

♠ ♥ SCBC ♦ ♣  
**South Canberra Bridge Club**

**COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN v6 (from 18 May 2022)**

The South Canberra Bridge Club (SCBC) Committee is releasing this update of its COVID-19 Safety Plan for face-to-face bridge sessions to reflect the changes in requirements and guidance issued by the ACT Government in May 2022.

The Plan takes account of:

- the mandatory ACT Public Health Emergency Directions and related guidance,
- the protocols of the Southern Cross Club, and
- the decisions of the SCBC Committee.

**SUMMARY OF THE MAIN CHANGES**

The main change to the Plan is the removal of the requirement to check-in to the Southern Cross Club following the change in the Public Health Directions to this effect from Saturday 14 May.

**SUMMARY OF CONTINUING IMPORTANT PROTOCOLS**

- You should not attend a face-to-face session if you are unwell.
- We ask that you do not attend a session within seven days of returning from overseas.
- If you test positive to Covid using a Rapid Antigen Test, it remains a legal requirement to report the result on-line to ACT Health and to isolate for 7 days
- You should notify our Club's Covid-19 Officer straight away if you are diagnosed with Covid or have symptoms leading to Covid within 2 or 3 days of playing at the Club.
- You need to be aware of the [risk mitigation requirements](#) for household contacts of Covid cases.
- You should continue to follow government advice on how to respond to Covid risk situations.
- Other Covid playing protocols will continue.

Please note the following:

- The Government's Health advice continues to strongly recommend (a) being fully vaccinated and (b) the wearing of face masks in public indoor settings, especially when interacting with vulnerable community members. Accordingly, we are happy for attendees to continue to wear a mask if they so wish.
- The director for a session retains a discretion to take reasonable steps to protect attendees e.g. asking someone to take a non-invasive temperature check or to exclude them if they believe the person is unwell.

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## RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Firstly, members and guests are reminded of their individual legal obligations under the ACT's [Public Health Emergency Directions](#). You are also asked to adhere to the Government's [guidance](#) on staying safe and healthy and protecting others.

In particular, attention is drawn to the ACT Government's requirements and guidance in relation to

- wearing properly-fitting [face masks](#)
- [vaccination](#)
- what to do if [diagnosed](#) as having Covid-19
- what to do if [symptomatic](#) of Covid-19
- what to do if [exposed](#) to someone diagnosed as having Covid-19 (and whether the level of exposure gives rise to a high, moderate or low risk of infection).

In addition, we ask that anyone who has returned from overseas not attend a face-to-face session within the first seven days of their arrival.

Secondly, members and guests need to consider their individual risk situation in deciding whether to play bridge face to face. In this regard it is important to note that:

- face to face bridge sessions cannot practically apply some of the recommended risk mitigation guidance
- vaccination is not mandated by law and we do not ask attendees about their vaccination status (but note the ACT's high vaccination rate); and
- as a club, we are not in a position to know whether attendees are complying with government directions and guidance.

Thirdly, by attending a bridge session with SCBC at the Woden Southern Cross Club (SCC), members and guests are taken to have agreed to their responsibilities under this Safety Plan and to comply with the SCBC Protocols for Face-to-face Play and the Southern Cross Club's Safety Procedures.

We ask you to embrace these responsibilities and protocols with goodwill.

## SCBC PROTOCOLS for face-to-face play

### 1. Before you arrive

Register your partnership online for a session.

- Go to the club's website, <https://www.southcanberra.bridge-club.org/> and click on the calendar tab.
- If subsequently are unable to attend for any reason, please cancel your partnership entry using the link in the confirmation email.

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For any session, you should be prepared, if asked to by our Club officials for the session:

- to take a non-invasive temperature check (e.g. if an official has reason to believe you may be unwell);
- to sit at an enlarged table arrangement; and
- to comply with any other requirements of the law, related official guidance, the Southern Cross Club<sup>1</sup> or the Club's Committee.

Please bring the right amount for table fees (\$4/\$6).

Do not come to play bridge if:

- you are unwell or have Covid-19 symptoms (see Dept of Health Symptom Checker)<sup>2</sup>;
- you are awaiting the results of a test for COVID-19
- you are (a) required by the ACT Public Health Directions or (b) encouraged by ACT Government guidance, to be in quarantine or in self-isolation or to take other measures incompatible with playing bridge face-to-face.

## **2. On Arrival**

On arriving in the Community Room:

- Go to a side table to pick up a tray, then the items to put in it – a bidding box, a small hand sanitiser, a pen and any other items (e.g. scoring sheet).
- Then go directly to one of the tables to sit (i.e. avoid mingling). You keep the tray with you for the session, reversing the process at the end of the night (i.e. putting the items back in the appropriate containers).

## **3. Physical distancing**

Players are reminded that maintaining a separation of 1.5 metres is recommended.

## **4. Play at the table**

Please remain seated after completing the arrival procedures.

Observe the following requirements at the table:

- Before the start of each round, use your hand sanitiser
- In general, South will be in charge of the Bridge Mate. South enters the score and then shows it to one of the opposition, who agrees or requests a change. The opposition does not touch the Bridgemate.

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<sup>1</sup> Links to Southern Cross Club protocols are at <https://www.csccl.com.au/covid-safe-procedures> . Follow the link to the Woden COVID Safety Plan which will updated from time to time.

<sup>2</sup> [Symptom checker Dept of Health](#) last accessed 18 May 2022.

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- In general, North will be in charge of distributing the cards around the table. North will hand the pre-dealt board around for players to take their cards. The reverse will occur at the end of the hand.
- Do not move for the next round until it is called by the Director.

**5. Other matters while at the session**

No food or drink will be provided in the Community Room. You may bring your own drink bottle or purchased item/s from SCC.

When using the bathroom, keep physical distance as far as possible, do not mingle and please sanitise hands.

If you need to cough or sneeze, please use a tissue or the crook of your elbow, then sanitise your hands.

**6. Health concerns arising after the session**

Persons testing positive to Covid-19 using a Rapid Antigen Test are required by law to report their result to ACT Health and to isolate for 7 days (as happens for PCR positive tests).

Government guidance is that a person diagnosed with Covid-19 should notify their condition to everyone they came into contact with in the 2 days prior to being diagnosed or to symptoms first appearing, whichever came first.

Accordingly, if you are in this situation following a session, please advise the Club's Covid-19 officer (Kevin Caruana 0448 545444) of that fact. Your identity will not be disclosed in any communication to members by the Club.

The Committee  
18 May 2022