



Barossa & Light Bowling Association

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Hi All

As we are about to restart the season, we are now facing the realization that this pandemic will more than likely affect us all at some point as we continue with our current pennant season.

Playing bowls is an enjoyment we all wish to continue, however what we don't want is it to be responsible for seeing anyone contract COVID or being forced into isolation because of clubs not having their safeguards in place. Therefore, to maintain our current pennant season we all need to act responsibly, listen to directives given at individual clubs and most importantly ensure our own health is a priority.

The BLBA has been advised that there are currently several players which will not be able to play for the next week or two due to either being a close contact or contracting COVID. We suspect that this could become a regular occurrence for the rest of the season, and we will monitor this and discuss as an Executive if it impacts the competition in a large capacity.

It is now very important that COVID protocols are in place at your club, this may include the further reduced capacity in clubrooms (as per current restrictions), wearing of face masks to be mandatory whilst in clubrooms (unless drinking or eating), increased hygiene, sterilizing equipment, managing staggered afternoon break in line with our current by-laws 1.20.3., and all other directives in place from either the SA government ([Current activity restrictions | SA.GOV.AU: COVID-19](#)), our parent body Bowls SA ([Policies and Procedures - Bowls SA](#)) or the club which we are attending.

We also address that away teams have also traditionally pooled together to travel to visiting clubs using shared vehicles, we ask that consideration should be given to reducing this where possible and if this is not possible to perhaps wear a face mask whilst in a shared vehicle.

The current 'Close Contact' definition ([Close contacts | SA Health](#)) states;

In South Australia a 'close contact' is defined as:

- a household member or intimate partner of a COVID-19 case during their infectious period
- someone who has had close personal interaction with a COVID-19 case during their infectious period:
 - for 15 minutes or more and
 - where masks are not worn and
 - in close physical proximity and
 - in an indoor setting
- someone who has been notified by SA Health that they are a close contact
- someone who has been in a high COVID-19 transmission area.

COVID-19 cases are considered infectious two days before their symptoms started or if they didn't have any noticeable symptoms, they are considered infectious two days before they had their positive COVID-19 test taken. The infectious period ends 10 days after they had their positive test taken.

Jo Marslen
President BLBA