

Advice on new COVID rules to SCCA clubs

Dear SCCA Club Officials,

Following the government's decision to remove "Plan B" restrictions, as announced on 19th January 2022, the SCCA has updated its advice accordingly. The most material legislative change for chess clubs, which becomes effective on 27th January 2022, is that government will remove the legal requirement for face masks in indoor settings. Please note that government advice continues to recommend the wearing of face masks in most indoor public places.

Below is the updated SCCA advice. We hope it is of assistance to SCCA chess clubs as they address the recent changes.

- Keep in touch with government guidelines and mandates [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): guidance and support - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-and-support). The following is based on the current version as at the date below
- Avoid bringing the virus to matches or meetings by:
 - Not attending if you have tested positive for COVID
 - Not attending if you have any COVID symptoms or if you don't feel well
 - Getting fully vaccinated
 - Taking a lateral flow test prior to the event [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/order-coronavirus-covid-19-rapid-lateral-flow-tests)
- Mitigating airborne transmission by:
 - Ventilating venues as far as is practicable
 - If you are not exempt and can tolerate it, wearing a face mask
 - Spacing out boards/seating as far as is practicable
 - Avoiding congregating around boards
- Mitigating touch transmission by:
 - Using hand sanitizer
 - Avoiding common touch points such as refreshment areas where possible

SCCA Board 24th January 2022