

draft for Board approval 7/28/20

CCC COVID-19 HEALTH and SAFETY POLICIES

Introduction

The Columbus Curling Club plans to open in the 2020/21 season with amended rules and policies to mitigate risk related to the COVID-19 pandemic. These policies and procedures were developed in the interest of members' health and safety. These policies assume that Franklin County is "Level-1" or "Level-2" according to the Ohio Public Health Advisory Alert [System](#), and will be continually reevaluated and subject to change as conditions evolve. The CCC will follow all applicable Federal, State and Local requirements, particularly if they are more stringent than those already specified in the policies. These policies are intended to establish procedures so that members can assess their risk tolerance with what we can do to promote safe conditions for curling.

The Board of Directors will need to determine the viability of the club opening if the published Franklin County is at "Level-3" at the opening of the curling season or is later raised to that level. We assume public health directives at "Level-4" would mandate suspension of curling; if the level is subsequently lowered, the Board would assess feasibility of re-opening.

This document also covers policies/procedures that would address our response to a member becoming sick or testing positive with COVID-19, and if a member fails to comply with these policies.

Members who join for the 2020/2021 season and then later do not feel comfortable curling can receive a prorated refund for the remainder of the season. This is policy regardless of the risk assessment level.

Sections:

1. Statement of Risk
2. General Rules and Practices
3. On-Ice Procedures
4. Off-Ice Procedures
5. League Procedures
6. League Schedule
7. Response to Confirmed Cases
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1. Statement of Risk for Curling at 2999 Silver Drive:

What could happen? –transmission of the COVID-19 among the membership.

Why could it happen? – While curling is not a contact sport, it is aerobic in nature, and strenuous sweeping can lead to individuals inhaling and exhaling more air. Increased air flow can dilute the concentration of potential virus particles and could reduce the risk of transmission; however, the air at the club is recirculated. The infrastructure at the club does not support significant additional ventilation. We will utilize the best highest MERV rating filter possible with the dehumidifier and replace them at least at the frequency recommended by the manufacturer. Members may also touch objects or surfaces that could be contaminated with the virus. The COVID-19 virus may survive longer in cold conditions.

Why do we care? – Missing an entire season is the least desirable outcome, but the health and safety of the membership is a top priority for the 2020/21 season. If risks can be adequately mitigated, the club should operate, provided enough members feel comfortable curling, and it makes long-term financial sense.

What can we do? The primary methods we can use for controlling transmission are frequent hand washing, physical distancing, and face coverings. Risk of transmission can be also be reduced by additional cleaning and disinfecting of our facility and following recommendations for monitoring health and taking appropriate action if there is a possibility of infection.

What should members do? – Each member will have to decide about their own level of risk and risk-tolerance given these circumstances. Any members who chooses to participate in curling must observe the following risk-mitigation practices.

2. General Rules and Practices:

1. The wearing of masks that cover mouth and nose is mandatory within the club. Gloves are optional. Members must provide their own masks and gloves. Any exceptions for health conditions or disability will be reviewed by the board on a case-by-case basis.
2. Every effort should be made to maintain a 6' clearance at all times unless you are with a member of your household.
3. Wash or sanitize hands frequently.
4. Drinking is allowed, provided social distancing is maintained while temporarily removing the mask to drink. Eating is permitted only in the designated area.
5. No visitors or guests will be allowed inside the club except for vendors.
6. High-touch surfaces should be cleaned and sanitized after use or contact.
7. Members should follow public health orders that apply to them, such as travel advisories or directives for exposure or a confirmed infection.

3. On-Ice Procedures

Related to on-ice activity associated with playing league games and ice preparation for league games

1. General Rules

- a. Masks are required at all times while on the ice, except when actively drinking a beverage at the appropriate physical distancing.
- b. Follow USCA recommendations for playing in a safe manner with rules to be posed at all doorways onto the ice.
- c. While social distancing, enter the ice through the door at Sheet C and leave by Ice King alongside sheet A. To reduce congestion, only one sheet at a time should enter or leave the ice.
- d. Closed containers for liquids are recommended' each player is responsible for their own beverage and taking the container with them at the end of the game. Please place your beverage away from others.

