



General Rules of Curling

Wednesday Ladies League

These rules of curling have been taken from the Canadian Curling Association. They have been paraphrased to apply to our Wednesday night curling league. For full rules and regulations please visit the website. (www.curling.ca/learn_to_curl/about_curling/rules.asp)

Position of Players

Members of the non-delivering team:

- a) Only the skip and vice-skip may be positioned inside the hogline at the playing end (house end) and shall position themselves behind the back line when the delivering team is in the process of delivery. Both players shall be motionless with their brooms positioned in a manner not to interfere with or distract the attention of the player who is in the process of delivery.
- b) One player may take a stationary position by the backboard at the delivering end and to the side of the sheet. The player shall remain silent and motionless when the delivering team player is in the process of delivery.
- c) The players not taking these positions shall position themselves between the hoglines and to the extreme sides of the sheet when the opposing team is delivering a stone. The players positioned in this area shall remain in single file when the delivering team player is in the process of delivery.
- d) The non-delivering team members shall not take any position or cause such motion that would obstruct, interfere with or distract any member of the delivering team.

Members of the delivering team:

- a) The skip or vice-skip shall be positioned inside the hogline and on the ice surface of the playing end while their team is in the process of delivery. They shall have choice of position for the purpose of directing play.
- b) The delivery may be recommenced if the player's body or equipment reaches the tee line providing the stone does not.
- c) Each player shall be ready to deliver when his/her turn comes.
- d) If a player delivers a stone belonging to the opposing team, a stone belonging to his/her team shall be put in its place.

- e) A delivered stone or stone set in motion shall not be touched by any player, equipment or personal belongings of the team to which it belongs.

Burnt Rocks

Penalty: If the violation occurs after the stone has been released, all stones shall be allowed to come to rest before any action is taken. The non-offending team may then remove the touched stone from play and replace all affected stones as close as possible to their original positions unless they select either of these alternative options:

- i) allowing the play to stand; or
- ii) placing the touched stone and all stones it would have affected where they would have come to rest had the violation not occurred. This option is only applicable where the violation occurred inside the hogline at the end of play or involved a stone considered to be in play.

If there is any question as to which stone(s) would have been closer to the tee had the violation not occurred, the stone(s) that was affected or would have been affected by the delivered stone or stone set in motion shall be positioned in favor of the non-offending team.

The delivering team shall prevent a stationary stone(s) from being displaced by a stone(s) that is deflected from a divider or from a stationary stone on another sheet.

Sweeping/Brushing

Between the tee lines, all members of the delivering team may sweep/brush any of their team's stones that have been delivered or set in motion.

Only the skip or vice-skip of the non-delivering team may sweep/brush their team's stone(s) after it is set in motion.

Behind the tee line, only one player from each team may sweep/brush at one time. This may be the skip or vice-skip of either team or the lead or second of the delivering team.

The only time a lead or second of the delivering team may sweep/brush behind the tee line is when sweeping/brushing his/her team's delivered stone or any stone set in motion.

Behind the tee line, the delivering team shall have first privilege of sweeping/brushing any stone. If their choice is not to sweep/brush, they

shall not obstruct or prevent the non-delivering skip or vice skip from sweeping/brushing the stone.

An opponent's delivered stone or stone set in motion shall not be swept/brushed until it reaches the farther tee line and sweeping/brushing shall only take place behind the tee line.

The sweeping/brushing motion shall be from side to side.

Free Guard Zone

Any stationary stone(s) belonging to the opposition that is located in the free guard zone cannot be knocked out-of-play by the delivering team prior to the delivery of the 5th stone of the end.

Penalty: A stone that is delivered prior to the 5th stone of the end that results in an opposition stone being moved from the free guard zone, either directly or indirectly, to an out-of-play position shall result in the delivered stone being removed from play and any other stone if moved being replaced as close as possible to its original position.

You may move your own stone from the free guard zone or remove your own stone from the free guard zone, providing you do not cause an opposition stone to be moved from the free guard zone to an out-of-play position.

Rocks in Play

A stone which comes to rest biting the hogline, is considered "out of play".

A stone which crosses the back line but, when stopping, spins such that it comes to rest biting the back line, is considered "in play".

A stone that touches a sideline, hits a divider or comes to rest biting a sideline shall be removed immediately from play.

An end shall be decided when the skips or vice-skips in charge of the house at the time agree upon the score for the end. (Leads and Seconds should not be near the house at this time)

If two or more stones are tied as determined by measuring, then none of the tied stones shall count and only stones closer to the tee than the tied stones shall be eligible to be counted. If the tied stones are to determine which team shall count in that end, the end shall be considered blank.

If a stone(s) which may have affected the points scored in an end is moved prior to the skips or vice-skips deciding the score, the offending team shall forfeit the point(s) involved.

Measuring rocks

Measurements shall be taken from the tee to the closest part of the stone. No physical device to aid visual observation shall be used in measuring prior to the last stone delivered in the end coming to rest.

Decisions on whether a stone is in or out of play at the hogline, sidelines and back line shall be visual.

If the opposing skips cannot agree, they may request a non-partisan third party to render a decision.

A skip may conduct a measurement when a stone is located on the back line in proximity to the centre line (6:00 position) to confirm if the stone is in or out of play. The 6 foot (1.83 metres) measuring stick shall be used.

If two or more stones are so close to the tee that a measuring device cannot be used, and if a visual comparison cannot determine which stone is closest to the tee, the stones shall be considered tied. If these stones were to determine who counted in the end, the end shall be considered blank.

Spares

Spares are to enter at lead position regardless of which team member they are replacing. All other team members will move up one position. (eg. lead moves to second, second moves to vice).

If sparing for a skip, the spare will be allowed to skip without permission from the opposing team, but should first ask the vice if they would like to move up to the skip position and the spare can then play vice).

However, in the case of a new lead or second who feels uncomfortable moving up a position, a spare may step in at second or vice with permission from the opposing team.

(We try to encourage all curlers to move up a position to give them a chance to try new positions)

If a player is late for the game, she may enter an end already in progress providing she is able to deliver a stone in the team's established position.