

OFFICIAL GUIDE FOR QUALIFIER AND BC CHAMPIONSHIPS

This guide contains the information teams need to prepare their competitors, coaches and chaperones for a 2024 Qualifier or for a 2024 BC Curling Championship. It remains the responsibility of the competitors and coaches to read and adhere to all policies contained in the most recent publication of this document on the Curl BC website. Any questions should be directed to the Curl BC office

This document must be used in conjunction with the current version of the Curling Canada Rules for Officiated Play. Where the two documents differ, this guide will supersede the Curling Canada Rules for Officiated Play.

This guide contains the following sections:

1. Curl BC General Rules.
2. Curl BC Category Specific Rules.
3. Curl BC Competitor Guide.
4. Curl BC Team Briefing Templates



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Curl BC General Rules
2023-24

1. Application

a. These rules apply to:

All Curl BC zones (previously referred to as regions) and member facilities; and Curlers participating in competitions governed by Curl BC.

b. These Curl BC General Rules (the “Curl BC General Rules”) take precedence over the Curling Canada Rules for Officiated Play (“Curling Canada Rules”).

c. A Team Briefing (the “team briefing”) and Competitors’ Guide (the “competitor guide”) is issued for each season as an appendix to the Curl BC General Rules and Category Specific Rules, the Team Briefing and/or Competitor Guide shall form an integral part of the Curl BC Rules for the event and shall be enforceable as part of the Curl BC General Rules. Where the Team Briefing or Competitor Guide contradicts the Curl BC General Rules, the Curl BC General Rules shall take precedence.

2. Definitions

“Birthright player” means a curler who is eligible to play in a Member Association by virtue of having been born in the geographic boundaries of the Member Association and who is not primarily resident in the Member Association of his or her birthplace; a birthright player is only eligible to take part in the men’s and women’s categories in the geographic boundary they were born in.

“CEO” refers to the Curl BC Chief Executive Officer.

“Competitor Guide” is the supplementary information that is in alignment with the Curl BC General rules. Competitors, coaches and chaperones must follow these during any Curl BC competitive event.

“Free Agent” is a member in good standing of any Member Association of Curling Canada competing as a non-resident player in the Tournament of Hearts and the Brier. Free Agents are allowed to compete in the Tournament of Hearts and the Brier only (at any level of play)

“Current curling season” means the duration of a league or practice membership for which a curler has paid dues for the current year (September-April).

“good standing” in reference to a curler means:

- The full payment of all Curl BC member facility dues and league fees, and Curl BC affiliation fees.
- Full compliance with all Curl BC member facility policies for membership; and
- The absence of sanctions imposed by Curl BC or by a Curl BC member facility on the curler, including, but not limited to, prohibition from curling.

“good standing” in reference to a Member Facility means:

- Full payment of Curl BC affiliation fees for all registered curlers at the facility
- Provision of a list of all registered curlers at the facility
- The absence of sanctions imposed by the Curl BC Board of Directors on the facility

“LSD” refers to Last Stone Draw which is used to determine hammer in preliminary round games

“Member Association” means a provincial sport organization that is the governing body for curling within an individual province.

“Member Facilities” means curling clubs in British Columbia which have paid affiliation fees and provided a list of registered curlers to Curl BC on or before a playdown registration deadline. The singular “Member Facility” is similarly defined; “on or before” means prior to 11:59pm of the date mentioned.

“Resident” means British Columbia residency which can be verified by providing a minimum of three of the following four items by September 1st if requested:

- Current BC Driver’s license (or current travel picture ID)
- Current BC Care Card
- Letter from an employer confirming employment within BC
- Statement from landlord (if renting residence) or bank (if own residence) confirming residency within BC

“Zones” means the geographical areas of British Columbia as set out in the Curl BC Bylaws. These were formerly known as “regions”.

“Replacement player” means a curler who is brought onto a team to replace an original player for the rest of the competition and at succeeding levels of competition.

“Skip” is the person calling the game, regardless of order in which the person delivers rocks.

“Spare” means a curler who is brought onto a team to replace an original player for one game only.

