipe down the BridgeMate and relevant board with a sanitizer wipe.

**Refusal to play:** If any member does not wish to play at the same table as another member, then they should choose to change direction prior to the start of the session.

If a player arrives at your table and you refuse to play with them due to that player coughing or sneezing or being otherwise unwell, then the Director will adjust the scores, awarding an average to the opponent and an average minus to the member who is refusing to play.

**Face Masks:** masks are no longer required; however, if you have recently suffered from a head cold, flu or similar and have a lingering cough, the club recommends that you wear a face mask when attending the club. Similarly, you may choose to continue wearing a mask for your own personal protection.

**Club Kitchen:** The kitchen is now in use, however the door to that portion of the club will usually remain closed throughout the session. This is due to that space being shared by the

Gem Club. Our cleaner does not clean those areas, so we recommend that members use the facilities within our club rooms rather than the shared facilities adjacent to the kitchen, as our premises are under our cleaning & hygiene control.

**Coffee/Tea Break:** A break will be authorised by the Director mid-session as per normal. Ordinary use of crockery, cutlery & glassware is now available. Please return all used items to the sink area within the club, rinse and place in a dishwasher rack or on the draining board.

**Between Sessions:** The club continues to be professionally cleaned twice weekly, however this is a regular clean not a touchpoint clean. Anyone that needs to visit the club in between sessions (for example card dealers) should continue to use the wipes before leaving to clean all surfaces they touched.

**The Club Office:** Entry to the club office is always restricted to the Director and other relevantly authorised persons, such as committee members who have access to the safe and collect the table fees.

**Board Management:** Card dealers will sanitize the card holders once the cards have been placed in the dealing machine and will then deal the hand. They will note the dealing date on the front of the board set. We will continue to try and “rest” Boards for a period of 5 days before usage.

**Last person in the Club:** Will do a final check to ensure that all windows have been closed if they have been opened and will lock all four entry/exit doors (which includes the door to the kitchen area). When leaving please ensure the last person remaining has a key to lock up.