

AVONAIR

CURLING / CLUB

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

RETURN-TO-PLAY PLAN FOR THE
2020/21 SEASON





The Avonair Curling Club Policies and Procedures Return-to-Play Plan for the 2020/21 season have been created with the requirements and recommendations set forward by the Government of Canada, the Government of Alberta and Alberta Health Services, Curling Canada, and Curling Alberta. The results and comments from the Avonair Curling Club Planning for Reopening and Membership Survey have also been taken into account to help create this document.

The health and safety of our members, guests, and staff is of utmost importance - it has and will continue to remain the top priority of the Avonair Curling Club. While we will follow all protocols and procedures from governing bodies related to operations of a curling club, all patrons of the Avonair Curling Club are expected to adhere to our Policies and Procedures as part of our Return-to-Play Plan for the 2020/21 season. These Policies and Procedures protect members, guests, staff, and the club itself in ways ranging from health and safety to financial sustainability.

PRIORITIES

THE AVONAIR CURLING CLUB WILL:

- Implement practices to minimize the risk of transmission of infection among members, guests, and staff;
- Develop procedures for rapid response if a member, guest, or staff member develops symptoms of illness;
- Ensure that staff, members, and guests maintain high levels of sanitation and personal hygiene;
- Comply, to the extent possible, with the COVID-19 General Relaunch Guidance and any other applicable guidance from government and sport organisations.



**TOGETHER IN SPORT, WE CAN
HAVE A SAFE, HAPPY, AND
HEALTHY CURLING SEASON!**

AVONAIR CURLING CLUB POLICIES AND PROCEDURES RETURN-TO-PLAY PLAN FOR THE 2020/21 SEASON

VERSION 1

Approval Date - NOT YET APPROVED by the Avonair Curling Club Board of Directors

Effective Date - August 31, 2020

Reviews will be made “on a per” basis in line with the current COVID-19 situation and government recommendations.



RISK MITIGATION OF INFECTION OF COVID-19

MASKS

- **Masks are required to be worn at all times OFF the ice** except in the following situations:
 - When sitting in the lounge, or eating/drinking
- It is up to the individual if they would like to wear a mask on the ice
- Masks will not be provided for members or guests
- Reusable Avonair masks will be available for purchase

*In accordance with
City of Edmonton Bylaw 19408*

SYMPTOM ATTESTATION

- Upon arrival, members and guests must answer a screening checklist for symptoms
- TBD - This info may be recorded on your phone through an app connected to our website or by paper copy
- This information may be shared with Alberta Health Services for contact tracing should a member, guest, or staff test positive for COVID-19

HAND SANITIZER, DISINFECTANT SPRAY/WIPES

- Hand sanitizer is available throughout the entire club
- It is recommended that curlers bring their own hand sanitizer
- Disinfectant spray/wipes are available for cleaning rocks, tables, and high touch-point areas such as door handles, sink taps etc.

The Avonair will have a curling-specific checklist and logbook for cleaning.

HEALTHY HYGIENE REMINDER

- Remember to wash or disinfect your hands before eating, drinking
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- Cough or sneeze into your arm
- Avoid strong scents to prevent fellow members from coughing or sneezing
- All staff will wash or disinfect their hands after handling cash

WAIVERS AND DECLARATIONS OF COMPLIANCE

- Curlers (over age-majority) are required to sign a Waiver accepting the physical and legal risks of the sport.
- Parents/Guardians (of curlers under age-majority) are required to sign an Assumption of Risk form accepting that their child is subject to the physical risks of the sport.
- Curlers are also required to sign a Declaration of Compliance pledging that they have not been exposed to COVID-19 within 14 days of every game, and that they are taking reasonable steps to avoid being exposed.



LEAGUE MODIFICATIONS

START TIMES - SPECIFIC TO EACH INDIVIDUAL LEAGUE

- Sheets 1, 3, 5, & 7 will start first
- Sheets 2, 4, 6, & 8 will go on 20 minutes after

* Specific start times remain to be determined; information will be forthcoming.

