

# ALBERNI VALLEY CURLING CLUB

## Covid Operating Guidelines

### 2020/2021 Season

#### Overview

Due to the ongoing pandemic and current public health orders, club operations this season will be subject to the guidelines outlined in this document. The 2020/2021 season will run from November 2, 2020 to April 1, 2021 with a two-week holiday break scheduled for December 18, 2020 to January 3, 2021.

The club will operate as a closed facility and will be available to members only. The facility is subject to the current maximum of no more than 50 people gathered at one location and a full draw constitutes 48 participants. Viewing areas are temporarily closed and friends/family providing transportation will need to wait in the parking lot.

Masks must be worn in all common areas on the lower level of the facility and when entering the ice surface. During game play, the playing area offers numerous opportunities for appropriate physical distancing and masks do not need to be worn unless physical distancing requirements can not be met.

The facility will open for designated leagues only 15 minutes prior to each scheduled game time and doors will remain open for 30 minutes. A doorbell has been installed for late arrivals.

Monday Daytime League	945am – 1015am
Monday Mixed League	645pm – 715pm
Wednesday Daytime League	945am – 1015am
Wednesday Men's League	645pm – 715pm
Thursday Ladies League	645pm – 715pm

A sanitizer station will be positioned at the entrance of the club and must be used by anyone entering the building. A volunteer host will be on hand at each game to confirm attendance for contact tracing purposes and to complete a required Curl BC health declaration for each participant. Anyone feeling sick should not attend.

Additional sessions may be offered to members from time to time as guidelines permit.

## **Registration**

Registration will be available online at [www.albernicurling.com](http://www.albernicurling.com) until October 15th and will offer the following choices with the same fee structure as last season.

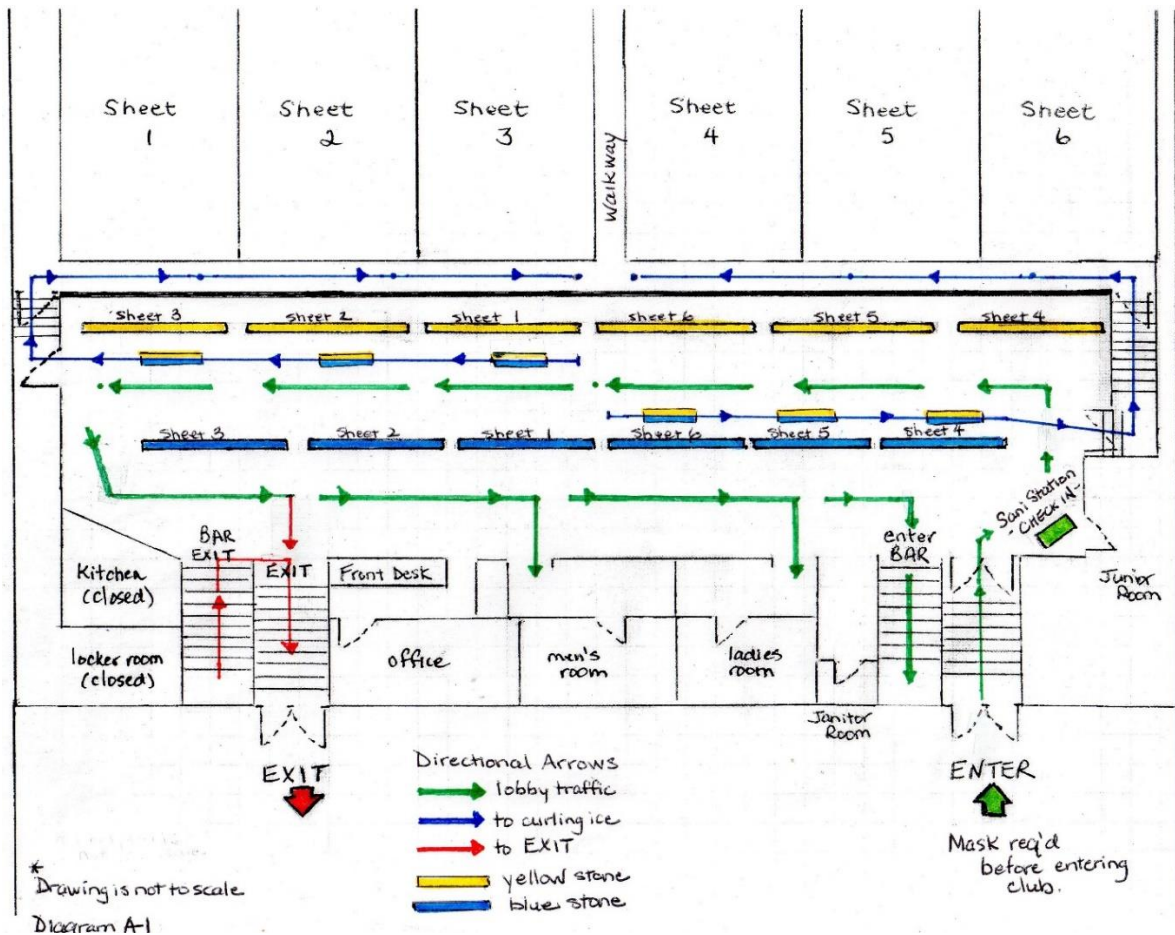
- \$400 Full Member (unlimited curling)
- \$300 Single League/Once a week Member (single league or once per week play)
- \$135 Junior Member (unlimited curling within leagues)
- \$50 Non-curling/Volunteer Member (may participate from time to time at \$15 per play)

