



## Curl BC Rules

(**Bolded** sections indicate where changes to Rules have been made for 2011-12 by the Curl BC Board)

### 1. Application

- (a) These rules apply to:
  - i. All Curl BC regions and member facilities; and
  - ii. Curlers participating in competitions governed by Curl BC.
- (b) Curl BC Rules approved by the Curl BC Board of Directors shall take precedence over the Canadian Curling Association (CCA) Rules of Curling.
- (c) If a Playdown Template or Competitors' Guide is issued for a specific event, the Template and/or Guide shall form an integral part of the rules for the event and shall be enforceable as part of the rules. Where the Template or Guide contradicts the Curl BC Rules, the Curl BC Rules shall take precedence.

### 2. Definitions

- (a) "CCA" means the Canadian Curling Association.
- (b) "Current curling season" means the duration of a league for which a curler has paid dues for the current year.
- (c) "Good standing" means:
  - i. compliance with all Curl BC member facility dues and Curl BC assessment requirements; and
  - ii. absence of sanctions by Curl BC or by a Curl BC member facility, including, but not limited to, prohibition from curling.
- (d) "On or before" means prior to 11:30pm of the date mentioned.
- (e) "Primarily resident" means British Columbia residency can be verified by affirmative answers to questions including, but not limited to, the following:
  - a) Do immediate family members reside with the curler in British Columbia?
  - b) Does the curler hold a valid British Columbia driver's license?
  - c) Is the curler covered by BC Medical?
  - d) Does the curler have utility bills registered under his/her name at a British Columbia address?
  - e) Is the curler in full-time attendance as a student at a certified secondary or post-secondary educational institution in a program of study that continues for the duration of the normal curling season?
- (f) "Region(s)" means the geographical areas of British Columbia as established by the Curl BC Bylaws.
- (g) "Regularly organized curling leagues" includes regularly scheduled house and rental leagues.
- (h) "Rental league(s)" means a league that has a contract with an affiliated member facility where such league curls regularly over a minimum ten (10) week period.

### 3. Membership

Annual affiliation fees will be payable by the member facility based on the fee structure established by the Board of Directors of Curl BC. Member facilities are required to submit affiliation fees to Curl BC on or before **December 1<sup>st</sup>** of the current curling season, and a list of all curlers by February 15 of the current season.

#### 4. Playdown Eligibility

- a) Each playdown participant must be primarily resident within the geographical boundaries of the province of British Columbia and within the jurisdictional area of Curl BC.
- b) Each playdown participant must be a fully paid member of an affiliated Curl BC facility that submits their information as part of the Annual Curl BC Membership Report.
- c) Each playdown participant shall be responsible for ensuring he/she is in good standing with a Curl BC member facility.
- d) Each playdown participant must meet the eligibility requirements of the competition as set out by Curl BC and in the Canadian Curling Association.
- e) JUVENILES: Each player entering Juvenile competition shall be sixteen (16) years of age or under on December 31 of the year prior to the provincial championship or BC Winter Games, and shall not be younger than eleven (11) years of age as of the first day of the provincial championship or BC Winter Games, whichever applies. And must meet BC Games Society Eligibility Rules in BC Games Years.
- f) JUNIORS: Each player entering Junior competition shall be a maximum of twenty (20) years of age on December 31 of the year prior to the national championship.
- g) SENIORS: Each player entering Senior competition shall be a minimum of fifty (50) years of age on December 31 of the year prior to the national championship.
- h) MASTERS: Each player entering Masters competition shall be a minimum of sixty (60) years of age on December 31 of the year prior to the provincial championship.
- i) MEN, WOMEN and MIXED: Each player must be a minimum of nineteen (19) years of age on December 31 of the year prior to the national championship.
- j) If proof of age is required by the competition, a birth certificate or acceptable equivalent such as a passport may be used.
- k) No player may participate in more than one regional playdown in any given event category in any one curling season, but may participate in a different category. **Exception - Eligible women's teams may participate in any of the open playdown events.**
- l) If a player in two playdowns has a time or date conflict, the player must withdraw from the competition in which he or she is least advanced. The team will be permitted to use a replacement in accordance with Rule 6 (n). The player who has withdrawn will not be permitted to rejoin the team.
- m) If the initial level of competition is held during the curling season prior to the national championship, a player must, in the curling season of the championship, be curling regularly in an affiliated club and all affiliation fees must be paid by the player prior to the commencement of the next level of competition.
- n) In the event a player is ruled to be ineligible for playdown participation prior to the initial playdown, the player's team may replace him/her with an eligible player.
- o) Upon an infraction of these provisions at any time during progression to the Provincial playoff, the entire team may become ineligible for further competition in that category.
- p) A player who does not comply with an eligibility rule, and has reason to believe he or she should have exemption, must apply in writing to the Executive Director/CEO of Curl BC no later than twenty-one calendar days prior to the start of the playdown. The Executive Director/CEO will refer the request to the Executive Committee, and the decision of the Executive Committee and Curl BC will be final.