“Thinking time” is the allocated time for each team to complete a game. The time clocks will operate while a team deliberates about choice of shot. The clock will stop when the delivering team’s stone reaches the nearer tee-line.

“Team briefing” is the document sent out by the chief umpire prior to each championship that must be in alignment with the Curl BC General Rules.

3. Playdown Eligibility

a. Curlers in good standing of a Member Facility that is in good standing may register and compete in a playdown competition leading to a BC Championship or Open BC Championship. If you are not a member of a facility in good standing with Curl BC, you will not be eligible to compete in a Curl BC competition.

b. Curlers are responsible for ensuring their individual status with their respective Member Facility or Member Facilities. Each curler shall meet the eligibility requirements of the individual competition as set out by Curl BC and Curling Canada.

c. A curler can only participate in one Member Association for playdown purposes, except for a Free Agent (Women’s Men’s) who is primarily resident in BC who is competing in one or more of the following categories within BC:

- Mixed
- Mixed Doubles
- Seniors
- Masters
- Club Championships
- Stick

d. Each curler shall be a primary resident in the province of British Columbia.

e. Teams competing for a berth in the Men’s (Brier) or the Women’s (Scotties) may have one Free Agent as a team member; or up to 5 curlers with BC birthrights. If a curler is seeking an exemption from the residency requirements, the curler shall submit their application to the CEO a minimum of 21 calendar days prior to the playdown registration deadline in which they are applying for.

- Residency exemption applications from curlers who are Free Agents or Birthright players must submit their application at least 30 days before the playdown registration deadline for the Men’s or the Women’s category respectively.
- All documents can be found at the Curl BC website in the “documents and forms for athletes” section of the Curl BC website as they are made available by Curling Canada. Refer to: <https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/documents-forms-athletes/>

- f. A curler who is granted a residency exemption is also exempted from the requirements set out in BC Rules 3d and 5c above.
- g. Curlers must meet the age requirements in any event category with such requirements and as set out in the category specific rules.
- h. If a curler in two playdowns has a time or date conflict, the curler must withdraw from the competition in which they have least advanced. The team will be permitted to use a replacement in accordance with Rule 5j. The player who has withdrawn will not be permitted to rejoin the team.
- i. If a team has a time or date conflict with two or more events, the team must withdraw from the playdown in which they have least advanced.
- j. If a curler is deemed to be ineligible to participate in a playdown prior to play in the zone qualifier, open playdown or open BC championship, the player's team may replace him/her with an eligible player in accordance with BC rule 5i or 5j
- k. If a BC Championship is held in one season and the National Championship is held in a following season, all team members of the BC Championship team must be members in good standing of a member facility in good standing in the season in which the National Championship is being held. In the Club Championship category, they must be members in good standing of the club the team represented during the season in which the BC Championship was held.
- l. A curler and/or team may be disqualified from competing further in a particular playdown category if the curler and/or team violates any of these eligibility provisions during and in succeeding levels of the competition.

4. Entries for Playdowns

- a. Entries to Curl BC playdowns must be received by the Curl BC office on or before the entry deadline established annually by Curl BC. Entry forms and all necessary documents must be completed in full. Entry deadlines will be posted on the Curl BC Website.
- b. By submitting an entry to a Curl BC playdown, each of the two, four or five players on the team and coach is signifying his/her commitment, if successful, to continue to compete at each succeeding level of playdowns (zone, open qualifier, provincial, national, world). In extreme circumstances, a request can be made to the Curl BC CEO (or designate) to change this roster, PRIOR to the start of each successive event, should a player be unable to continue onto the next level of competition.
- c. Once you have qualified or the BC Champion has been determined, no more than one player of that team may be substituted for the next level of competition. In the case where a BC Champion cannot field a team, the runner-up team shall represent BC at the National Championship (adhering to only one player substitution). The Curl BC CEO may appoint a team for the National Championship comprised of members from the BC Champion and runner up if neither the Champion nor runner-up team is available.
- d. Entry fees for playdowns will be determined annually by Curl BC.
- e. Full payment of entry fees including competitor fees must accompany playdown entry.
- f. Entry fees **WILL NOT** be refunded after the entry deadline, should the team withdraw. If a team withdraws from the competition before the registration deadline, a processing fee will be deducted from that team's original fee.

