



BAIE D'URFÉ CURLING CLUB
RETURN TO PLAY POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

v. 1.0

AUGUST 25, 2020

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1. Message from your Board of Directors

Dear BDCC members:

The past few years have seen our Club members come together to enjoy successes, find solutions and continue to develop as a community. Last year, we celebrated our 60th Anniversary with a renewed energy and a growing membership. The unprecedented pandemic of COVID-19 has impacted each of us in different ways. As we look forward to what would normally be the resumption of our winter sport, we must face that fact that our reality has changed. Your Return to Play Committee has developed this document which incorporates the guidelines and regulations of our Municipal, Provincial and Federal Governments and Health Agencies as well as those from Curling Canada and Curling Quebec. Our goal is that in this document, you will find information that will allow you to make an informed decision about returning to curl this season.

There is no doubt that our sport will be played differently this season. We continue to work to create a playing and socializing environment to allow you to enjoy, as safely as possible, the sport that you love with your fellow members. Be assured that your safety is our priority. We have been fortunate in the West Island and surrounding communities that COVID cases have been few and we hope that this trend will continue. As the season develops, the Board of Directors reserves the right to make changes to these policies as guided by the various agencies.

We know that despite these changes there will be great shots, memorable games and fun times to be had. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to welcoming you back to BDCC this season!

Stay safe and good curling.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Strachan, Vice President and Chair of Return to Play Committee
and,

John Michalovic, President

on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Baie d'Urfé Curling Club.

2. Executive Summary

The Board of Directors has drafted this document which outlines the Return to Play policy and procedures that will be implemented in our Club for the 2020-21 season. We share a desire to curl and to socialize at BDCC. More than ever, we are missing the companionship that the curling community offers to each of us. Under the current COVID-19 situation, however, we must make every effort to provide a safe environment for members, staff, contractors and our extended families and community.

The ability of the Club to open, remain open and to operate in a safe manner is dependent on the cooperation of all members. By registering, you are agreeing to abide by the rules and regulations of the Club which have been modified because of the COVID-19 pandemic. If you do not agree with the rules and regulations, please do not register.

IF YOU ARE SICK – STAY HOME. This includes any symptoms at all. We all feel that we don't want to let our teams down and may have played with cold/cough symptoms in the past. This cannot be allowed this year. Anyone with symptoms of any illness is asked to not come to the Club or any of its activities.

We invite you to take the time to read this material in detail. Here, we summarize the key points of the plan, which the Board of Directors reserves the right to change as the situation evolves during the fall and winter:

Guidelines from various levels of Government and Health Agencies around cleaning and disinfecting will be followed. High touch surfaces will be cleaned multiple times per day of use. All Club shared equipment (stabilizers, delivery devices, brooms etc.) have been removed.

We plan to begin and finish the season at the normal times of the year.

Initially, entry to the Club will be restricted to Members, playing renters and Learn to Curl participants.

We will require that curlers come dressed and ready to play. Flow of persons into/out of, and through the club will be controlled and regulated.

Without exception, masks are required to be worn at all times while within the Club (lounge, ice shed, lower levels) except while seated at the table designated for your sheet of play.

The rules of play have changed. Guidelines from Curling Canada and Curling Quebec are being followed. Only one sweeper will be allowed. In alliance with many other curling clubs in our region and across the country, we will enforce mask wearing for all curlers including sweepers. A face shield is not permitted as a substitute for a mask. Sweepers may not be able to be as effective this season. With one (and less aggressive) sweeper, adjustments will be required – consider it a challenge – e.g. take more ice, call a bit more weight.

The above is done to ensure the health and safety of members of the Club as they play and use the Club's facilities. We expect that the same BDCC community spirit that is evident during normal times will be exercised during these more challenging times and that we will support each other and the Club as we return to our shared love of curling. Curling is a social sport; however due to COVID and the restrictions that some may have (e.g. family members at risk) members will need to be mindful that some will only feel comfortable in playing the game and that the social part may not be of interest this year. It is important to respect everyone's views on COVID to ensure that all feel safe.