END TIMES

- All games are strictly 2 hours in length
- At the 2 hour mark, you may finish your end, but do not start another
- For tied games, do a draw-to-the-button to decide the winning team
- Exit the ice arena through the door which you entered



FACILITY MODIFICATIONS

ENTRANCE AND EXIT

- Use the main entrance to enter the club
- To exit the club from the lounge, use the stairs by going through the far-corner door by the display case
- To access the lounge, head up the stairs in the club

PHYSICAL BARRIERS

- Plexi-glass barriers have been placed on the office desk and bartop
- Some tables haven been used to encourage distancing - do not use these tables

DISTANCING AND SIGNAGE

- **Maintain 6 feet between yourself and others at all times**
- Physical distancing circles are placed by the office, bar, in locker rooms, and in the ice
- Directional wayfinding signage and floor markings are being used
- Screening signs posted by entrance
- Reminder signage - distancing, hygiene, masks, game modifications, other protocols

SPACE SET-UP AND OCCUPANCY

Locker Rooms

- Maximum occupancy in locker rooms is set to three (3) people
- It is recommended that all curlers come dressed for curling

Washrooms

- All stalls in the Men's and Women's washrooms are available
- Some sinks and urinals are not available to meet physical distancing requirements

Lobby

- With staggered start-times, there should be about 32 people in the lobby (for full leagues)
- Chairs will be placed 6 feet apart to allow curlers to put on their curling shoes

Lounge

- The lounge is permitted to its maximum occupancy allowing that physical distancing is in place
- Tables will be set-up in a way to allow socialising while maintaining 6 feet
- The lounge will be operated under specific Alberta Health guidelines
- We are looking into text-to-order -to-table for our lounge to reduce lineups at the bar



SERVICE MODIFICATIONS

PAYMENT OPTIONS

- Payment by card (debit/credit) is strongly encouraged in-person
- Online payment for league/event registration is required
- Cash is accepted, but not recommended

REFUND POLICY - TO BE APPROVED

- The Avonair Curling Club's refund policy is in the form of a credit towards the 2021/22 curling season's league fees or for use in the lounge. This refund policy will be offered if AHS requires curling clubs like the Avonair to shut down during our 2020/21 season.
- We will schedule 21 games with room to reschedule up to 4 games if the club is required to shut down mid-season and is able to reopen. If we are shutdown for more than 4 weeks, curlers will be credited for each game after 4 weeks. Example: At \$440 per person for 21 games, each game is worth \$23.15. If the club was shutdown for 5 weeks, 4 games will be rescheduled, and curlers will be credited \$23.15 for the 5th game missed.
- No credit will be offered for rescheduled games.

WATER FOUNTAINS

- The water fountains are not available for drinking from
- Curlers are to bring their own water bottle filled from home

BONSPIELS AND EVENTS

- All policies and protocols will be in place for all bonspiels and events
- Necessary changes will be made to adapt to each individual bonspiel and event



SHEET MODIFICATIONS

STARTING LOCATIONS - PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- All sheets will start at the HOME end as usual
- Sheets 1, 3, 5, & 7 should be at the AWAY end by the time Sheets 2, 4, 6, & 8 are ready to start their game at HOME

STANDING LOCATIONS - PHYSICAL DISTANCING

Non-Delivering Team

- Players must stand on the circles between hoglines
- Skips (and Thirds if discussing shots) must stand behind the hack

Delivering Team

- The player who is not sweeping must stand on a circle between hoglines
- Skip must be in front of the hack

Avoid standing on the backboards.

TRAFFIC FLOW - PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- To maximise physical distancing of at least 6 feet, we suggest curlers walk along the centre line - please ensure your shoes are clean and that none of your clothing is pilling to avoid picks.



GAME MODIFICATIONS

GOOD-GAME WISHES

- No handshakes, fist bumps, or elbow bumps
- Consider a “raise-of-the-broom” or verbal remarks

LAST STONE ADVANTAGE

- Do not perform a coin flip to decide last stone advantage - can get too close when seeing what side it landed on
- Consider using “rock-paper-scissors” - can do this 6 feet apart and should speed up the process

SWEEPING - PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- The “Single-Sweeper Rule” is in effect
 - Only one (1) sweeper maximum is permitted at all times
 - No “relaying” (no player may takeover for the current sweeper at any time)
 - No sweeping an opponent’s stone after it passes the T-Line
 - No one, except the dedicated sweeper for a shot, can sweep any stone (including ticks, bumps, etc.)

ROCKS

- Use only your two (2) rocks for the entire game
- Do not touch your teammates’ or opponents’ rocks after cleaning them

Cleaning Rocks

- Prior to your game, clean your team’s rocks with a disinfectant wipe
- Do not clean the bottom of your rock with bare hands - Use your glove or broom instead

SCOREKEEPING

- Scoreboards will be used for scorekeeping
- Designate one (1) of the Thirds to put up the score for both teams
- At the end of the game, the designated Third is to disinfect the numbers and scoreboard

MEASURING

- Only Thirds are permitted to grab the measuring device - they should sanitize their hands before
- Perform the measurement then return the device
- Use a disinfectant wipe to clean the measuring device - don’t forget to sanitize hands after

WHAT WILL A TYPICAL NIGHT OF CURLING LOOK LIKE?