5. General Competition Rules

- a. Curling Canada Rules for Officiated Play shall apply except when superseded by the Curl BC General Rules.
- b. Any changes to team personnel after submission of the entry but prior to the start of the competition must be communicated to the Curl BC staff member in charge of competitions. Replacement or substitute players must submit all required documentation to the Curl BC Office prior to the competition. Forms cannot be submitted at events, they must be submitted electronically.
- c. Teams may be comprised of any eligible player from any zone in the Province. The exception to this is the BC Winter Games where athletes all must reside in the same zone.

d. For all of its programs and events and in accordance with Curl BC's Policy Registry –Safe Sport -Safe 4, Curl BC mandates the use of well-fitting, properly worn helmets, CSA or designed specifically for the sport of curling for all Individuals under the age of 12.

e. All members on a playdown team must be in good standing at an affiliated facility.

f. Last Stone Draw (LSD):

Following each team's pre-game practice, two identified competitors from each team will deliver the LSD after each pre-game practice.

The protocols for last stone draw are [here](#)

g. Time outs:

Each team may request two time-outs per game and one time-out during any extra end. The time-out will be a maximum of sixty seconds in length plus any designated travel time for the coach (or alternate) to access the field of play."

- The time-out will be 90 seconds in length. This includes travel time by the coach or alternate to access the field of play. Additional time may be added at events at the discretion of the Chief Umpire.
- The Coach or alternate (not both) whose team requested the time-out may access the end boards at the playing end but shall not access the playing surface unless walking to the back boards. The coach or alternate of the team who did not call the time-out will be allowed to meet with their team on the backboard at the home end only at the discretion of the Chief Umpire.
- U-18 and U-21 Championships have category specific timeout guidelines. See category guidelines for specifics

h. Multi Game Days:

Curlers should be prepared to curl more than two games per day if required. The maximum number of games a team will be required to play is three games per day.

i. Uniforms:

Participants at all playdown competitions shall be permitted to wear the advertising of their team sponsor(s), provided that such advertising is in good taste and does not conflict with Curl BC sponsors. Matching Jackets must be worn at all BC Championships. Specific guidelines within the 2023-24 *competitors guide for all events* will detail team attire. Curl BC crests (if provided) must be affixed to the upper left arm or upper left chest of the outer garment of each member of a team, in the same position for all members of the team. BC Championship sponsors' crests (if provided) are to be affixed to the upper right chest of the outer garment of the team uniform. Team sponsor advertising should not be placed in these locations and cannot be in conflict with Curl BC's sponsor categories who have exclusivity (Best Western, Belair Direct, Kruger, Connect Hearing, and Original 16), unless approved by the Curl BC CEO.

j. Fifth Players:

- If adding a 5th player, an additional fee of \$25.00 will be collected when registering via a separate curling i/o form.
- A curler may be a fifth player on any team for which they are eligible but if that curler has already competed at the same level of competition, they may only accompany a team as a fifth player to a more advanced level of competition;
- A fifth player may be declared on the team's entry form at registration or after any of the qualifying events, fifth players will pay the current Curling Canada competitor's fee (inclusive in the \$25.00 fee), and remain with the team until completion of that Curl BC competition;
- Fifth players may play in any game, at any position on the team, with the exception of the club championship category, where they must play lead.
- The expenses of the fifth player shall be the responsibility of the team.
- Teams continuing on to national events will be subject to all costs related to bringing a fifth player to the national championships with the exception of the wheelchair category.

k. Substitution/Spares:

- Should a competitor be unable to play due to injury, illness or extenuating circumstances, spares or replacements are permitted during playdowns leading to BC Championship events.
- Spares who play in one or more games at that playdown event will not be required to pay the Curling Canada competitor's fee unless they continue to the next level of play with the team. A spare must be an affiliated member of a club in good standing, and meet all eligibility requirements for the competition. Spares should be available to all teams in the event during a competition based on their availability.
- Replacement player: replaces a player for the remainder of an event, or if the player cannot rejoin the team, for subsequent levels of competition.