3. Plan Overview

i. Guiding Principles and Scope

Presented in this document are the Return to Play policies and procedures for BDCC's 2020/21 season. This plan for Return to Play at BDCC has been developed with an aim to presenting it to our members prior to the period of registration for the season. This plan is based on guidelines and regulations from Municipal, Provincial and Federal Public Health officials as well as guidance from Curling Canada and Curling Quebec as of August, 2020.

The procedures and game play rules are current as of the writing of this plan. Regulations and recommendations from Government and Curling authorities have been considered as the "minimum standards" and our Club's plan reflects situations where we have taken precautions that are above the minimum in order to provide the safest environment for our members, staff, contractors, families and community. It is possible that as the global and local situation evolves, we may be able to ease some of the restrictions.

As the pandemic evolves, it is impossible to predict how the season will unfold and the Board of Directors reserves the right to alter our Club's Return to Play plans accordingly.

ii. Communications

It is essential to provide members with the Rules and Regulations under which we will safely return to curling this season. To this end, we will:

- provide this document to all 2019-2020 members and any new 2020-21 members;
- post on BDCC website and Facebook pages and other social media as applicable;
- provide links to Curling Quebec and Curling Canada information;
- make available members of the Board of Directors to answer questions that may arise;
- communicate any changes to our membership as the situation evolves.

iii. Plan Development (Return to Play Committee)

This plan has been developed by a sub-committee Chaired by the First Vice President and reporting to the President and Board of Directors. The overarching goal of the committee is to develop a mechanism for the safe return to play and socializing for our members that manages risk and allows curling play and fellowship that is at the core of our Club. The Return to Play committee is composed of:

- Ian Strachan – Vice President and Baie d'Urfé resident
- Fred Lawton - Director of Curling
- Robert Cox – Director of Building and Ice Maintenance
- Dr. Ian Campbell – member
- Dr. George Polson – member
- Jennifer Kokesch – member
- Andrea Gilpin – member and Baie d'Urfé resident

The committee membership was finalized following the election of the new Board members at the August AGM. The committee includes the VP (responsible for Staffing and Bar Operations), and the Directors of Curling and Ice who together are responsible for the in-club play and ice preparation and maintenance. The four members at large each have direct experience with the health sector through

their professions/employment. We also have ensured age and gender representation as well as having two residents of the Town of Baie d'Urfé. Discussions have continued at various times throughout the summer between the President, First VP and VP Finance as we worked towards a decision to return to play. The committee used the results from the July 2020 survey of membership to guide the plan's development. The First VP and President have also been meeting regularly with the regional curling Presidents and some content has been guided by those discussions.

4. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

i. Waivers

Each member will be required to sign a waiver of liability in order to play this year, as promoted by Curling Canada and Curling Quebec. Further details of the language of the waiver can be found at:

<https://curling-quebec.qc.ca/formulaires-et-declarations-au-sujet-de-la-covid-19-prets-a-telecharger/?lang=en>

ii. Club Access: Members, Visitors and Guests

a) Not Permitted:

At the start of the season and until further notice, we will be enforcing a 'curlers only' policy. This means that the following persons will not be permitted to enter the Club:

1. Spectators (both members and non-members);
2. Visitors (escorted or unescorted); NOTE: see specific exceptions below
3. Guests of members.

b) Permitted:

1. BDCC members who are about to play, are playing, or just finished playing;
2. Conveners for leagues;
3. Members who are at the Club during designated practice times (see §6iii Practice Ice);
4. Staff, contractors and suppliers who provide services essential to the continuing operations of the club;
5. Government, Public Health, Safety Officials as required;
6. Open House. The Club will have an open house in September where prospective members can visit. These visits must be at reserved times and all Club policies and procedures observed.
7. Renters. We will allow supervised rentals in the club. Supervision will be defined as a Full Paying Member who sponsors the rental or other Full Paying Member as designated by the Manager or Board of Directors. All renters will be required to follow all Club rules and Guidelines while within the Club premises (both lounge and ice shed). All renters will be required to sign the waiver of liability (see 4i above). The same restrictions on non-playing persons will be enforced while in effect;
8. Out of Club Curlers. The Board of Directors will only approve the hosting of an out-of-club event (e.g. spiel), if the convener/organizer provides in advance, a written summary of the measures to be taken to ensure that the Club's COVID guidelines will be followed.

