



# ENGLISH SHORT MAT BOWLS ASSOCIATION

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**Wednesday 15th December 2021**

Dear County Secretary

## **ESMBA – Coronavirus Update December 2021**

With the emergence of the Omicron Covid Variant and the recent Government announcement of Plan B, the ESMBA continue to strongly recommend that clubs achieve Safe Bowls status to give them the maximum support and guidance through our already established Safeguarding network.

Safe bowls clubs already have a full risk assessment to refer to and we would advise that clubs maintain their approved Covid protocols, particularly

- Wearing a face covering for arrival, set up and in all communal areas and whilst walking about.
- Sanitising the communal equipment and ensuring hand gel is available for use.
- Ensuring good ventilation is maintained.

In addition, remain mindful of social distance and afford players their personal space.

Face coverings are not required when undertaking activity but if players wish to wear one whilst playing this remains a personal choice.

It is important that members feel safe when attending their club so please follow the latest Government advice regarding testing and isolation and ensure members do not turn up to bowl if they or any member of their household has Coronavirus symptoms.

[Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#)  
- GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

As we are again in a period of uncertainty the ESMBA would remind clubs that our County Safeguarding Officers are always available to offer advice and help you tailor the ESMBA Covid risk assessment to your club's unique circumstances. Clubs with safe bowls status are ensuring that they are prepared for any future restrictions or requirements.

Yours sincerely

Barry Hedges on behalf of the ESMBA Management Committee