- A replacement player must be a member of an affiliated facility in good standing, must meet all eligibility requirements for the competition, and must pay the current Curling Canada competitor's fee.
- A spare or replacement may play any position on the team as long as they have not competed in the same level of competition in the same category in the current season (with the exception of the Club Championship category where spares or replacements must play lead at all times). However, a spare or replacement that played at the zone/ interzone level may be selected to play at a subsequent level of competition.
- If a spare or replacement comes into a game during an end in progress they will deliver the stones of the player they are replacing. At the completion of that end the team can redefine their team lineup.
- A team may choose to play with three players with the first two players each delivering three stones in each end. Under no circumstance may a team play with fewer than three players delivering stones. Exception: Mixed curling must always have four players on the ice with two men and two women alternating delivery of stones. Mixed Doubles must always have 2 players of opposite genders on the ice.

I. Mixed Team Makeup:

- The Player delivering last stone and the player acting as vice skip must be opposite genders.
- The following are the two (2) accepted team position/delivery rotations for 4-person mixed competitions:
 - Option A-** Male Lead (first thrower and sweeps delivered stones 3-8), female second (second thrower and sweeps stone 1-2 and 5-8) male third (third thrower and sweeps delivered stones 1-4) female skip (fourth thrower).
 - Option B-** Female lead (first thrower and sweeps delivered stones 3-8), male second (second thrower and sweeps stones 1-2 and 5-8) female third (third thrower and sweeps stones 1-4) male skip (fourth thrower).

m. The Chief Umpire must be advised a minimum 30 minutes before a game if a spare or replacement will be playing.

6. Coaches

a. To be eligible to coach at a playdown or BC Championship, a coach must follow Curl BC's Safe Sport policies, which are enacted to ensure that the curling experience for all participants is enjoyable and free from harm. Coaches are also required to take the NCCP Safe Sport online course that is available through *The Locker* at no charge. Curl BC's Safe sport policies create the conditions for a positive experience, and fosters positive behaviors. The policies can be found [here](#) as part of the *Policy Registry –Safe Sport Appendix B - Page 69 of 119*. In addition to this a coach:

1. shall be Certified Competition Coach at a minimum
2. shall be at least 21 years old as of Dec. 1 of the year prior to the national championship to accompany a U21/ Junior team to a Curl BC competition.
3. be at least 21 years old as of Dec. 1 of the year prior to the BC championship to accompany a U18 team to a Curl BC competition.
4. must have completed the NCCP Safe Sport Training in the past 5 years, or a refresher course in the past 5 years if the NCCP Safe Sport Module was completed more than 5 years ago; and
5. have submitted a valid, current criminal record check. The criminal record check shall be on file with Curl BC, or if submitting for the first time, be submitted by the registration deadline of the event(s) in which the coach is coaching.
6. be committed to following the "rule of 2" at all times while fulfilling the role of coach. Information on the Rule of 2 is available on Curl BC's Safe Sport page at <https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/safe-sport/>.

[*Individuals found to be not in compliance will be subject to Curl BC's Policy Registry-Safe Sport Safe-5: Complains and Discipline policy that can be found on pg. 103 of the board policy *](#)

*NCCP numbers for coaches and chaperones shall be provided during online event registration, so compliance can be checked by the Curl BC office no later than two weeks prior to the start of the event. *

The chaperone and listed coach shall be responsible for the team both on and off the ice during the entire competition

b. A team shall declare the name of its coach on the playdown entry form. Teams can declare **one** coach on an event registration form. A place will also be provided to provide the name of a team's substitute coach should they have one.