9. Learn to Curl. We will hold a limited Learn to Curl (LtC) program this fall. All LtC participants will be required to follow all Club rules and Guidelines while within the Club premises (both lounge and ice shed). All LtC participants will be required to sign the waiver of liability (see 4i above);
10. **In all cases:** All persons entering the club including members, staff, contractors must disinfect their hands upon entry and wear a mask at all times except when seated at the designated tables in the lounge. This includes all areas of the Club including but not limited to the lounge and ice shed. All persons must maintain physical distancing to the best of their abilities. Any person entering the Club must not have been diagnosed with COVID-19 nor have its symptoms or have been exposed to anyone who has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has displayed its symptoms. Any person entering the Club or anyone in the person's household cannot have been travelling outside of Canada in the past 14 days. Individuals who fail to meet any of the above must not attend the Club or any BDCC event until at least 14 days have passed since travel or positive diagnosis or symptoms or exposure to a person with positive diagnosis or symptoms.

5. FACILITIES

i. Signage

Signage will be placed around the club to remind members of their obligations to ensure proper and safe use of the Club.

ii. Cleaning and disinfecting protocols

The Club will supply the cleaning materials. The Club Manager will oversee the wiping of high touch surfaces (door handles, railings, light switches etc.); this may be bar staff and/or volunteer members. Curling and ice maintenance equipment (e.g., handles of rocks) will be cleaned prior to each game (see §7 Game Play).

iii. Washrooms

Only two persons will be allowed at a time. Sanitize hands before and after use. Extra cleaning will be done.

iv. Change rooms and lockers

It is expected that members will arrive ready to play and will not need to change. On exceptional cases, the change rooms will be permitted to be used with restrictions on numbers. Please note that lockers in both the men's and women's change areas will not be rented for the 2020-21 season. Nothing will be permitted to be stored in lockers.

v. Entering, leaving, traffic flow

Members will enter the club by the current rear door (the 'new entrance') using a keypad access code to be provided. Members are expected to arrive dressed to curl and may only change their footwear. Upon entry remove outer footwear (boots etc.) in the vestibule. Clean your hands using the disinfecting station at the new entrance and proceed to your sheet's assigned table. Place your coats and bags at

your chair. Put on your curling shoes at your chair. Stretch in the areas that will be indicated. Maintain physical distancing at all times. Traffic flow to the washrooms will be one way in the lower level. The upper portion of the staircase is two-way, please use common sense and yield to those coming up the stairs. See also §7 Game Play for traffic flow specific to entering and exiting the ice shed.

vi. Smokers

Smokers must observe proper traffic patterns and must only smoke in designated areas; they must maintain physical distancing.

vii. Water

No water pitchers will be provided or allowed in the ice shed. Members must bring their own filled water bottles. No provision will be made to fill water bottles.

viii. Kitchen

The kitchen will be off limits to all members until further notice. Its use will be restricted to a small number of persons authorized by the Board of Directors for Club events which may be held. The coffee pot will not be available – single purchase coffee (Keurig) is available at the bar.

ix. Senior's Lounge and Mechanical/Sump Room

These areas are off limits to all except for Staff and authorized persons. Among those authorized are the designated pebblers (see §7 Game Play).

6. LEAGUES

i. Season start

The season is expected to begin Sunday, September 27th. This date is subject to change.

ii. Leagues available

We are aiming to run the regular club leagues as per normal scheduling pending membership numbers.

iii. Practice ice

Fixed schedule ice times will be available to book by members for practice. This will allow the Club to know which members are present, when they are there, and to ensure that proper sanitization procedures are followed. Practicing outside of these times is prohibited this season until further notice. The prohibition on non-member curlers also applies to practice times.