## 5. Entries for Playdowns

- a) Entries to Curl BC playdowns must be received by the Curl BC office on or before the entry deadline established annually by Curl BC. Entry forms and all necessary documents must be completed in full.
- b) By submitting an entry to a Curl BC playdown, each player on the team is signifying his/her willingness, if successful, to continue to each succeeding level of playdowns.
- c) Entry fees for playdowns will be determined annually by Curl BC.
- d) Full payment of entry fees including annual CCA competitor fees must accompany a Curl BC playdown entry.
- e) Entry fees will not be refunded after the entry deadline, should the team withdraw. If a team withdraws from the competition before the registration deadline, a processing fee will be deducted from that team's original fee.

## 6. General Competition Rules

- a) Every team shall be composed of four (4) players who shall be listed on the Curl BC playdown entry form. Each Mixed team must have two male and two female players, and the male and female players must play alternate positions. Wheelchair teams must have at least one member of each gender on the team.
- b) Any changes to team personnel after submission of the entry but prior to the start of the competition must be communicated to the Curl BC staff member in charge of competitions, who in turn will advise the liaison responsible for that event. Replacement or substitute players must bring all required documentation to the competition and give it to the liaison at the event.
- c) All members on a playdown team must be in good standing at affiliated facilities, but not necessarily in the same region (Exception juveniles):
  - i. **Women's teams may be comprised of any eligible player from any region of the province and may enter into any qualifying event.**
  - ii. Wheelchair teams may be comprised of eligible players from any region of the province.
  - iii. For junior, men, senior, mixed and master competitions:
    - If three or four members of a team affiliate in one region, the team must compete in that region;
    - If two members of a team affiliate in the same region and the other two members of a team affiliate in another region, the team may compete in either of the two regions. The team shall be listed as representing the member facility of one of the curlers in the region selected;
    - If two members of a team affiliate in the same region and the other two members each affiliate in different regions from the other members of the team (3 regions in total) the team must compete in the region from which the two members are affiliated. The team shall be listed as representing the member facility of one of the curlers in the region.
    - No curler may enter the same category of competition in more than one region in a season.
- d) For Juvenile playdowns, the province shall be divided in accordance with BC Winter Games boundaries, which are currently eight (8) zones. Players must be members in good standing at an affiliated member facility. Each curler and coach shall compete only for the zone in which they make their permanent residence. Deadline dates for declaring Juvenile Zone

winners will be governed by the applicable governing body for that year, either BC Winter Games committee or BC Juvenile Championship rules.