- c. If a change in coach is required during an event, the change shall be communicated by the team to the Chief Umpire at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the game. The replacement coach is responsible for ensuring that their NCCP number, Valid Criminal Record Check and current Safes Sport Training is on file with the Curl BC office a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the event taking place.
- d. Only the declared coach and 5th player can go out for pre-event practice, pre-game practices and be involved in fifth-end (or fourth-end) breaks
- e. The declared coach or 5th player (not both) can be involved in time-outs.
- f. Any team with a coach under 21 years of age, or a team under the age of majority (19 years old) participating in an adult event, shall also be accompanied by a chaperone over 21 years of age. All expenses relating to the chaperone shall be the responsibility of the chaperone/team. The chaperone shall not receive any awards, prizes or acknowledgment. Chaperones shall complete the online NCCP Safe Sport Module, have submitted a valid criminal record, and be committed to following the “rule of 2” at all times while fulfilling their role as chaperone. Valid Criminal Record Checks must be submitted to the Curl BC office no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the competition. The chaperone shall be responsible for the team both on and off the ice during the entire competition. NCCP numbers for chaperones shall be provided during online event registration so compliance is checked by the Curl BC office.
- g. Devices that send or receive a signal cannot be used by the registered coach or competitors in the field of play. This includes behind the sheet of play while observing. If using a device to track performances like “Curl Coach”, the device needs to be set to airplane mode during the game.

7. Playdowns Leading to BC Championships (BC Winter Games, Women’s, Men’s)

- Playdowns to determine BC Championship qualifiers shall be completed at least 14 calendar days prior to the start of their respective BC championship.
- Reallocation of Qualifying Berths:
 - In the case where there are insufficient entries in a qualifying event to produce the required number of qualifying teams the CEO will reallocate the qualifying spot(s) to the other qualifying events in an equitable manner. In categories with only one open qualifier, the berth will not be reallocated.
 - In the case where a qualified team withdraws from a BC Championship the CEO will reallocate the championship berth in an equitable manner. If qualifying events are still to be held, the berth shall be awarded to the remaining qualifying event with the most entries. If all events have been held, the berth shall be awarded based on the teams records in qualifying events.
- Pre-game Practice: Whenever possible, as time permits, each team will be allowed a 9-minute pre-game practice before each game, where the team may deliver a maximum of 16 rocks total on the same sheet of ice on which they are about to play. They will then be allotted 1 minute to throw their LSD’s.
- Prior to the pre-game practice, teams will toss a coin with the winner having the choice of first or last practice OR rock color.
- Teams may use only the stones they are assigned for that game.

8. BC Championships

- a. Curl BC will provide the official draw and determine the schedule of play at a BC Championship event.
- b. A team briefing will be communicated to all teams by email prior to the first draw by the Curl BC office. The email’s purpose is to communicate the officiating system, rule enforcement and penalties. Any queries the curlers may have can be sent to the chief umpire or event manager by email or asked in person prior to the pre-event practice.
- c. Game Time Operation:
- Thinking time allocated to each team to complete a ten-end game shall be 38 minutes per team
 - Thinking time allocated to each team to complete an eight-end game shall be 30 minutes per team, with a mandatory 5-minute break at the conclusion of 4 end’s during an 8 end game and 5 end’s during a 10- end game. (Exception – wheelchair teams will be allocated 38 minutes per team, with a mandatory 7-minute break at the conclusion of 4 ends. Masters will be given 32 minutes for 8 ends. U-18 will be allotted 34 minutes for 8 ends. U-21 will be allotted 38 minutes for 10 ends.

- Thinking time allocated to each team to complete an extra end shall be 4.5 minutes per team. (Exception - wheelchair teams will be allocated six minutes per team. U-18 and U-21 will be allocated 5 minutes per team.)
- Thinking time allocated to complete an 8-end mixed doubles game shall be 22 minutes. 24 minutes if Coach Interactions are being used.
- When the first stone of the game comes to rest, the delivering team's game clock will begin once the opposing team has relinquished control of the house and all sweepers have moved to the side of the sheet. The clock will stop when the delivering team's stone reaches the nearer tee-line.
- No clocks are running when a stone is in motion after the near tee-line.
- At the conclusion of each end, both time clocks are stopped for a period of time (30-45 seconds) as determined by the rules of the competition or the Chief Umpire. Each team may request two time-outs per game and one time-out during each extra end (see Rule 6.e)

d. Pre-event practice: A practice session will be scheduled for all teams prior to the start of the first draw of the championship. Teams will be permitted to practice for a determined amount of time on each sheet of ice on which they will play during the event.