7. GAME PLAY

Curling Quebec and Curling Canada have developed Common Rules which we have adapted to be followed by all Leagues:

1. Players are asked to enter the club no more than 20 minutes before game start (See also §5v Entering, Leaving, Traffic Flow);
2. Arrive in proper curling attire, ready to curl. Access to the locker rooms will be limited;
3. Enter the club by the current rear door (the 'new entrance') using a keypad access code to be provided;
4. Clean hands upon arrival at the club (disinfection station will be available at the new entrance);
5. Leave your outdoor footwear at the new entrance;
6. Place coats / bags at your chairs at the corresponding draw table;
7. Put on curling shoes at your chair;
8. Stretch in the designated area;
9. Curlers must provide their own (filled) water bottles for their game – there will be no ability to fill bottles at the club;
10. No shared use of equipment – each player must have his/her own broom, stabilizer, delivery device. Most club equipment has been removed. A limited number of used brooms (requiring a new head) and new stabilizers will be available for purchase at reduced cost;
11. Members must wear masks at all times while curling. It is recommended that members limit their exertion due to the potential breathing restriction of wearing a mask.

EARLY WEEKNIGHT DRAW:

12. Prior to the draw, assuming that the ice is already pebbled, a designated person will nip the ice sheets. That person will use a wipe to sanitize the nipper handle before and after use;
13. The corn broom, shovel and dustpan handles will be similarly disinfected;
14. The designated person nipping the ice will have opened the shed door by activating the door holder thus avoiding other players from having to touch the door;
15. At approximately 5 minutes before game time, players enter the ice shed with Sheet 3 first, then Sheet 2 and finally Sheet 1. The final person will release the ice shed door to close it;
16. Place personal items (purses, phones, water bottles) in the designated spots on the shelf;
17. Instead of a handshake, give a verbal "good game" or tap brooms to start the game;
18. Practice slides are allowed while respecting physical distancing;
19. Do not use coins to decide the last stone advantage in the first end. Many other options are available including even/odd last integer of stopwatch clicked when someone says stop. The 'Flip' and colour choice should be done before entering ice shed so that teams know which rocks are theirs;
20. Loser of the 'flip' picks rock colour and players will stand on that side (left or right) of the sheet for the duration of the game; Players stay on the same side of the sheet that is designated after the coin 'flip';
21. To eliminate the need to clean the scoreboard numbers, scoring will be done on whiteboards installed at the clock end. Thirds will have individual dry-erase markers provided – try not to lose them!
22. Thirds who call for a measure will use wipes to sanitize the measuring device before use;

CURLING CANADA MODIFIED GAME PLAY

23. One sweeper only on all delivered stones. No relaying (no second sweeper taking over halfway down the sheet). The person in charge of the house is not allowed to sweep under any circumstances. Note that the single sweeper can sweep on either side of the rock according to the shot called as they are the only person following the stone down the ice;
24. The skip or vice skip (not both) of the non-delivering team must stand on the backboards or no closer than the hack until the other team is finished playing and has relinquished control of the house. They are not allowed to sweep any stones;
25. No player may sweep any stones (of either colour) set in motion by the delivering team;
26. The two sweepers of the non-delivering team should be positioned on the new centre line marks on the ice while the other team is throwing. The player of the non-delivering team whose turn it is next to deliver should be positioned at the hogline on the same side as the two sweepers on the same team (See Appendix);
27. The Skip of the delivering team has control of the house. The player whose turn it is to deliver is in the hack. The non-sweeping player is on the backboards. The sweeping player is at the T-Line;
28. Once the stone has been released, the player who delivered the stone proceeds down the centre line of the ice until the halfway point to the marking or to the hog line if it is their turn next;
29. After the stone comes to rest, the sweeper proceeds to the halfway markings. The non-sweeper travels to the halfway mark or the hog line depending on their turn to deliver or not;
30. Skips/vices can continue to capture scattered rocks to stop them from entering neighbouring sheets – they can use feet and brooms;
31. In the event of a tie, use a skip's rock draw to the button tie breaker;

END OF GAME

32. All stones are returned in numerical order;
33. The losing third from each sheet uses a wipe as provided in the ice shed to clean the handle of the dust mop and sweep the ice clean in preparation for the next draw;
34. The winning third uses a wipe as provided to clean the window ledge and ensure the back-house area is clean and ready for the next draw;
35. The first player to leave the ice shall use the provided door holder to ensure the door to the ice shed remains open for all other players. The last player to leave the ice shall release the door allowing it to close;
36. Players proceed to the designated post game table if they are staying. Maintain physical separation while moving through the ice shed and lounge as best as possible;