All member fees include curling dues, club improvement assessment, Curl BC membership and applicable taxes.

Electronic payment options will be made available and each participant will be required to agree to the following participant agreement. A signed waiver must also be completed as required for all CURL BC members.

- I agree to stay home if feeling sick, and remain away from the club for 14 days if experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- I agree to sanitize my hands upon entering the facility using sanitizer stations provided.
- I agree to follow physical distancing protocols by staying at least 2m from others when possible and I agree to wear a mask in the common areas of the rink outside of the playing surface or in any capacity where physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- I agree to sanitize the equipment (rocks) used throughout my game with the approved cleaning products provided by the club
- I agree to not share any equipment during play.
- I agree to abide by all of my Clubs COVID-19 Policies and Guidelines and understand that, that I may be asked to leave the club for up to 14 days to help protect myself and others around me if I do not abide by the aforementioned policies/guidelines.
- I acknowledge that continued abuse of the policies and/or guidelines may result in suspension of my club membership.
- I acknowledge that there are risks associated with entering club facilities and/or participating in club activities, and that the measures taken by the club and participants, including those set out above and under the COVID-19 Response Plan and Return to Sport Protocols, may not entirely eliminate those risks.

## Building layout and operating regulations



Sanitizing stations must be used when entering the building and after using washroom facilities

The lower locker rooms will be closed for the duration of the season and members will need to bring equipment to each game and then store at home. Members are also asked to be dressed appropriately for play as washroom facilities are not suitable for changing to a large degree. Benches to change footwear have been provided and are assigned based on sheet designation.

The club will be asking all members to attend a scheduled session prior to the season start to access lockers and retrieve equipment. Members can also tour the building to review operating guidelines and lessen confusion once leagues begin. All lockers will remain in place 'as is' for the remainder of the season. Non-curling members may leave equipment in place until next season if desired.

The designated smoking area is assigned as before near the front entrance. As a reminder, the fire escape route at the north end of the upper lounge is not a designated smoking area.

## **On ice protocol and rules**

Given the ever-changing health environment, the rules of play presented are currently reflective of Curl BC/ViaSport approved protocol for Phase 3 (summary below). Should this designation be changed over the course of the season, or updated information becomes available, playing rules may be adjusted.

Schedules will be provided to all skips. Sheets of play, and rock color will be pre-assigned. Please ensure you are aware of your assignment so you can proceed to the designated changing area on arrival. Hammer will continue to be determined by coin toss (or other agreed upon method of decision) and will take place PRIOR to going on the ice.