e. Pre-game practice during preliminary round: Each team will be allowed a nine-minute warm-up before each game followed by one minute for teams to throw their two LSDs on the same sheet of ice on which they are about to play. Teams may throw as many rocks as they want during this time. Prior to the pre-game practice, teams will toss a coin with the winner having the choice of first or last practice OR rock color. See competitor guide for all championships section to see the pre-game practice process for the playoff round.

f. If the schedule permits, Spares will practice during regular scheduled pre-event practice and will be available for selection by the team requiring a substitute. If there is a spare pool for an event, this will be communicated in the team briefing.

g. In categories with Open BC Championships, the Preliminary Round and Playoff Round will be determined by Curl BC based on number of entries. Pool play will be prioritized for the Preliminary Round if equitable pools can be created. If equitable pools cannot be created the event will revert to a Triple Knockout format (time permitting at host club) A Modified Page or Page system will be prioritized for all Playoff rounds based on number of entries.

9. Conduct and Discipline

a. In accordance with Curl BC Policies *Safe-1: Code of Conduct and Ethics* on Pg. 70 of this [link](#). Curl BC supports equal opportunity and prohibits maltreatment of all individuals involved with the sport of curling in B.C. Curl BC is committed to providing an environment in which all individuals are treated with respect and fairness. The purpose of this above Code is to ensure a safe and positive environment for the conduct of curling (within Curl BC's programs, activities, and events) by setting the standards of appropriate behavior consistent with Curl BC's core values. Curl BC competitors and coaches are required to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner on and off the ice, and avoid any action or conduct that disrupts or interferes with events, or reflects adversely upon Curl BC.

Curl BC's Curlers' Code of Ethics

- I will play the game with a spirit of good sportsmanship.
- I will conduct myself in an honorable manner both on and off the ice.
- I will never knowingly break a rule, but if I do, I will divulge the breach.
- I will take no action that could be interpreted as an attempt to intimidate or demean opponents, teammates or umpires.
- I will interpret the rules in an impartial manner, always keeping in mind that the purpose of the rules is to ensure that the game is played in an orderly and fair manner.
- I will humbly accept any penalty that the governing body at any level of curling deems appropriate, if I am found in violation of the Code of Ethics or rules of the game

**Curl BC's
Coaching Code of Ethics**

- The coach shall act with integrity in performing all duties owed to athletes, the sport, other members of the coaching profession and the public.
- The coach shall strive to be well prepared and current in order that all duties in their discipline are fulfilled with competence.
- The coach shall act in the best interest of the athlete's development as a whole person.
- The coach shall accept both the letter and the spirit of the rules that define and govern the sport.
- The coach shall accept the role of umpires in providing judgment to ensure that competitions are conducted fairly and in accordance with the established rules.
- The coach's conduct toward other coaches shall be characterized by courtesy, good faith and respect.
- The coach shall maintain the highest standards of personal conduct and support the principles of Fair Play.

b. The Curl BC Event Manager in charge of a competition is empowered to oversee the competition and resolve disputes, including having the authority to implement necessary disciplinary measures on an emergency basis to preserve the safety and/or integrity of the other curlers, coaches, chaperones, officials, host committee members, where, due to time or distance or other constraints, the Curl BC CEO cannot effectively approve necessary disciplinary measures; The Curl BC chief umpire is responsible for all on-ice disputes.

Please visit Curl BC's Safe Sport page to stay up to date on compliance and best practices from a safe sport lens for athletes, coaches, chaperones, volunteers and administrators participating in Curl BC events [here](#).

c. Smoking or vaping of tobacco or marijuana by competitors, coaches or officials anywhere in the host facility at any time is prohibited.

d. Competitors and coaches may be subject to fines if they do not conduct themselves in an appropriate manner as follows:

1. On-ice conduct, including:

- i. Use of inappropriate language to the point that it is offensive.
- ii. Making an obscene gesture that is deemed inappropriate by the Chief Umpire.
- iii. Being abusive to anyone involved with the event.
- iv. Refusing to talk to an accredited member of the media.
- v. Refusing to wear an RF microphone. (Broadcast games only)
- vi. Refusing to cooperate with the televising network. (Broadcast games only)
- vii. Dress code violation. (including the use of unapproved logos or sponsorship on clothing or equipment)

