

## Penalties for Incorrect Wearing of Face Mask at WABC

Since the recent instigation of mandatory mask wearing, the Management Committee has received a large number of complaints regarding members not wearing their mask correctly. Most members have complied, but there are certain members who consistently ignore this important ruling. This behaviour is inconsiderate to all complying members, including those who may have a vulnerable health condition. It is also inconsiderate to the Management Committee and Directors, who are trying very hard to ensure the club remains open for the enjoyment of all members.

This is a WA State Government regulation, which the club must comply with. As we are a licensed club, a heavy fine could be imposed if members continue to break this rule. In addition, we have a duty to ensure our members are in a safe and healthy environment.

***As several guidelines have previously been sent out, it was decided at the Management Committee meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> February, that penalties will be imposed immediately on those members who continue to wear their mask incorrectly. Having been warned via email, announcements before the start of the session and signage at the premises, if they then continue to incorrectly wear the mask, they will be told by the Director to leave the premises immediately, with a suspension from the club for two weeks. If, on return, the offence is repeated, a further suspension of four weeks will apply. The Director's decision will be final and is fully supported by the Management Committee.***

To clarify what is required, please note the following points:

- Your mask must be properly in place prior to entering the building.
- It should securely cover your nose and under your chin, at all times.
- Masks must be worn in the entry passageway, the bathrooms, library, and in the main playing area.
- Masks must be worn in the social area while you queue for afternoon tea, or at the bar. Once you have your refreshment in hand, you may remove your mask, but it must be replaced when you have finished.
- Masks must remain in place when talking to other players in the playing area and at your table.
- Players may remove their mask in the courtyard as long as they adhere to the social distance rule of 1.5 metres. This also applies to the smoking area.
- If you have requested a member to wear their mask correctly and they do not comply, please call the Director and he will remove them from the club.
- Some recent requests have resulted in intolerant and inappropriate responses and we remind everyone that this type of behaviour is not condoned at this club.
- Nano-Tech Medical Respirator masks are available to purchase from the office or Director for \$2 each. These masks are individually wrapped, highly breathable, light-weight, are latex free, provide excellent coverage and have a BFE (Bacterial & Viral Filtration Efficiency) rating of 98%.

We want you to continue to be able to come to the club and enjoy your bridge at this difficult time. Thank you to the majority of members who have observed the regulations. We appreciate your co-operation.