Curl BC-Wheelchair Curling Ice Players Assistant Manual

1. **Ice Player Assistant (**IPA**) needs for daily on ice Duties:**
* Clean shoes- All IPAs must have clean shoes not worn outside. After arriving at the arena should change shoes using the shoes for duties on ice only (curling shoes or gym shoes - ok)
* Dress warm and in uniform, gloves but cleaning stones is a very physical job
* Black trousers if not issued by host. No jeans allowed on ice.
* If hat is worn to match uniform and no visible large logo.
* Arrival for cleaning of Wheelchairs at ICE cleaning station 1hr 15 min prior to game time.
* Arrive for your IPA duty on time 1 hour prior to game time. Sign in with supervisor of Volunteers. Pick up equipment: Cloth to clean stones, Delivery order card and pen.
* Please - **Due to allergies of Players and Officials please refrain from the use of perfume or cologne.**

**2. Duties of the Ice Player Assistant- at the playing end (House).**

* Stand to the side of the sheet (out of the delivering players sight line, and scoreboard.) near the corner where the out-of-play stones will be sorted. Be aware of the player ready to deliver and remain still and quiet.
* If asked to comment on any situation play/position of stones, make it clear it is not your role direct them to GU.
* Catch any stones that cross the backline and assist with removal of stones out of play (not clearing the hog-line, out of play at sideline) when asked by the delivering team or Game Umpire. Organize stones in corner- two neat parallel lines with handles pointing straight up the ice.
* If a takeout shot is being played move forward in anticipation of a stone going to an adjacent sheet or rebounding back into play
* Line up stones in delivery order so stones can be placed forward in order when end is over. You can assume team with last stone will score, but it might change. Place the color of the stones with the hammer in the next end close to the boards. When the score is decided and the go ahead is given to clear the stones, the stones can then be moved.
* The IPA’s can assist the teams when given the cue to help clear the stones from persons in charge of the house or GU. The stones are placed by the IPAs into the throwing order for each team. When clearing of the stones from the house they should be moved to the side just in front of the T line.
* If you see anything that players “miss” (eg stone touches a wheel) it is not your duty to bring to their attention but you can mention it to the GU.
* If teams leave the house area after the end is completed without helping or calling for the IPAs assistant, the IPAs should start by placing the stones from the back out of play area to the delivery position. It is the responsibility of both teams to remove the stones in the house area.

DO NOT MOVE ANY STONES IN THE HOUSE, IF A MEASURE HAS BEEN CALLED FOR. Step back and wait for direction from the game umpire.

 **3. Duties of Ice Players Assistant at the Throwing end**

* Clean the stone at the side of the sheet making sure you do not bruise the ice with the striking edge of the stone. Use your foot or hand to brace the stone when you turn it over. Taking some of the weight off the striking edge. (some find it easier if open part of handle is away from body and handle can then be lifted)
* Clean the stone with a micro-fibre cloth. Fold cloth into 4 and if any dirt is picked up refold the dirty side in and when you get a chance go to the trash can to shake and brush off the dirt.
* Clean the running edge of the stone at the side of the sheet. (never in the delivery zone) Sometimes the handles become sticky due to tape on delivery sticks you should wipe the handle after stone is placed in the delivery zone.
* After cleaning stone be sure to wipe area where the stone was turned over to clean
* When stone is in moved to the delivery position watch for any debris in the path and wipe that area if needed
* In placing a stone for a player, the team will indicate or tell you where they would like you to place stone. Teams have the option to clean and place their own stones. They will clean their stone at the side of the sheet in the area you would clean give them some room.
* Slide the stone to the area the player will deliver from and place it near the front of their wheelchair front wheel. If you feel you have picked up some debris after the stone is cleaned take it back to the side and re-do the cleaning.
* Move back to the side of the sheet and behind the thrower making sure you are quiet and still when they are getting ready to deliver.
* Placing of stones for the next player to deliver. Place the stone when the delivered stone is approximately 3- 5 ft over the hog line at the delivery end. Once the stone is moving down the sheet the next thrower can move into position to prepare to set up.
* Delivery teams watching their stones should move forward out of the delivery zone and not restrict the set-up area for the next thrower. The IPA should move the stone into position for the next thrower to remind the thrower to exit the delivery zone.
* The IPA moves to playing end after the last stone of the end is delivered. Helping to sort stones at the completion of the end. Then they return to their assigned end.

**Turn round between ends**  60 seconds. The break time will start when the end is completed, and the score has been decided by the teams and all counting stones have been removed from the rings. We are working with 2 IPA assistants on each sheet and at the completion of an end both IPA’s will help with moving the stones into the delivery order in preparation for the next end. The most important job is to make sure the **1st stone of each** **end is ready cleaned and placed in position** (30 sec left on breaktime) **for the team and they are not waiting for you to clean and place the stone.** The team scoring, plays the first stone in the next end.

