



Guidance on playing OTB Chess in the Cumbria League 2021-22

The Association recognises that it has duty of care to all chess players participating in Cumbria events

Considerations

- Under what conditions are players prepared to play OTB chess?
- What are the Risks and how do we mitigate them?
- Do we need to regulate or just produce guidance?

Risks

- ❖ Risk of catching covid19
- ❖ Risk the venue is not suitable
- ❖ Risk of being too close for long periods of time
- ❖ Risk of players being asymptomatic and infecting others

Venue

1. Clubs to have enough space to socially distance at the Board and the room
2. Room to have good ventilation
3. Boards and sets cleaned beforehand
4. Sanitizer to be available
5. Do players have to wear masks when stood up and moving around?
6. Players to keep at a certain distance when watching other games

Players

- ❖ Be prepared to play in the conditions set out above and against anyone?
- ❖ Can they ask for opponents and other members of the team to wear masks?
- ❖ Can they insist their opponents have had one or both vaccinations?
- ❖ If so, has proof to be provided? Does it have to be provided say 7 days before the match?
- ❖ If none of this is forthcoming can the match proceed if all players agree?
- ❖ If some players object what happens? – Does the match get postponed; the players who don't meet the guidance are not picked for the team? Does this mean the guidance is in effect a 'rule'?

Guidance

- Conditions relate to the wellbeing of the players
- Conditions prior to, during and after a match
- Conditions to be agreed prior to matches?
- If conditions (that are agreed and are material) are changed during matches does the game/match become void?
- If players feel at risk they must make this known before the start of the game?
- Teams must abide by the guidance/conditions agreed
- Minimum requirements? What can we all agree on?
- What if teams can't agree on minimum conditions?
- Minimum conditions to be agreed and set out by the League Controller
- Flexibility and Options set out?
- Teams to agree at outset to abide by 'wellbeing' conditions

Clubs which can accommodate x4 distanced boards (gap between players) and tables (gap between each game) – establish 1.5-2.00m rule.

- Barrow (British Legion)
- Kendal (Abbot Hall)
- Carlisle (Austin Friars school building)
- Penrith (The Crown)
- Windermere (Marchesi Centre)

Clubs to confirm if they can achieve the above

- Keswick (Friends Meeting House)
- Maryport (E&N Community Centre)
- Ulverston (Stan Laurel)