

Northern Star Chess (“NSC”) School Tournaments Covid Plan

Guiding principles

NSC will comply with the following guidelines:

1. VicHealth Guidelines
2. Hosting school Covid policies
3. NSC’s specific tournament policies (contained below)

Physical Distancing

- Tournament numbers to be capped with regard to a maximum of 1 person per 2 square metres, with a prudent assumption that 20% of persons present will not be players. So for example if the venue dimensions are 20m x 10m = 200 Sqm, the number of people permitted will be 100. It will be assumed that 20% are not players. So in the above example, participant numbers will be capped at 80 players.
- No crowding to be permitted around the organiser/arbitrator at the registration desk or results desk. (arbitrators will endeavour to record most results at the board using mobile devices).
- Where possible, pairings will be displayed on big screen(s). Where this is not possible, appropriate measures will be adopted in terms of sufficient printed lists, queueing controls and if necessary reading pairings out, in order to ensure that players are not crowding unreasonably around printed lists
- Players will be asked not to shake hands before or after games. Players may elbow/fist bump if they wish.
- Spectators will not be permitted adjacent to the chess tables/ competition area. Visiting school staff and parents should sit at the edges of the venue, or be stationed outside where possible. All visiting adults should undertake appropriate 1.5m distancing, should be carrying a face covering, and should use it in accordance with the latest guidance from the Vic Government.
- NSC to stay abreast of latest guidelines from the Vic Government.

Face Coverings

- Masks may be required to be worn by secondary students and by primary students from Y3 upwards, in accordance with the latest guidance to schools from the Vic Government for indoor activities.
- All visiting adults should undertake appropriate 1.5m distancing, should be carrying a face covering, and should use it in accordance with host school policy and the latest guidance from the Vic Government.
- NSC to stay abreast of latest guidelines from the Vic Government.

Hygiene

- Tournament participants should follow their normal school protocols in relation to attendance if they are showing symptoms, if a family member is unwell, or if a family member or other close contact has tested positive. In general, if a student has returned a negative RAT test on the morning of the tournament, they are permitted to attend if feeling well enough to do so. If a player appears unwell during the tournament, we shall contact their family or school and ask that they be taken home.
- We will liaise with the host school to provide a Covid safe environment in relation to cleaning and sanitisation.
- Hand sanitizer to be made available for the use of players and adults, on arrival, on returning from outside or from the toilet, and after eating or drinking.
- Good hygiene practices will be emphasised to players in regular announcements.
- Where practicable, ventilation will be facilitated by opening doors and/or windows, and air purifiers will be in use if available in the venue
- NSC will comply with Covid safe hygiene guidelines in relation to the provision of the chess equipment

Contact tracing

- Full list of participant players will be maintained by NSC.
- An accurate record to be maintained by NSC of own arbiting/organising staff present.
- The host school's own sign-in procedures for visitors will be communicated and adhered to.