- e) CCA Rules for Officiated Play shall apply except as superseded by Curl BC Rules.
- f) Games will be ten (10) ends except in Juveniles, Masters and Wheelchair, which will be eight (8) ends. If a game is tied after the ten (10) ends allotted, or eight (8) for Juveniles, Masters and Wheelchair, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared. The skip of the losing team may concede the game at any time with the permission of the Chief Umpire. In televised games teams must play ten (10) ends unless permission to concede is granted by the network and Chief Umpire.
- g) **Time-outs – each team will be allowed to call two (2) time-outs per game and one (1) time-out for each extra end**
  - **Each time-out will last 90 seconds which includes coach travel time.**
  - **Coaches running or jogging during the time-out will not be tolerated. The clock will start if this occurs.**
  - **Additional time can be added at club-based events at the discretion of the Chief Umpire.**
  - **The Coach or 5<sup>th</sup> player (not both) can meet with the team anytime during the 90 second time-out.**
  - **The coach or 5<sup>th</sup> player of the team who did not call the time-out will be allowed to meet with their team on the backboard at the home end only.**
- h) During a ten end game, a mandatory break of five (5) minutes shall take place at the conclusion of the fifth end. During an eight end game, a mandatory break of five (5) minutes will take place at the conclusion the fourth end.
- i) Curlers should be prepared to curl more than two games in one day if required.
- j) Participants at all playdown competitions shall be permitted to wear the advertising of their team sponsor(s), provided that such advertising is in good taste and does not conflict with Curl BC sponsors. Specific guidelines within the event templates will detail team attire. Curl BC crests must be affixed to the upper left arm or upper left chest of the outer garment of each member of a team, in the same position for all members of the team. Provincial sponsors' crests are to be affixed to the upper right chest of the outer garment of the team uniform. Team sponsor advertising should not be placed in these locations.
- k) For BC Winter Games Juvenile Championships, the sponsorship rules of the BC Winter Games committee will supersede Rule 6(j) at all levels of competition beyond BC Winter Games Zone playdowns.
- l) The use of the delivery stick at Masters competitions is permitted and its use shall be in accordance with CCA Rules for General Play 15(4).
- m) Fifth players:
  - i. are permitted at all levels of play for Men's and Women's Competitions up to and including national events
  - ii. are permitted at all levels of Juvenile competitions, up to and including provincial and BC Winter Games events
  - iii. Junior, Senior, Master and Wheelchair teams may designate an eligible fifth player for BC Competitions only. The inclusion of a fifth player will be at no cost to Curl BC or the host committee. Fifth players are not permitted at National events.
  - iv. A curler may serve as a fifth player on any team for which he or she is eligible including Rule 6 c) or (d), but if that curler has already competed at the same level of competition, he or she may only accompany a team as a fifth player to a more advanced level of competition;

- v. A fifth player may be declared on the team's entry form at registration or after any of the qualifying events, will pay the current CCA competitor's fee, and will remain with the team until completion of that Curl BC competition;
  - vi. may play in any game, at any position on the team;
  - vii. The expenses of the fifth player shall be the responsibility of the team; and
  - viii. Teams continuing on to national events will be subject to the rules of the body governing the national event regarding fifth players. Fifth players are currently only allowed by the CCA at Men's and Women's championships. A team that wins a Men's or Women's provincial championship may confirm or replace its fifth player for national play, at its discretion and in accordance with Curl BC and CCA Rules.
- n) Substitution:
- Should a competitor be unable to play due to injury, illness or extenuating circumstances, spares or replacements are permitted during playdowns leading to provincial events.
- i. Spare: a temporary player, replacing a player for one game, on a game by game basis.
  - ii. Spares who are selected from a spare pool provided by the host committee and who play in one or more games at that playdown event will not be required to pay the CCA competitor's fee unless they continue to the next level of play with the team. A spare must be an affiliated member of a club in good standing, and must meet all eligibility requirements for the competition.
  - iii. Replacement: replaces a player for the remainder of an event, or if the player cannot rejoin the team, for subsequent levels of competition.
  - iv. A replacement player must be a member of an affiliated facility in good standing, must meet all eligibility requirements for the competition, and must pay the current CCA competitor's fee.
  - v. A spare or replacement may play any position on the team and shall not have competed in nor be competing in this same level of competition in the current season. For substitution purposes, the men's and women's open events are considered separate from Regional and Interregional playdowns.
  - vi. A team may choose to play with three players with the first two players each delivering three stones in each end. Under no circumstance may a team play with fewer than three players delivering stones. Exception: Mixed curling must always have four players on the ice with two men and two women alternating delivery of stones. The player delivering last stone and the player acting as vice-skip must be opposite gender.
  - vii. The Chief Umpire must be advised 30 minutes before a game if a spare or replacement will be playing.

## 7. Coaches

- a) To be allowed rights at Curl BC playdowns, a coach:
  - i. Must be certified at minimum **Competition Coach**
  - ii. Must be at least 21 years of age as of December 1<sup>st</sup> of the year prior to the national championship to accompany a Junior team to a Curl BC competition.
  - iii. Must be at least 21 years of age as of December 1<sup>st</sup> of the year prior to the provincial championship to accompany a Juvenile team to a Curl BC competition.

- b) Each Junior and Juvenile team is required to have a coach that meets the certification requirements.
- c) For BC Winter Games Juvenile Championships, the coaching requirement of the BC Winter Games (NCCP Level 2 or Competition Coach) will supersede Rule 7a) at all levels of competition beyond BC Winter Games Zone playdowns.
- d) A team shall declare the name of its coach on the playdown entry form.
- e) Any change in coaches must be communicated by the team to the Chief Umpire at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the game.
- f) Only the declared coach will be permitted to access the team during any practice/warm up, 4<sup>th</sup> (for juveniles, masters and wheelchair) or 5<sup>th</sup> end breaks and timeouts.
- g) The Coaches Fair Play Time-Out is permitted at Juvenile and Junior playdowns.