2. Game Play

- a. Teams will start the game at opposite ends from each other (Sheets A & C near end, Sheet B far end)
- b. There will be no coin toss, League Committee will assign hammer and color
- c. Please exchange "good curling" with everyone playing the game; however, no handshakes or any other physical contact. During the game, there should be no high fives or other physical contact with any player not a member of your household.
- d. Designate one vice to put up the score – no one else, including the other vice, should touch the scoreboard. That person will clean scoreboards after the game.
- e. Traffic flow during the game:
 - i. Sheet A players should use the walkway closest to the warm room; sheet B players will use the walkway between A and B; sheet C players will use the walkway by the brooms.
 - ii. Non-delivering team/inactive players shall wait on the marked areas on the walkways or behind the hacks.
- f. Skips/vices in the house must maintain 6' distancing. Please clear the house as soon as possible during play.
- g. Sweeping:
 - i. There can be only one sweeper for the delivering team. It is up to each team to decide how they want to do this.
 - ii. The throwing team has control of the sheet and is the only team that can sweep. The opposing team cannot sweep at any time during the delivery, including sweeping beyond the tee line.
- h. The winning team is responsible for mopping the ice and must wipe down the mop handle

3. Equipment and Cleaning Requirements

- a. Use of club equipment is discouraged. If club equipment is used, then the following policies are adhered to:

- i. All club equipment (broom, sliders, stabilizers) must be cleaned after use and returned to the storage location. No club equipment should be left out after a game.
 - ii. Do not share equipment with anyone (except those in your household). Stabilizers will be marked so you can use the same one the entire game. Personal stabilizers should be marked to avoid confusion.
 - iii. Players can store their personal brooms at the club but they must clean them after each game
- b. Clean benches after each draw. Players should use the designated spots to sit on benches. After using the bench during a game, the player should also clean the bench before leaving the ice after the game completes.
- c. Move stones only with feet or brooms, move only your own stone with hands
- d. Only Ice Crew can handle ice prep/maintenance equipment and it must be cleaned after each use, no exceptions
- e. Each team must clean their stone handles after each draw.
- f. Clean any measuring device used after each use
- g. The designated vice will be responsible for cleaning the scoreboard after the game.

4. Off-ice Procedures

Related to the warm room, bar area, rest rooms and other off-ice areas at the club

1. General Rules and Practices

- a. Follow recommended best practices for community safety posted around the common areas.
- b. Masks should be worn in off-ice areas, except when actively drinking or eating at the appropriate physical distancing.
- c. No shared food or potlucks during the 2020/21 season
 - i. Food can be brought in for individual consumption
 - ii. Personal consumption of food shall only be done in the beer storage area, away from all other members

2. Wellness Screening/Check-in Station

- a. All members will be required to complete a wellness screening process prior to entering the building.
 - i. Volunteer-covered check-in station at entrance
 - ii. Volunteer will check in each person into attendance log, including
 - 1. temperature check using a touchless thermometer (below 100.4 F required). Members will not be allowed to stay in the facility if they have above 100.4 F temperature or exhibit other COVID-19 symptoms listed in the check-in process.
 - 2. declaration of no COVID-19 symptoms (statements posted on table)

- iii. Use of hand sanitizer upon entrance
- iv. Everyone must sign-in. This information may be used for contact tracing if necessary.
- v. If a member fails the check-in process then the member shall not enter the facility.
- vi. A more detailed check-in procedure document will be forthcoming.

3. Warm Room Rules Practices

- a. Maintain 6' of distance between other members except between members of the same household.
 - i. Tables will be removed from the warm room and hallway to allow for better traffic and physical distancing.
 - ii. Use the benches to change shoes before going on the ice.
 - iii. Locations will be marked for teams to queue up before entering the ice.

4. Locker Room/Restroom

- a. Doors and fixtures will be adapted to reduce contact.
- b. Touchless faucets and soap dispensers
- c. Removal of door latches to allow doors to be pushed open (no need to touch handle on exit)
- d. No changing in locker rooms (curlers should come dressed for games - exception: shoes)
- e. 3 person maximum in locker room/restroom at one time
- f. Store coats and bags in designated areas.

5. Cleaning Procedure

- a. A daily cleaning crew will be established and assigned to perform specific sanitation/cleaning procedures prior to first evening draw:
 - i. Sanitation of door handles/fixtures/benches/bar surfaces
 - ii. Removal of trash
 - iii. Wiping down of surfaces between draws
 - iv. Normal cleaning such as vacuuming
- b. Weekend cleaning crew could be tasked with a more thorough/different cleaning assignment
 - i. Note: Committee did not feel a need for an outside cleaning company for periodic cleaning. Emphasis is placed on daily disinfection, something that such a company could not provide.
- c. Additional chores will be assigned to teams

6. Broomstacking/Concessions

- a. No broomstacking after games, but beer/drinks allowed on ice.
- b. Drinks are limited to single-use containers (cans, small bottles)
 - i. Mixed drinks, dispensing from large bottles will be discontinued (temporarily)
- c. Stocking of drink cooler will be done by concessions volunteers

- i. Opinion that drinks could remain self-serve, although a nightly bartender is a possibility

5. League Procedures

Related to the various leagues planned, structure of the leagues, and how games will be played.