IPAs can continue to sort stones after placing the first stone but make sure after the start of play you do not to distract the throwing player by banging stones or talking. Line up the stones with the team stone color who are throwing the 1st stone of the end closest to the centre line. The team throwing last stone of the end has their stones closest to the foam. (Use the throwing order cards to get the order correct) The cards are reversible, and it makes the order easy for someone helping if the card is placed on the sideboard as soon as you know who scored. Make sure card is placed with the color of stone line up for team throwing first stone of the end.

One assistant would then return to the playing end to remove stones and assist the skips at the playing end. IPAs work together to sort the stones into the delivery order at the completion of each end.

**If a team deliver from in front of the house.** The stones are lined up from the tee line forward with all handles pointing straight up the ice. The last stone thrown in the end is touching the tee line, with all other stones in order of delivery.

**If a team delivers from inside the house** and the other team delivers from in front of the house. The stones are lined up, so you are behind the site of the player throwing within the house.

**4. Times for Teams and IPA’s to move into the Field of play:**

**1st Practice teams enter no sooner than 10 min prior to the scheduled time.** The cue is given only when the ice tech gives the signal the ice is ready.

**2nd Practice teams enter** the FOP when 1st practice teams are on the ice. 2nd practice teams can be on the backboard areato watch the 1st practice team throwing stones. Keep to the back behind the sheet you will be working.

**IPA’s enter FOP** when 2nd practice teams are on the ice for their practice.

The Game Umpire for your sheet will introduce themselves and help you to get the Delivery orders for your cards.

After 1st practice teams are off the ice on backboard, they will give you their Delivery order. You should move the 1st practice stones to the right corner of the ice and put them in the delivery order,

2nd practice teams will give order after their practice.

WCF, placement of the stones is to be in two neat single rows, handles all turned to straight position. Teams throwing first in the end have their stones placed closest to the center line on the right side of the sheet. Team with the last stone in the end have the stones closet to the sideline. Arrange the stones so the last stones to be delivered is just touching the tee line.

 **5. Getting ready for the Start of the game.**

After the second practice ice mopped, light laser show begins (Paralympics) followed by introductions of teams playing on each sheet. Have all stones ready and lined up in order in the corner. **Sometimes you will need to change the line up of the stone handle colors eg. Yellow and Red prior to the Start of the game. The line up of stones to match the team throwing the first stone of the game. LSD winner has last stone in first end.** All Game umpires and IPA will exit FOP paly during team introductions. Exit at A gate. As soon as introductions end go straight to your sheet to get the **stones moved to delivery position line up** for the start of the game.

The most efficient way to move stones up to delivery area is to have a thrower and a catcher. Place the hammer team against the foam and in order of delivery 1-2 -3-4-5-6-7-8 then the other color order when moving the stone into position set the handle to the straight handle position with a quick twist. Last stones of the skips should be on the tee line and do not move stones up. This will give a different path for the stones to the delivery zone and improve any track marks during the game.

Pre-Game practice is 9 min. for each team followed by 2 players throwing a stone for the Last Stone Draw to give one of the teams’ last stone in the first end. The last stone in the first end is decided after the Last Stone Draw measures for the team having 2nd practice. Look to score board to see which team has won the LSD.

The hammer is posted on the score board after the LSD measure of the 2nd practice and the team with the hammer has their stones closest to the side boards.

* Game will begin after both teams have practiced and introductions of playing teams are announced. The announcement “Games will begin in 1 minute. “
* IPAs do not help teams any pregame or pre-event practice. Teams will clean and sort their own stones for all practices.

**6. Thinking Time: for your information**

8 End games Game time 38 minutes (per team) Extra end is 6 minutes (per team)

Each team has one- 60 second Time outs- during the game and one additional time out in an extra end. This call is made from the teams to the game umpires. IPAs can get the attention of the game umpire if a team is asking for a Time out with a hand signal "T". When a time out is called move the stone in the delivery zone to the side of the sheet and place the stone into delivery position when 30 seconds is left on the clock or before if the team is getting set up to return to play.

* IPAs – must have the **first stone of the game** ready when the official calls for the games can begin. No clock is running when the stone is in motion after it reaches the nearer hog-line
* Thinking time is when the teams are deciding on their next shot and the time it takes to delivering the stone to the nearer hog line.
* Between ends- turn around time is 60 seconds It is important to get the first stone of the end cleaned and in the delivery zone ready for the team to set up in preparation to throw the first stone of the end when the 1 min. countdown is 0.

**4th end break** – 5 min

* Stones not moved forward until the ice is cleaned during the mid game break.
* IPAs must have the first stone in the delivery position after the ice has been cleaned and prior to the 5 min. count down expiration. (30 sec. before start)
* IPA will have an opportunity for a short break after the 4th end but must watch the countdown clock so they will be returned and in position when the team is ready to throw. (they can use a stopwatch to keep track of the break time remaining)

**On ice training: review:**

**7. On Ice Training Time**- required for IPA’s to practice turning stones for cleaning**.**

**8. Set up the Playing end-** final stone of an end, score given to GU and then have 2 IPA assist to sort stones for start of next end and give them 60 seconds. They will realize it has to be done quickly.