#### 8. Playdowns Leading to Provincial Events

- a) The number of teams qualifying for each category of provincial championship shall be determined by the Board of Directors of Curl BC.
- b) It shall be the responsibility of the Curl BC Regional Directors to arrange playdowns for all categories in their region on behalf of Curl BC.
- c) Each regional board is responsible to recommend host locations based on the playdown schedule, and communicate this to their member facilities once approved by the Board of Directors of Curl BC.
- d) Regional boards will appoint a liaison for each regional playdown in their jurisdictions. The liaisons will be the contacts for Curl BC staff and will be present during the playdowns to ensure the event is conducted in compliance with Curl BC rules and to settle off-ice issues.
- e) Playdowns to determine provincial qualifiers must be completed at least fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the start of their respective provincial championship.
- f) For Juvenile Playdowns in the case that there are not entries in a zone playdown:
  - i. The BC Winter Games / BC Juvenile host zone shall provide a replacement team.
  - ii. If more than one zone does not provide a team of the same gender for the provincial event, then one of the replacement teams shall be from the host zone and the remainder of the replacement teams shall be chosen from the zone(s) with the most entries.
- g) **Reallocation of Qualifying Berths (exception juvenile):**
  - i. **In the case where there are not entries or insufficient entries in a qualifying event to produce the required number of qualifying teams the CEO will reallocate the qualifying spot(s) to the other qualifying events in an equitable manner.**
  - ii. **In the case where a qualified team withdraws from a BC Championship the CEO will reallocate the championship berth in an equitable manner. If qualifying events are still to be held, the berth shall be awarded to the remaining qualifying event with the most entries. If all qualifying events have been held, the berth shall be awarded based on the teams records in qualifying events.**
- h) Pre-game Practice
  - i. Whenever possible, as time permits, each team will be allowed a ten (10) minute warm-up before each game, where the team may deliver a maximum of sixteen (16) rocks total on the same sheet of ice on which they are about to play.
  - ii. Prior to the pre-game practice, teams will toss a coin with the winner having the choice of first or last practice OR rock colour.
  - iii. Teams may use only the stones they are assigned for that game.

- iv. When times does not permit a pre-game warm-up, a coin toss will be used to determine the hammer.
- i) Last stone advantage in the first end (hammer) will be decided by a draw to the button following each team's pre-game practice.
  - i. Within one (1) minute following the pre-game practice, under the direction of an umpire, a player from the team will throw a stone (full sweeping allowed) and the closest to the button between the two teams will receive last stone advantage in the first end.
  - ii. The draw to the button shall be played towards the home end.
  - iii. If the first team covers the button or records a distance of 185.4 cm, a second player from that team will deliver a draw to the button.
  - iv. If the second team records the same first throw distance as their opposition, a second player from that team will draw to the button.
  - v. If the second player draw shot distances are the same, the team practicing first will toss a coin and the team practicing second will call. The winner of the coin toss will have last stone advantage in the first end.
  - vi. Stones not delivered within the one minute will be assigned a distance of 185.4 cm (the stone must reach the near tee-line before time expires.)
  - vii. A draw to the button for last stone advantage that is moved by a team member prior to the measure will be assigned the distance to the next defined circle away from the button.

9. Provincial Championships (including Juveniles in non-BC Winter Games years)

- a) Curl BC will supply the official draw to determine the schedule of play at a provincial event.
- b) A team briefing will be held prior to the first draw. At that time, the officiating system, rule enforcement and penalties will be reviewed. Any queries the curlers may have will be addressed. The Chief Umpire and at least one member of every team must attend. A team that fails to be properly represented without the approval of the Curl BC Liaison will lose last rock advantage in the first end of all games.
- c) Game Length
  - i. **Juvenile, Master – game time is 59 minutes per team**
  - ii. **Junior – game time is 73 minutes per team**
  - iii. **Wheelchair – game time is 68 minutes per team**
  - iv. **Men, Women, Senior, Mixed – game time is 71 minutes per team**
  - v. **All extra ends will be 8 minutes per team**
  - vi. **Each team will be allowed to call two (2) time-outs per game and one (1) time-out for each extra end (see Rule 6. g)**
- d) Officiating for provincial championships will be as outlined in the event template.
- e) Pre-event practice: A practice session will be scheduled for all teams prior to the start of the first draw of the championship. Teams will be permitted to practice for a determined amount of time on each sheet of ice on which they will play during the event. **(min. 10 minutes)**
- f) Pre-game practice: Each team will be allowed a ten (10) minute warm-up before each game on the same sheet of ice on which they are about to play. Teams listed on the left of the draw or the top position on the draw sheet will practice first using only the stones assigned to them for that game. Teams practicing first will use the colour of stones in the top position on the scoreboard.