1. Overall League Guidelines:

- a. 4 Player teams allowed, but only 1 person is allowed to sweep at a time
- b. League Caps
 - i. 4 Player teams = 24 people per draw
 - ii. 3 Player teams = 18 people per draw
 - iii. 2 Player teams = 12 people per draw
- c. Leagues will not have extra teams so if the league is at capacity, there will be no byes. If leagues are below capacity, there may be byes in the schedule.
- d. No extra members are allowed on the ice

2. Game and Draw Logistics

- a. There will be 3 games per draw
 - i. Sheet A and C starts the game at the home end. Sheet B starts the game at the away end
 - ii. For leagues that have two-draws but are NOT at capacity, the games will be scheduled as follows:
 - 1. 3 & 6 games run them as in section 2.a.i (above)
 - 2. 2 games – play on sheets A & C
 - 3. 4 games (run both draws with 2 games and on A & C)
 - 4. 5 games (1st draw play with 3 games as described in section 2.a.1, 2nd draw plays on on A & C)
- b. Coin Flip
 - i. Schedule will prescribe who has Hammer and Colors
 - ii. Red rocks will always have hammer in the 1st end
 - iii. Schedule will define who has Red and Yellow each week
 - 1. It will be balanced as best as possible
- c. Draw Length and Stop Time
 - i. No game will exceed 6-ends (with the exception of Wednesday Competitive). Even if time remains, your game is over after 6-end.
 - ii. Games cannot start another end within 30 minutes of the end of the draw.
 - iii. There is a **Hard Stop** 15 minutes prior to the end of the draw for all leagues.
 - 1. Even if there are rocks left to throw, the game is over at the Hard Stop.
 - 2. If an end is not completed by the Hard Stop. Last end does not count
 - iv. No skip stones if not at least 15 minutes remaining

- v. Ties are possible if no time to perform skip stones
- d. Recording Final Game Scores
 - i. People can record via any web browser
 - ii. Team can also email the league committee with results
 - iii. The bulletin boards will have team rosters and games listed, but will not be used for game score results

3. Team Substitutions and Adapted Forfeit Rules

- a. For the 2020/21 season, the minimum requirement for players from the official roster is temporarily relaxed.
 - i. Teams can run with any number of substitute players, but at least one player from the official team roster must be one of the players. For example, a 3-player team can run with one or two players. No need to forfeit for being short-handed on players. This rule is temporary for the 2020-21 season.

6. Fall 2020 League Schedule: (Winter 2020 will be evaluated in November)

1. **Sunday:**
 - a. **New** - Morning Draw 10am - 3 Player League (cap at 27 players)
 - b. Cap all teams at 3 players, overflow to a noon draw if high demand
 - c. 2pm / 4pm Draws - Open League (4 players)
 - d. 6pm / 8pm Draws - Team League (4 Players)
2. **Monday:**
 - a. 4:30pm - Open (4 Players)
 - b. 6:30 / 8:30 Draws - Team League (4 Players)
 - c. 6:30 / 8:30 Draws - Men's and Women's league alternate (4 Players)
3. **Tuesday:**
 - a. **New:** 4:30 pm Open (4 Players)
 - b. 6:30 / 8:30 Draws - Men's and Women's league alternate (4 Players)
4. **Wednesday:**
 - a. 6:15 / 8:30 Draws - Competitive League (4 Players)
 - b. 8-ends are not guaranteed. The hard stop time applies to the early draw.
5. **Thursday:**
 - a. Day League (see callout below for format)
 - b. **New** - 6 / 7:15 / 8:30 / 9:45 - Doubles League
 - i. Preference to mixed, but allow same sex teams
 - ii. 6 Ends (9:45 is only needed if need a 4th draw)
 - iii. Depending on signups split into 2 leagues mixed and open if it makes sense
6. **Friday:**
 - a. 5:30 pm - Open (4 players)
 - b. 7:30 pm - Available as an overflow Friday draw
7. **Saturday:**
 - a. 8 - noon - Member Practice
 - i. Sign-up for practice time, limit the number of people per sheet (Two per sheet)

- ii. 4 1-hour signup windows
- b. 4:30 pm - Open (4 players)
 - i. 12 pm - 2 pm - Overflow new league (A place to include Stirling as an option)
 - ii. 2 pm - 4 pm - Overflow new league?
 - iii. 7 pm - 9 pm - Overflow new league?