1st Offence: Fine from \$150 – \$500

2nd Offence: Fine from \$500 – \$1000

3rd Offence: Fine up to \$1000 and suspension

2. Refusing to take a directive given by a Curl BC Official.

1st Offence: Fine from \$300 – \$600

2nd Offence: Fine from \$600 – \$1000

3rd Offence: Fine up to \$1000 and suspension

3. Conceding a game before the time frame designated by Curl BC without permission.

1st Offence: Fine from \$500 – \$1000 for each member of the team on the ice

4. Off-ice activity: Any conduct considered to be inappropriate by Curl BC.

1st Offence: Fine from \$300 – \$600

2nd Offence: Fine from \$600 – \$1000

For additional information on conduct and fines please click below: <https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/rules/>

e. Curlers shall abide to the strict ban on the use of illegal substances in sport as set out in applicable rules by the World Curling Federation, Sport Canada, Curling Canada, and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (the “Anti-Substance Rules”).

f. If a curler is found in possession of a banned, or otherwise illegal, substance, or to have used a banned, or otherwise illegal, substance during the competition in violation of the Anti-Substance Rules, the curler will be subject to a ban from curling for a specified period of time, and a monetary fine.

g. If a curler is found in possession of a banned, or otherwise illegal, substance, or to have used a banned, or otherwise illegal, substance during the competition in violation of the Anti-Substance Rules, the curler may also be subject to other civil and/or criminal penalties. A list of banned substances may be obtained from the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) at 1-800-672-7775. For further details refer to www.cces.ca.

h. Athletes on the ice cannot wear devices that receive signals and or text messages (including apple/ smart watches) or otherwise shall be vetted and approved by the Curl BC office a minimum 2 weeks prior to the start of the competition

10. Appeals

a. Appeals concerning disciplinary measures and process arising out of matters set out in **rule 9** above, shall be made in accordance with the below **Curl BC SAFE 7: APPEALS policy**. This Policy may be used to appeal decisions made through the process outlined in Curl BC’s Complaints and Discipline Policy on Pg. 111 of the below link:

<https://www.curlbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Curl-BC-Board-Policies-2023-June-2-1.pdf>

11. Other

a. Curl BC reserves the right to amend or repeal any of the Curl BC General Rules.

b. The Curl BC operational staff has the power to make decisions it considers necessary to handle any situation not covered by the rules including the authority to amend the rules where emergency situations so warrant. All decisions shall be final and binding. The Curl BC Board of Governors will be consulted when appropriate.

c. Any matter not covered in these rules shall be governed by the Curling Canada Rules of Curling for officiated play.

Section 2: Curl BC Category Specific Rules

WHEELCHAIR

The BC Championship shall be an open entry event taking place in Esquimalt from January 27-28, 2024. The format for the preliminary round will be determined by Curl BC based on the total number of entries. Games will be 8 ends in length. The successful team will represent BC at the 2024 Canadian Wheelchair Championships, March 22-29, 2024 in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

Rules:

- Teams may be comprised of eligible players from any zone in the province.
NOTE: In the event that BC cannot field a team for a national competition from within the province, Curl BC can now request an exemption to the residency rule in this category.
- Teams shall have at least one member of each gender.
- no team shall be required to play more than two games per day
- If a game is tied after the eight ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.

- Each team will receive 38 minutes of thinking time.
- During an eight-end game, a mandatory break of seven minutes will take place at the conclusion of the fourth end.
- Fifth players are permitted at all levels of play up to and including national events.
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made the playoffs in the 2020 BC Wheelchair Championships and are returning with 3 of 5 players for the 2023 BC Wheelchair Championships
- All other teams shall be seeded in preliminary round draw by double blind draw.
- Each team will receive 38 minutes thinking time.
- When extra ends are required, the clocks will be reset, and each team shall receive six (6) minutes of playing time

U18

The BC U18 Championships shall be an open girls' and open boys' event in Victoria from December 27-31, 2023. The preliminary round and playoff format will be determined by Curl BC based upon the total number of entries. Games will be 8 ends in length. The successful boys' and girls' teams will represent BC at the 2024 U18 Nationals, February 5-10, 2024 in Ottawa.

