



本署檔號 Our Ref. HAD LA ELT/15/4/10/12
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24 May 2022

To: Holders of Mahjong/Tin Kau Licence

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Latest Directions by the Secretary for Food and Health
Published on 18 May 2022**

As the epidemic trend continued to be stabilised, the Government announced the further relaxation of social distancing measures, with a view to relaunching social and economic activities in an orderly manner.

2. The Secretary for Food and Health has published the latest directions (G.N. 531 of 2022) on 18 May 2022 under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions)(Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F). Among the directions given, mahjong/tin kau premises (i.e. premises that are licensed under section 22 of the Gambling Ordinance (Cap. 148) for the playing on the premises of games in which mah-jong or tin kau tiles are used) may be open during 19 May 2022 – 1 June 2022 (the Specified Period) subject to the relevant requirements and restrictions. Extract of the relevant requirements is at **Annex**.
3. For details of the latest directions, please refer to the Government Gazette Notice¹ published on 18 May 2022.
4. As the epidemic situation could fluctuate, you are requested to pay attention to the updates on the various social distancing measures available on the website of the Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health.
5. May I take this opportunity to thank you for your support in fighting the COVID-19.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed)

(Mr. LEUNG Chi-tim, Robin)
Chief Officer (Licensing Authority)
Office of the Licensing Authority

¹ Government Gazette Notice: <https://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/202226185e/egn202226185531.pdf>

Requirements and restrictions - mahjong-tin kau premises

- (1) a person must wear a mask at all times within any mahjong-tin kau premises;
- (2) body temperature screening on a person must be conducted before the person is allowed to enter the mahjong-tin kau premises;
- (3) hand sanitisers must be provided at the mahjong-tin kau premises for any person therein;
- (4) the poster containing the 'LeaveHomeSafe' venue QR code must be displayed at the entrance of the premises or at a conspicuous location which must be unobstructed at any one time so that it is readily accessible for scanning by the 'LeaveHomeSafe' mobile application on mobile phone/other mobile device by a person entering the premises and the size of the image of the poster displayed must not be less than 210 × 297mm (A4 size);
- (5) it must be ensured that before a user is allowed to enter the premises, the user scans the 'LeaveHomeSafe' venue QR code using the 'LeaveHomeSafe' mobile application on his/her mobile phone/other mobile device [see note 3 of G.N. (E.) 531 of 2022];
- (6) must comply with the requirements applicable to mahjong-tin kau premises under the Vaccine Pass Direction [see note 2 of G.N. (E.) 531 of 2022];
- (7) the premises must be closed from 2.00 a.m. to 4.59 a.m. For the avoidance of doubt, this requirement does not exempt the premises from complying with the prevailing condition in respect of opening hours as stipulated in the relevant licence issued under the Gambling Ordinance (Chapter 148);
- (8) the number of customers at any premises at any one time must not exceed 75% of the normal seating capacity or normal capacity of the premises;
- (9) tables next to one another and less than 1.5 metres apart must not be made available for use at the same time or there must be some form of partition which could serve as effective buffer between each table;
- (10) no more than 8 persons may be allowed to be seated together at one table or to be allowed in the same group;
- (11) tile sets must be replaced with cleaned ones every time a new player joins or application of disinfection materials with durable efficacy on the tile sets must be carried out;
- (12) if the requirements or restrictions below are not adopted, on being identified by an enforcement agent, the following corresponding measures for reducing the risk of transmission must be taken on the subsequent day:—

Requirements or restrictions not adopted	Corresponding measures for reducing the risk of transmission
Any of those set out in paragraphs (1) to (3), (11)	Closure of the premises for 3 days
Any of those set out in paragraphs (7) to (10)	Closure of the premises for 7 days
Any of those set out in paragraphs (4) to (6)	Closure of the premises for 14 days

if the corresponding measures for reducing the risk of transmission as set out above are not adopted on the premises, on being identified by an enforcement agent, such corresponding measures must be taken on the subsequent day; and

- (13) for requirements and restrictions in relation to group gathering within any mahjong-tin kau premises:—

- (a) requirements or restrictions applicable to any person participating in a group gathering are set out in paragraphs (9) and (10) above;
- (b) requirements or restrictions applicable to any person who organizes any group gathering are set out in paragraphs (8) to (10) above; and
- (c) requirements or restrictions applicable to any person who controls or operates the mahjong-tin kau premises in which a group gathering takes place are set out in paragraphs (8) to (10) above.

Requirements and restrictions applicable to staff members involved in the operation of mahjong-tin kau premises:

- comply with the requirements applicable to the staff members involved in the operation of the relevant scheduled premises in the Vaccine Pass Direction issued under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Vaccine Pass) Regulation (Chapter 599, sub. leg. L)(Vaccine Pass Direction)(i.e. G.N. (E) 497 of 2022) [See note 2 of G.N. (E.) 531 of 2022]

Requirements and restrictions applicable to customers/users/visitors of mahjong-tin kau premises:

- before entering a premises, must scan the 'LeaveHomeSafe' venue QR code using the 'LeaveHomeSafe' mobile application on his/her mobile phone/other mobile device [See note 3 of G.N. (E.) 531 of 2022]
- before entering a premises, must conduct body temperature screening;
- must comply with the requirements applicable to persons entering or remaining on the premises in the Vaccine Pass Direction