8. Thursday Day League Details:

- a. Same format as last year with positions and teams drawn out of a hat. One person does all drawing from hat
- b. Depending on the number of curlers there may be a mix of a regular 3 or 4-person game and a Stirling game.
- c. If a 4-person team is decided, then only 1 sweeper per rock is allowed
- d. Only use 2 sheets per draw (A & C)
- e. Allow for 2 or 3 draw times as numbers dictate
 - i. Draw 1A: 12:00PM - Swedish Figures for Draw 1 curlers
 - ii. Draw 1B: 12:30PM - Up to 16 curlers (2 sheets)
 - iii. Draw 2A: 2:00 PM - Swedish Figures for Draw 2 curlers
 - iv. Draw 2B: 2:30 PM - Up to 16 additional curlers
- f. If sign-ups are 16 or less, then we will only hold Draw 1A and 1B
- g. If sign-ups are greater than 16 then we will schedule 2 draws
- h. Will need to alternate members between Draw-1 and Draw-2 each week
- i. 6-end games or time limit, whichever comes first
- j. League Committee may optionally allow more than 16 players per draw since it is common for Thursday Day League players to often miss weeks

7. Response to Confirmed Case

Related to confirmed cases of COVID-19 in individuals who been in the facility

1. Member responsibility

- a. Members who have a confirmed case of COVID-19 or have been advised by a medical professional or public health authority that they should be isolating or quarantining may not enter the facility.
- b. Members who are later confirmed to have COVID-19 and entered the facility during the time they were potentially contagious must notify the President or designated contact.

2. Club response

- a. Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms in the facility.
- b. Contact the local health district about suspected cases or exposure.
- c. The club will close for a sufficient period to deep clean and follow any other transmission reduction recommendations from the CDC, Ohio Department of Health, or other recognized authority.

- d. The club will directly notify all members signed in for the same day, at either the same time or later, that the person with the confirmed case was present.
- e. A general announcement will be made to club membership regarding the positive case and the timeframe.
- f. The club will provide all requested information and cooperation to Columbus Public Health, Franklin County Public Health, and other government agencies.
- g. If there are many confirmed cases among the members, the Board will consider what further action will be taken.

8. Enforcement

The CCC's current policy on conduct will continue to be used to provide enforcement and oversight. There will be additional penalties for the 2020/21 season due to the serious nature of the COVID-19.

Dues will not be refunded to members suspended or removed due to policy violations.

1. Conduct

Members are expected to conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner during league play. Matches should begin and end with a handshake. Any conflicts or conduct issues during curling club league play should be immediately reported to the League Committee either by the involved team(s) skips, League Coordinator, or other affected members.

2. Conflicts

Issues with member conduct will be addressed by the President. The President, based on the By Laws, must determine if a resolution to the conflict should be addressed as a day-to-day operational issue or whether the matter will be addressed by the Board of Directors.

3. Resolutions

Unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated and action will be taken as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors or by the President through the day-to-day operation of the club. Any act of physical violence can result in permanent termination from league play.

4. Expectations of Members

All members in good standing are expected to:

- i. Respect fellow club members and club rules;
- ii. Provide timely payment of dues;
- iii. Follow the Club Etiquette rules;
- iv. Act as representatives of the club;
- v. Participate in the maintenance and upkeep of the club by completing closing duties as assigned and helping during bonspiels and other special events;

- vi. Promote the club to friends, family, and outside organizations;
- vii. Be active in the management of the club by volunteering to help with various committees or by running for the Board of Directors; and
- viii. Assist in ongoing clean-up activities as directed by League and BFM Committees.

In addition, these new policies will apply

COVID-19 Policy Enforcement

1. Following the COVID-19 policies is required of all members.
2. Occasionally, people may forget or have a momentary lapse in compliance. As a first step, please offer a courteous reminder to the member to follow the policies.
3. **Oversight and Penalties**
 - a. If a problematic behavior persists, please report the activity to a League Coordinator or Board Member, if present. If the League Coordinator or Board Member assess that there is a violation in policy, they should give a verbal warning to the member, and report the incident to the President or designated contact. If there is no League Coordinator or Board Member present, any member should report concerns to the President or designated contact.
 - b. **First Incident**
 - i. For a first incident, there will generally be no further action if a verbal warning has been issued. If no warning was issued, the President will issue a warning.
 - c. **Second Incident**
 - i. If the President determines that a second incident has occurred, a written warning will be issued. An email will be sent clearly identifying the infraction, expectations, and possible consequences.
 - d. **Subsequent Incident(s)**
 - i. If the President is notified of additional incident(s), the President may apply a penalty based on the severity of the incident, or refer the Board for consideration of a penalty. Any single incident, if severe, may also be subject to penalty or board action. Possible penalties include:
 1. Additional written reprimand
 2. Suspension for a specified number of games
 3. Removal from leagues and ineligibility to sub for the remainder of the session, but may register for next session
 4. Revoke membership for the remainder of the season, with possible consequences for future seasons

Sources Consulted

Sport Specific

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Useful adjacent recommendations:

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