- g) Last stone advantage in the first end (hammer) will be decided by a draw to the button following each team's pre-game practice.
  - i. Within one (1) minute following the pre-game practice, under the direction of an umpire, a player from the team will throw a stone (full sweeping allowed) and the closest to the button between the two teams will receive last stone advantage in the first end. In competition, each player will deliver a minimum number of draw shots for last stone advantage. The actual number will be identified in the Competitor's guide for each competition.
  - ii. The draw to the button shall be played towards the home end.
  - iii. Should both teams record the same score in distance, the team with the better average draw shot distance to that point will have last stone advantage (unless otherwise specified in the rules of the competition).
  - iv. Prior to the first round robin-game, ties in the draw shot distance will be decided as follows:
    - a) If the first team covers the button or records a distance of 185.4cm, a second player from that team will deliver a draw to the button.
    - b) If the second team records the same first throw distance as their opposition, a second player from that team will draw to the button.
    - c) If the second players' draw shot distances are the same, the team practicing first will toss a coin and the team practicing second will call. The winner of the coin toss will have last stone advantage in the first end.
    - d) Stones not delivered within the one minute will be assigned a distance of 185.4 cm (the stone must reach the near tee-line before time expires.)
    - e) A draw to the button for last stone advantage that is moved by a team member prior to the measure will be assigned the distance to the next defined circle away from the button.
- h) The host committee will provide a spare pool of no fewer than four (4) curlers who meet all eligibility requirements. Spares will practice during regular scheduled practice and will be available for selection by the team requiring a substitute.

## 10. Conduct and Discipline

- a) In accordance with the Curl BC Harassment and Disciplinary Policy and Procedure:
  - i. Competitors and coaches are required to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner on and off the ice, and will avoid any action or conduct that disrupts or interferes with competitions, or that reflects adversely upon Curl BC;
  - ii. The Curl BC Liaison in charge of a competition is empowered to oversee the competition and resolve disputes, including having the authority to implement necessary disciplinary measures on an emergency basis where, due to time or distance or other constraints, the Curl BC President cannot effectively approve necessary disciplinary measures;
  - iii. The Board of Directors of Curl BC has the power, at any time, to suspend or expel for just cause, any player or coach from competition for such period as the Board sees fit.
- b) Smoking by competitors, coaches or officials anywhere in the playing area at any time is prohibited.

- c) Members of Junior and Juvenile teams, including coaches, must refrain from the consumption of alcoholic beverages at any time during a competition.
- d) Juniors and Juveniles must be in their hotel/motel room by midnight, unless attending an official provincial championship function. The first violation of this curfew will result in a one game suspension to the player(s). The second violation will result in suspension from the remainder of the championship. The coach will be immediately notified by the Curl BC Championship Liaison of the disciplinary action, and a letter will be written by the Curl BC Board to the appropriate guardians and curling club. A warning to this effect will be given at the team briefing.
- e) Players found in violation of banned substances in contravention to the rules of the World Curling Federation, Sport Canada, and CCA policy, will be subject to the same ban as in place by the CCA. A list of banned substances may be obtained from the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) at 1-800-672-7775. Information is also available on the CCES website at [www.cces.ca](http://www.cces.ca).

#### 11. Appeals

Appeals concerning disciplinary decisions or harassment issues shall be made in accordance with the Curl BC Harassment and Disciplinary Policy and Procedure.

#### 12. Other

- a) The Board of Directors of Curl BC reserves the right to amend or repeal any of the foregoing rules.
- b) The Board of Directors of Curl BC or its designate has the power to make decisions it considers necessary to handle any situation not covered by the rules including the authority to amend the rules where emergency situations so warrant. All decisions shall be final and binding.
- c) Any matter not covered in these rules shall be governed by the CCA Rules of Curling.