

12 May 2020

To Club Secretaries CC Regions

Advisory 5-Covid 19

Strong Advisory

After consulting with the COVID-19 National Crisis Management Centre and on the advice of the Deputy Director of Public Health we strongly recommend that no bridge club opens until Alert Level 1.

The Deputy Director is genuinely concerned in terms of transmission of the disease for the following reasons:

- 1. Social distancing due to bridge being played in relatively proximity.
- 2. Transmission due to touching of cards, bidding boxes, bidding pads, score sheets, & electronic scoring devices.
- 3. Transmission due to chairs being handled as players rotate around the room.
- 4. Large number over 70 years with some having underlying health conditions.
- 5. Duration of a bridge session.
- 6. Cleaning and disinfecting during a match are not practical.
- 7. If players cough or sneeze during a hand, they need to immediately go and wash their hands.

We are sorry that we are not the bearer of better news, but the health of players and staff is of paramount importance. We will continue to take direction from the Deputy Director of Public Health and keep you advised.

In the meantime any remaining tournaments scheduled up to and including the weekend of May 30-31 will be recorded as cancelled.

Yours sincerely

ALLAN MORRIS CHAIR, NEW ZEALAND BRIDGE