

COVID-19 Safety Protocols at the VBA

This document applies to Staff, Volunteers, Players, Visitors & Contractors to the Victorian Bridge Association (the VBA).

All staff members, volunteers, players, contractors or visitors to the VBA are required, if they are feeling unwell, have experienced cold or flu symptoms in the last 14 days, or have returned from overseas during that time period to not visit the Club.

- The VBA will ensure there is a person responsible on site to take control if a situation arises;
- The VBA provides ongoing communication and training to all staff relating to the measures, processes and policies enacted in response to the pandemic to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of VBA staff, volunteers and contractors; A register will be kept of who has completed the training;
- The VBA reminds staff, volunteers, players and contractors regularly of COVID-19 symptoms and instructs those presenting with symptoms or feeling unwell to stay at home;
- The VBA enacts the Epidemic and Pandemic Policy in the case of a staff member, volunteer, contractor or visitor testing positive to the virus.
- The VBA continues to consider specifically those staff and volunteers who may be more vulnerable to the virus because of age and/or compromised medical conditions. In these situations, the VBA will follow recommendations as to the appropriateness of visiting onsite.

Health and safety measures the VBA has put in place for visitors:

For your information below are the measures we advise all the visitors to observe prior to coming to the VBA. They are also published on our website.

Before You Visit:

- Please read carefully the remainder of this document and in particular, note the playing conditions described on the next page.
- If you are feeling unwell, have experienced cold or flu symptoms in the last 14 days, or have returned from overseas during that time period, please delay your visit to the club to ensure the safety of our visitors, team and volunteers.
- If you are well, please plan to arrive at the club with time to spare to get prepared to start play at the appointed session time.
- You might also like to consider downloading the [COVIDSafe app](#) before you visit.
- We will not be serving food or drink at the club. Please bring with you any refreshments you may need for the duration of your time spent at the club.
- We will not be handling cash. If any payment might be required from you while at the club, please ensure you have a contactless credit card with you.
- Heating and cooling will be restricted to floor heaters and fans. Please make sure you wear clothing that appropriate to ambient conditions. If it is cold, bring extra warm wear.
- Please bring with you your own writing implement – preferably a broad nibbed texta pen.

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While at the club:

- You will need to provide your name and contact details to management to support contact tracing. This information will be stored according to [relevant privacy law requirements](#).
- Also, we will record your body temperature using a contactless thermometer.
- You must wear a face mask at all times in the clubrooms and surrounding grounds.
- Please use the hand sanitiser provided upon arrival and throughout your visit.
- Help us maintain physical distancing by keeping at least 1.5 metres space between you and other players at all times – and not 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 then place that tissue into a bin.
- Wash your hands with soap for at least 20 seconds within our bathrooms.
- As usual, please try to avoid touching surfaces unless necessary.

It is a condition of entry that all visitors to the VBA adhere to the above requirements during their visit.

Additional measures we are putting in place:

- Training all team members in maintaining health and hygiene protocols.
- Clearly marked entry and exits with signage to help you maintain a safe physical distance.
- Each of our playing areas now has a maximum capacity based on the rule of one person per four square metres. Please follow instructions from our team.
- Cleaning of the club to comply with DHHS and WorkSafe guidelines, with high touch areas sanitised frequently throughout the day.
- We undertake to inform members of any extra considerations which may, from time to time, be introduced.

Playing conditions:

For the time being, we will enforce modified playing conditions for all games at the VBA. Please read the following in preparation:

- Table arrangements will be to ensure social distancing requirements are met. Currently we use 4 standard card tables together. This may change to 2. We have calculated that using a standard table, players are too close to their opponents, but the distance from their partner falls safely outside the 1.5m recommended separation minimum. Either 2 or 4 tables together ensure correct spatial separation.
- Each table (set) will have hand sanitizer available for players use. All players are encouraged to use the sanitizer at the start of each round.
- Each table will have its own set of boards, to be handled exclusively by the South Player. The South player is responsible for all board movement on and off the table. Each player should remove and replace their own cards at the start and finish of each hand. Boards used in a particular session will not be re-used for at least three days (72 hours).
- Bidding boxes will not be used. We have had printed large (A4 sized) bidding pads which will sit centrally on the table. If 4 tables are used, North will be responsible for writing the bids on the pad. If 2 are used, players may write their own bids, if

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comfortable. Please use your own marker pen (like a sharpie) for bidding to improve visibility.

- The North player only is permitted to touch the Bridgemate. These devices will be cleaned at the conclusion of each session by management. Should the director be required to adjust a score, or take other administrative actions involving the bridgemate, the bridgemate will be cleaned before being returned to the charge of the table.
- Please remain seated at the end of each round, where possible, and move only when directed to do so.
- At the end of the session, please leave the club promptly. Results will be delivered to you via Pianola, and will be published on the VBA website.