

Re-opening of Bridge Clubs

There has been much discussion in the bridge world regarding the return of face-to-face bridge and many clubs will be thinking about re-opening.

When a club should reopen is a matter for each individual club as each club's circumstances will vary. **Government guidelines and restrictions must be followed at all times.** There are a number of resources available that clubs may use to aid their decision and on how to play safely, a list of which can be found below.

For those clubs who hold a WBU club policy with Marsh Commercial, they advise that any claim against a club regarding covid-19 would not succeed unless it could be proved that the club had been negligent with regards to covid-19 safety measures.

Another important issue that we will face is that of whether members will continue or prefer to play on-line. Whilst most of us cannot wait to return to normal, there is no doubt that on-line bridge is also here to stay and clubs should look towards providing both face-to-face and online sessions if at all possible – perhaps running on different days, or alternate weeks. Likewise, our national competitions may change with some remaining on-line. Your views are invited. Please contact your area representative so that they can be brought to the Management Committee – it will be interesting to see how bridge evolves over the next year or two.

Covid Resources for Bridge Clubs

Risk Assessment Form (with thanks to Nicky Bainbridge for this form)

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/bridgeforpleasure/RVBC%202021%2003%2010%20Risk%20Assessment%20Version%204.pdf>

How Rugby Bridge Club opened up (with thanks to them for letting us use this document)

<https://www.bridgewebs.com/bridgeforpleasure/2021%2005%20Anon%20Face%20to%20Face%20Player%20Briefing.pdf>

How Essex Bridge Club opened up (with thanks to them for letting us use their document)

<https://www.ebu.co.uk/documents/miscellaneous/Welcome%20to%20Mid%20Essex.pdf>

Government Guidelines:

Use of Community Facilities

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-multi-purpose-community-facilities/covid-19-guidance-for-the-safe-use-of-multi-purpose-community-facilities>

Social Distancing

https://www.hse.gov.uk/coronavirus/social-distancing/index.htm?utm_source=hse.gov.uk&utm_medium=refferal&utm_campaign=coronavirus&utm_term=social-distancing&utm_content=home-page-popular

Ventilation

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-ventilation-of-indoor-spaces-to-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus/ventilation-of-indoor-spaces-to-stop-the-spread-of-coronavirus-covid-19>