ARRIVING

- Open the app on your phone to take the screening checklist
- Enter the club through the main entrance

PREPARING FOR YOUR GAME - LOBBY

- Please come to the club knowing what sheet you are playing on by logging into the website
- Head to a chair closer to the sheet you are playing on to put on your shoes OR head into the locker room if the occupancy is below 3 people and stand on the circle
- Perform your pre-game warmup - be mindful of personal space, perhaps use the backboards
- Store your belongings in your locker, on the floor, or on the backboards - try not to pile your stuff with someone else's too closely
- Enter the ice arena through your sheet's specified door

PREPARING FOR YOUR GAME - ICE ARENA

- Make your way to your sheet and your sheet's specified starting location (home or away)
- Clean off your team's rocks with a disinfectant wipe
- Have Thirds perform rock-paper-scissors to decide last-stone advantage
- Wish a good game by raising brooms or verbally communicating - no handshakes, fist bumps, elbow bumps, etc.
- You may take off your mask at this point
- Take positions as per the specified standing locations

GAMEPLAY

- Remember to maintain 6 feet between yourself and others at all times, and to stand in your designated spot (circles between the hoglines, or behind the hack for Skips)
- Remember to wear your mask; remember to put it back on after sweeping
- One Thirds will put up the score for both teams
- Remember to touch only your 2 rocks
- Remember only 1 sweeper
- Skips and Thirds should try to maintain 6 feet to discuss shots... maybe create a secret code out of gestures!

POST-GAME

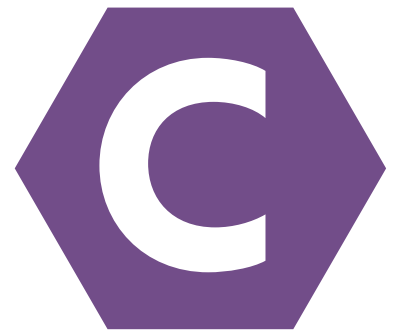
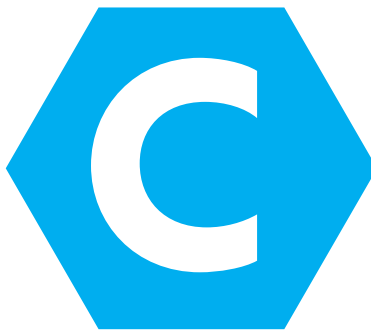
- Return all rocks to the starting location for your sheet
- The designated Third is to disinfect the score numbers and scoreboard
- Put your mask back on
- Leave through the door you entered
- Head to the chair you used prior to the game OR head into the locker room if there are less than 3 people
- If taking part in post-game socialising, please do so in the lounge by using the stairs in the club
- Stand on the circles to wait to order a drink or sit down at a table and text-in your order (if available)
- Only 4 people per table setup - please no hopping between tables; make a plan to drink with them next week

OUTBREAK RAPID RESPONSE PROTOCOL

- In the event of a positive COVID-19 test of a person or persons who were at the Avonair Curling Club in the last 14 days, we ask that they notify us immediately so we can determine when they were at the club and notify each person they may have come into contact with. This is why daily attendance is necessary.
- The Avonair Curling Club will immediately contact Alberta Health Services for further guidance and assistance with contact tracing.
- All members will be notified of the positive case and the club may be closed for a certain period of time to undergo a strict cleaning and disinfecting process until we determine it is safe to return.

NON-COMPLIANCE PROCEDURE

- All members, guests, and staff are must adhere to all Policies and Procedures as outlined in this document.
- A person or persons who fail to abide by these Policies and Procedures, will be asked to leave the Avonair Curling Club.
- While we hope to see all of our members return, we ask that those who do not wish to to follow this document to not return. The 2020/21 curling season will be difficult enough. It is our priority to keep all members, guests, and staff safe, happy, and healthy, while trying to maintain the wonderful social aspect and experiences that come with curling.
- Please be kind to fellow members, guests, and staff. We're all in this together, so let's make it easy on one another!



We hope you have a great season of curling. Despite the current world we live in, we can continue to curl. We can continue to be physically active, to improve our mental health, and to be social with one another; it just takes all of us.

***THE PLACE TO BE IS THE AVONAIR CURLING CLUB;
WHERE CURLING IS FOR EVERYONE, EVERYDAY!***