

Covid-safe Conditions of Play – revised Oct 2021

Bendigo Bridge Club is committed to providing a Covid-safe environment, compliant with current government regulations, in which its members can again enjoy playing bridge face-to-face.

To that end, club members wishing to play face-to-face bridge should read the following notes carefully and follow the instructions they contain.

Members should also note that the Covid management situation is dynamic. Government regulations can change at short notice. Please keep a close eye on the Alert page on the club web site for the latest information.

1) Before you play

- To ensure the safety of your fellow club members please do not attend any face-to-face club session or event if:
 - You are feeling unwell or
 - In in the last 14 days, you have experienced any of the Covid-19 danger symptoms specified on the DHHS website, or
 - You have tested positive for Covid-19, or
 - You have been tested for Covid-19 and have not yet received a negative result, and
 - **You are not yet double-vaccinated** (unless you have a valid Covid-19 medical vaccination exemption).
- Player numbers will be limited. Until further notice, players will be required to book to play in a particular session. The club website has a booking facility. You, or your partner must use it to secure your seats. See section **5) Bookings** for details on how to do this.
- To allow for Covid-safety procedures, please plan to arrive at the session 10-15 minutes before the advertised start of play. Entrance doors will be closed 10 minutes before play.
- The club will not be providing light refreshments and the kitchen cannot be used. Please bring your own water or other drink with you.
- Please bring exact cash for table fees. We will not be giving change: you will be given a credit towards future table fees for any excess payment.
- Use of the venue's heating and cooling may be constrained by regulations. Please dress for the ambient conditions. Consider 'layering' and, in cold weather, bring extra warm wear.
- Bring your own writing implement, preferably a broad-head texta pen.
- **Masks!** Bring your own Covid-safe face mask. (It is mandatory to carry a mask at all times when out of your home)
- Until further notice, play will be restricted to club members. Please do not invite guest players to be your partner.

2) When at a Club session or event

It is a condition of entry that players adhere to the following requirements during their visit to BBC sessions and events.

- You and your partner must have a valid booking for the session or event.
- On arrival...
 - You must check in using the Service Victoria app. If you do not have a smart phone our Covid-19 Safety Marshalls can check you in but they are busy people so please check yourself in if you can.
 - **You must supply our Covid-19 Safety Marshalls with evidence that you have been double-vaccinated**, ie you will need to show them your Australian Government

COVID-19 digital certificate¹ or, if you do not have a smart phone, a printed copy of your certificate². If you have a medical Covid-19 vaccination exemption you will need to provide valid documentary evidence (eg a letter from your GP) of your exempt status³.

- You will be asked to provide this evidence on arrival at every session.
 - Members who are unable to produce proof of their vaccination status (or proof of vaccination exemption) will not be permitted to play and will be asked to leave the community centre. (The session will be cancelled if you remain on the premises).
 - We will test your body temperature using a contactless thermometer. Players recording an out-of-range reading will not be permitted to play.
 - Please use the hand sanitizer provided in the entrance lobby.
- **Masks:** a properly-fitting face mask must be worn at all times when inside LGCC (unless you have a medical condition that exempts you from this requirement and can provide valid documentation as proof of this).
 - Please try to maintain 1.5m social distancing by keeping at least that space between you and other players when not seated at table. Avoid entering a space if it is not possible to safely distance yourself.
 - If you need to cough or sneeze, please do so into your elbow or a tissue – and place the tissue in a bin.
 - Wash your hands with soap for at least 20 seconds when using the toilet.
 - Please try to avoid touching surfaces unnecessarily

3) Playing conditions

While Covid safe restrictions remain in force modified playing conditions will be enforced for BBC sessions. Please read and note the following in preparation.

- Tables will be arranged to ensure DHHS and venue social distancing requirements are met.
- Sessions will not include a refreshment break. Instead, an extra 1 minute per board will be added to playing time to allow players to fit ad hoc comfort breaks into their play. Please time your break(s) to avoid holding up play.
- When seated at table sit as far back from the table as is practical and consistent with bidding and playing your hand.
- Each table will have a hand sanitizer available. Please use the sanitizer before picking up your cards at start of play for each board.
- Bridgemates will be handled exclusively by South. When the score has been entered by South, the Bridgemate must be carefully and deliberately shown to East. East must scrutinise the entry carefully, and indicate clearly either their assent to or disagreement with the result as recorded without touching the Bridgemate. Only South and the Director are authorised to make any necessary adjustments and complete the entry.

¹ Your Australian Government COVID-19 Digital Certificate can be linked to the Service Victoria App so that, when you check in, the screen displays "Valid Certificate" with a tick on a green background. If you click on "View Certificate", the background Coat of Arms continually refreshing is the test of authenticity

² The Service Victoria app says "You can call Services Australia on 1800 653 809 and ask them to send your Immunisation History Statement to you. It can take up to 14 days to arrive in the post. You can also print your Covid-19 digital certificate available on MyGov at home."

³ The Service Victoria app provides a list of medical practitioners authorised to provide vaccination exemption certificates or letters. Exemption certificates and letters must be dated and will lapse after 6 months (or on an earlier date specified by the authorised medical practitioner).

4) Other Measures

- At the end of the session chairs, tables and Bridgemates must be sanitised and wiped down before storage,
- The club will inform members of any new (or dropped) considerations as they arise.

5) Bookings

- On the BBC website Home page, click on 'Membership & Bookings' or on 'Members Only'.
- In the Member Login panel enter either your email address or your ABF number, then enter your password and click on 'Login'.
- The 'Find a Partner' panel is displayed. In the 'Find a Partner/ Book an Event' section scroll down to the event for which you wish to make a booking.
- To book seats for you and your partner, click on the tick box in the PL (Playing) column and enter your partner's name in the 'Partner/Note/System/Direction' box. (Do not enter your own name - the system will automatically supply that). Click the 'Confirm' button. Your partnership's names will appear in the 'Current Request / Bookings' column.
- To cancel a booking, scroll to the booked event and click on the 'NP'(Not Playing) tick box. (If you have booked to play in an event and you find that you cannot play, please cancel your booking asap).
- To make a booking when you don't yet have a partner, scroll to the relevant event and click on the 'PR' (Partner Required) tick box. Your name and phone number will be listed in the 'Partner/Note/System/Direction' box. Another player may offer to partner you and you can complete the booking.
- If seats are limited and the session is oversubscribed, your booking will be wait-listed.