



OCC COVID-19 Return to Play Guidelines

A list of rules based on guidelines from Curling Alberta

Please note that the following guidelines are suggested practices to reduce the risk of the spread of COVID-19. These guidelines assume that the club will ensure rock handles, scoreboard numbers (if used), and measuring devices are sanitized on a regular basis. The OCC Ice crew will be responsible for this between games.

Entering the ice rink

- Members will be able to access the club 15 minutes prior to the start of the game. Draw times might be staggered to allow for better flow when accessing the facility. Ex 6:45 sheets 1, and 3 and 7:00 sheets 2 and 4. Please check the league schedules on the website before arriving at the rink.
- Pre-game stretching shall be done at home before leaving.
- Locker rooms are closed, come ready to curl, and change footwear when you get to the club.
- Once teams enter the rink, it is important that they do not congregate on the walkway. When a player has reached their sheet, they should immediately leave their bag or equipment, if applicable, in the appropriate location and then move onto the ice surface and proceed as far along the sheet as is necessary to allow others to access the ice while maintaining at least 2 meters distance from each other.
- Instead of shaking hands, please wave, nod, or raise your brooms together.
- Hammer will be pre-determined by league reps and posted on the schedules.
- Choose ONE player to mark the scores for both teams.
- Rocks may be on the away end of the rink depending on the sheet you are starting on.
- To avoid gatherings in a congested area, schedules will not be on display at the rink. All schedules will be posted on the website.

During Play

Oilfields Curling Club will play curling with the physical distancing guidelines set out by Curling Alberta. All members will be required to follow these guidelines. Contact your league rep if you have any questions. Please see an excerpt at the end of this document re Curling Alberta Rules.

At the Completion of the Game

- Push the rocks to the corners of the end at which you started the games.
- Players are to gather their belongings while distancing themselves from other players.
- If it is necessary to cross behind other sheets that are still active, it may be necessary to request a player on that sheet move to allow for the players leave.
- Players should be aware that games may finish prior to theirs and they may have to move to accommodate them leaving.

NOTE: Our club will take the appropriate steps to allow players to exit their rink and facility in a manner that, as best as possible, allows for physical distancing given the physical layout of our club. Our club may include the wearing of masks in this process and may consider designated some doors as “exit only”.

Additional

- Anyone handling a measuring device should use hand sanitizer before and after handling, or wear gloves, or both.
- If it is necessary to cross behind sheets to obtain a measuring device, or to go to the bathroom, the player moving behind the sheet (e.g., getting the measuring device) should ask players on other sheets to allow for space for them. Conversely, players being asked to make room for participants on other sheets should accommodate.
- When there is a side walkway, divider, or empty sheet available, players are encouraged to use that space for distancing and keeping the pace of play reasonable.

Lounge Area Rules

- As we have only one entry/exit to the lounge, it falls upon the members to ensure a clear stairwell before ascending or descending.
- A mirror has been installed on the stairway landing to improve visibility. And a quick shout can confirm if you are not certain.
- Only one person (or two if cohort) at the bar counter at a time.
- Distancing stickers are there for those waiting.
- Tables with the chairs tipped up indicate that they have been wiped down and are ready to be occupied.
- Chairs in the down position indicate the table has been used and should be attended to prior to occupation.
- As per Alberta regulations, maximum 6 per table.

Excerpt of Game Play from Curling Alberta

DURING PLAY

- Curling Alberta's [Covid Resources Information](#)
- Here's a link to the [video](#) that shows player movement
- There will be designated standing areas along the sides of the sheets. These are to be used by the non-delivering team (excluding the acting skip) and the nonactive sweeper of the delivering team. One sweeper only on all delivered stones. Relaying would not be permitted (second sweeper taking over halfway down the sheet). The person in charge of the house is not allowed to sweep under any circumstance. The skip of the non-delivering must remain in the hack area until all stones come to rest. They are not allowed to sweep the opposition stone behind the tee-line. Only one sweeper on the delivering team can sweep on a given shot. There will be no relaying of sweepers including with the skip/vice-skip. The designated sweeper is the only player that can sweep on a given play. This includes behind the t-line and "raised" or "tapped" rocks. The skip/vice-skip in the house must move to accommodate the incoming sweeper.
- The non-delivering team may not sweep any rocks, including their own.
- The teammate of the delivering team that is not sweeping must take a place on the side or the back of the sheet in a designated area. This non-active sweeper will have first choice of designated standing area and may communicate with the players of their team and may follow the play but must remain at least two meters apart from their teammates and their opponents.
- The skip/vice-skip of the non-delivering team must remain behind the backline or on the walkway when possible and must make room to accommodate an incoming sweeper, or the opposing skip/vice-skip and maintain at least two meters of distance.
- Only one member of the non-delivering team should be behind the backline.
- When the vice-skip and skip are exchanging control of the house, or discussing a call, they must remain at least two (2) meters apart from each other, always.
- After a player delivers his or her rock, that player should either:
 - 1. follow the rock, while maintaining at least two (2) meters from the designated sweeper, but go no further than the second hog-line or
 - 2. move to the nearest unoccupied standing location.

This will allow the players from the other team to move into position for the next shot.

- As it is a labor-intensive activity to sanitize the scoreboard numbers after each game, consider other methods of keeping score (example: record on one person's phone; paper and pen).
OR Designate one person to be the score poster for the game if a scoreboard is being used. The score poster should use hand sanitizer after handling scoreboard numbers.
- Players should only use their hands to touch the rocks they will deliver. Players may move rocks that they are not using but must do so using their broom or their foot on the side of the rock and avoid any contact with the handle.
- Players should not clean the bottom of the rock with their bare or gloved hand but instead use their broom to clean.