LATE WEEKNIGHT DRAW

37. As the ice becomes available (the previous losing third has swept the ice), a volunteer uses a wipe as provided in the mechanical room to clean the pebble can prior to filling it. They proceed to pebble the ice as each sheet becomes available;
38. The nipper, corn broom and dust bin are used as per the Early Draw;
39. Other pre-game, game play and end of game protocols as per the Early Draw.

8. SOCIALIZING – POST GAME

Teams are welcome to stay after their game and enjoy the post-game comradery. Tables will be assigned to sheets and spaced to ensure physical distancing. Seating at a table will not be pre-determined - the two teams can determine who sits adjacent to whom. However, this social time will need to be limited to ensure that the Bar Staff have time to clean and sanitize tables without members present to prepare them for the players on the late draw to occupy. We are recommending that the traditional winners-buy-losers a drink be suspended for the season to simplify the ordering process. Of course, there is no obligation for any member to remain after the game should they not be comfortable doing so.

9. BAR OPERATIONS

i. Operation

Under the direction of the Club Manager, the Bar Staff will be asked to follow the following guidelines in operating the bar:

- At opening of the bar, wipe down all surfaces – door knobs, cash register, faucets, draught taps, fridge handles etc.
- Put on mask and face shield (PPE)
- Put out hand sanitizer and a spray disinfectant
- Maintain physical distancing at all times

ii. Protection

- A Plexiglas divider will be installed on the bar counter with a cut-out to pass items (the debit machine, single serving food items) through as required.

iii. Bar Services and Food

- Standard practice is that all glass ware and dishes will be washed and sanitized.
- Personal snack items (Single serving size of chips, chocolate bars etc.) will continue to be offered for purchase.
- We will create a pre-game ordering system for the draws. The Bar Staff will deliver your order to your table after you are seated. Bar Staff will wash hands before and after touching any glass wear.
- Bar Staff will wear disposable/washable gloves to collect used glassware and other waste. This is done to protect the Staff.

iv. Payments

- Cash will not be used this season for payments.
- Members in good standing will continue to be permitted to use chits which are reconciled monthly. To avoid potential contamination and the need to disinfect pens, we will forego the requirement for signatures on chits this season – members can reconcile monthly invoices by e-transfer (preferred) or cheque. Bar Staff will prepare the chits; as per normal procedures, these are kept by the Manager as a record of purchases made and for invoicing purposes.
- The debit machine will be sanitized by the bar staff after every use

v. Restrictions

- Other than the cleaning routines, the Bar Staff cannot leave the bar except to restock bar, deliver drinks or for a personal break. Upon return, he/she must wash hands.
- No members are allowed behind the bar to pour drinks or assist.
- Once a table is cleared, the table and chairs must be sanitized and cannot be used for 10 minutes.

vi. Bar Closing

Prior to closing, Staff will:

- Wipe down any tables and chairs that were in use at closing.
- Wipe down all bar surfaces.
- Lock up and leave. Staff will keep their PPE with them (not left at the club).

10. APPENDIX – POSITIONING DURING PLAY



Non-Delivering Team

- The two sweepers of the non-delivering team should be positioned on markings near the centre of the sheet while the other team is throwing. The player of the non-delivering team whose turn it is next to deliver should be positioned at the hogline on the same side as the two sweepers. The Skip (or Vice-Skip) will stand on the backboards but no closer than the hack.

Delivering Team

- The Skip has control of the house. The player whose turn it is to deliver is in the hack. The non-sweeping player is on the backboards. The sweeping player is at the T-Line. Once the stone has been released, the player who delivered the stone proceeds down the centre-line of the ice until the halfway point to the marking or to the hog line if it is their turn next. After the stone comes to rest, the sweeper proceeds to the halfway markings. The non-sweeper travels to the halfway mark or the hog line depending on their turn to deliver or not.