



## **BGDA SCHOOL COVID-19 POLICY**

The BGDA will continue to follow the advice of Queensland Health in administering our Covid-19 policy.

### **1. Spectators**

Queensland Health currently has no density requirements in place. To prevent the risk of overcrowding, the maximum number of spectators will be limited to the number of seats in each classroom and each spectator must be seated to watch the debate (i.e. no spectators are to stand, or sit on the floor). If a school anticipates that a team will have more than 6 spectators at a debate, they should make contact with the Executive at [president@bgda.org.au](mailto:president@bgda.org.au) to request accommodation for larger spectator numbers.

### **2. Masks**

Queensland Health no longer requires the wearing of masks except for those who have tested positive to Covid-19 in the past 7 days or you have been in close contact with someone with Covid-19 in the past 5 days. The BGDA will continue to support the choice of spectators, students and adjudicators should they choose to wear a mask.

Should Queensland Health advice change, masks may be required at rounds during training, preparation and during debates. The Executive will advise all stakeholders if this is the case.

### **3. Environment control**

Where possible, strive to create physical distance between yourself and others. This means leaving space between yourself and anyone else and encouraging spectators to sit in separate family groups. Please discourage students from shaking hands after the debate and instead encourage them to congratulate their opposition without physical contact. If practical, ensure that the windows in your debate room are open to ensure adequate ventilation.

### **4. Isolation**

You are not permitted to attend debates if any of the following apply:

- (a) You have tested positive for Covid-19 within the past 7 days;
- (b) You are unwell and exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms;
- (c) You are currently awaiting test results for a non-routine Covid-19 test (e.g. you got tested because you were unwell, not because your workplace requires regular testing);
- (d) You have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive to Covid-19 in the past 5 days.

Any school that notifies the Executive before 10am the day of a debate that a team is unable to attend for one of the reasons outlined in (a) – (c) above will be awarded a postponement or team point at the discretion of the BGDA President, rather than a forfeit.

### **5. Communication**

Through prompt and ongoing communication between teachers, students, and the BGDA Executive, we will be able to overcome the evolving challenges associated with Covid-19 as we did with the help of our community over the past few years. If you are uncertain about whether a student will be able to attend a BGDA event, please get in touch as soon as possible so that we can make appropriate arrangements.