When the buzzer sounds to start play – teams on sheets 4,5 and 6 will enter the playing area from the north entrance in assigned order to avoid congestion in stairways and at the home end before a game gets underway. Teams on sheets 3, 2 and 1 will enter through the south stairway.

Each team must utilize sanitizing materials provided to clean rock handles prior to game play. Recommended best practice is that one member per team sanitize all rocks of that colour to ensure the process can be completed quickly.

Handshakes are not required, a verbal ‘good game’ will be sufficient and appropriate.

All games will be 8 ends unless otherwise determined by the two opponents.

Wall scoreboards will not be used to eliminate an additional point of touch and cleaning. Scoring will be completed on paper or on an electronic device during each game by the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Final outcomes must be reported to the club to confirm standings.

When cleaning the bottom of your rock before delivery, use your broom not gloved or bare hands. At the completion of each end, rocks should be removed from the house using brooms and/or feet, not hands. Avoid contact with handles of rocks other than your own.

If the measuring stick is used, please all sanitize points of contact before use and when returning to storage. Please use the ‘single use’ poly gloves provided rather than your curling gloves.

The water fountain is closed – please bring bottled water.

Under no circumstances can equipment be shared. All participants must use their own brooms and throwing assist device and any other related items such as grippers and sliders must be for personal use only. The club will make current equipment inventory available for use this season with a damage deposit. Further the club will offer opportunities to join in equipment orders for anyone who wishes to purchase new items. Further details will be available through the registration link and future member communications. Individuals can order online at anytime on their own however the club may be able to offer preferred pricing through group purchasing.



## MODIFIED FOUR PERSON CURLING RULES FOR PHASE 2 AND 3

### BASIC MODIFICATIONS

- Physical distancing must be maintained at all times between all players NO EXCEPTIONS
- Only 3 teammates are involved in each stone delivered.
  - 1 calling line
  - 1 sweeping
  - 1 delivered the stone
  - 1 sitting out and standing on the designated physical distance marker
- A Sweeper may carry their OWN team's rock the full distance of the sheet.
- The Non-delivering team CANNOT sweep the opponents rock once it crosses the T-line
- Only the Skip OR third may be standing on the backboard or hack area when the opposition has control of the house. The other player (skip or 3<sup>rd</sup>) must wait at the physical distancing marker at the hogline closest to the end of play.
- When a team has control of the house, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Skip can discuss a shot from a 2m distance

#### Example:

- After the third's last stone has been delivered, they may wait at the physical distancing marker on the hogline closest to the end of play until their team regains control of the house.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> may then discuss the shot with the skip from a 2m distance
- The skip will leave to throw their stone and then wait on the physical distancing marker at the hogline until their team regains control of the house. The third will wait on the backgrounds while the opposition has control of the rings.

## **Lounge operating guidelines**

The Lounge will be open for members only from 8pm until 1030pm on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings with the last service of alcohol no later than 10pm. All members must be out of the facility by 1030pm under current BC Liquor regulations.

In order to ensure all regulations are met and patrons served in a safe manner the club is required to offer table service, the walk- up bar will be closed.

The club will employ a paid server.

Table layout will meet physical distancing requirements and as such cannot be moved. The maximum number of people per table is 6. Masks must be worn entering and exiting the area or when using the washroom but are not required while at your table.

The concession and kitchen facilities will remain temporarily closed. Use of these facilities will require an operating outline specific to each function and must meet Provincial Health Office standards and expectations.

## **Volunteers**

The club is intending to operate with reduced expenses this season so as not to incur losses.

We will continue to pay a fee for ice installation and maintenance as well as Janitorial services in addition the newly added Bar Server. All other positions will require volunteer support including ongoing ice/building maintenance, office coverage, administrative duties and game night coordinators.

We fully appreciate that some members will be able to provide more time than others to the club but we expect that everyone will offer support in some capacity in order to keep our club vibrant for many years to come.