

A message for club and SCCA officials in relation to COVID-19 advice from the ECF:

Please note that ECF have recently posted guidance to chess clubs regarding COVID-19 on its website.

<https://www.englishchess.org.uk/chess-clubs-and-covid-19/>

The ECF interpretation of the government guidelines indicates that it may now be lawful to hold indoor events, such as chess matches, but subject to significant COVID-19 mitigation measures.

In the opinion of the SCCA Board, now is NOT the right time to ask Surrey chess clubs to consider restarting any of the suspended Surrey competitions OTB. The Board expects that club venue owners will need time to restart their own operations and get comfortable with new ways of working to stay safe and so are very unlikely to be receptive to 3rd party hirers wishing to be admitted to their premises at this time. Additionally, following the easing of various restrictions in England in relation to indoor activities on July 4th, it is prudent to allow time for the impact of those changes to be properly assessed and guidance adjusted accordingly before taking key decisions.

The SCCA Board will continue to monitor developments in both government and ECF guidance. It will make further communications on this matter when appropriate.