



BGDA SCHOOL COVID-19 POLICY

1. Spectators

Until seating density requirements are reviewed by Queensland health, each team will be permitted to bring a maximum of 5 spectators to view any preliminary round debate. If you anticipate that a larger number of spectators will attend a debate, please get in touch and we will attempt to facilitate access to a larger room.

2. Masks

While watching debates or moving between debates, all spectators and students must wear a face mask unless eating or drinking. If a student or spectators has a medical condition which would make it unreasonable for them to wear a mask, they will need get in touch with the BGDA at president@bgda.org.au so that alternative arrangements can be considered.

While seated at the bench we recommend that debaters wear face masks. Students may remove their face masks when speaking. These mask requirements will remain in place until they are revoked by the Executive, which will not occur until a change in Queensland Health advice.

3. Environment control

Where possible, strive to provide create physical distance between yourself and others. This means that you should leave at least one seat between yourself and anyone else and encourage 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 identified as a close contact and you had contact with the Covid-19 positive person within the past 7 days; or
- (e) You have had significant exposure to a Covid-19 positive person within the past 7 days (even if you are not a close contact, if believe that you have had prolonged or otherwise significant exposure to a Covid-19 positive person you are not permitted to attend debates for at least a 7 day period).

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) – (e) 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 in 2020 and 2021. 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.