Rules

- All four (4) players must be residents of the same Provincial / Territorial Member Association and seventeen (17) years of age and under on June 30th of the year prior to the championship. Born on or after Jul. 1, 2005
- If a game is tied after the eight ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- Each team will receive 34minutes thinking time
- Coaches will be allowed a maximum of one (1) interaction per end. Opposing coaches will also be allowed to interact with their respective team until the team that called the interaction has concluded their communication. The same rule applies for extra ends. Unused interactions cannot be carried over. Complete rules can be found [here](#).
- During an eight-end game, a mandatory break of five minutes shall take place at the conclusion of the fourth end.
- Teams may designate a fifth player for BC Competitions. Fifth players are permitted at National events.
- All teams shall have a coach that meets the competition coach certification [requirements](#).
- The coach must have submitted a valid, current criminal record check with the Curl BC office, a minimum 2 weeks prior to the start of the event
- The coach shall follow and implement the "Rule of 2" when in the role of coach.
- The coach shall have completed the NCCP SafeSport Module through the NCCP Locker in the past 5 years.
- Fair Play Time-Outs are permitted.
- Members of teams, including coaches, shall refrain from the consumption of alcoholic beverages and marijuana at any time during a competition.
- Teams shall be in their accommodation by midnight, unless attending an official provincial championship function. The first violation of this curfew will result in a one game suspension to the player(s). The second violation will result in suspension from the remainder of the championship. The coach will be immediately notified by the Curl BC Championship Event Manager or Board Liaison of the disciplinary action, and further action may be taken by Curl BC following the event. A warning to this effect will be given within the team briefing.
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made the playoffs in the 2023BC U18 Championships and are returning with 3 of 5 players for the 2024 BC U18 Championships
- All other teams shall be seeded in preliminary round draw by double blind draw.

WOMEN

The Women's BC Championship (Scotties) shall be a 6-day event in Esquimalt from Jan. 23-28, 2024 consisting of 8-teams competing in a Round Robin format and a 4-team page playoff. The top two teams at the conclusion of the round robin will advance to the 1 vs 2 playoff game and the third and fourth qualifiers will advance to the 3 vs 4 playoff game. Ties at the end of the preliminary round will be broken using the cumulative Last Stone Draw total. There will be a maximum of one tie breaker game. Games will be 10-ends in length, 38 minutes thinking time. The successful team will qualify to represent BC at the 2024 Tournament of Hearts, Feb. 16-25 in Calgary, Alberta.

The 8 teams shall qualify for the BC Championships as follows:

- Defending Champ
- Event 1 – Vernon BC Tour event winner
- Event 2 – GEWC BC Tour event winner
- Event 3 – Kamloops BC Tour event winner

- Event 4 – Victoria BC Tour event winner
- CTRS berth
- CTRS berth
- Open Event berth

Once all berths have been awarded, ***CTRS will be used to seed the entire field for the championship with the highest ranking CTRS team being seeded first.***

The following criteria will be used for Curl BC Qualification Series Events:

- CTRS will be used to calculate points.
- Points accumulated from July 1st, 2023 - Dec 4, 2023 will count towards the berths
- CTRS berth(s)- awarded to the highest-ranking teams that have not yet qualified
- Points earned during events that are still in progress on December 4, 2023 will be included in the total
- CTRS Berth allocations will be determined and published as soon as possible
- Eligibility to be a CTRS event
 - Minimum 8 teams per category (8 teams in a men's event and 8 teams in a women's)
 - Double, Triple, Round Robin and Pool are acceptable formats
 - Events shall end in playoffs. The number of teams in the playoffs is determined by the total number playing in the event
 - <https://worldcurling.org/teamrankings/calculations/>
- If an event does not run in a Zone or meet the eligibility requirements set by Curl BC, the berth will be reallocated.
- Event Berths are awarded at the event.
- A team will receive a provincial berth if they win one of the tour events above. If the champion already has a berth, the berth will go to the second-place team, if they are eligible.
- If an eligible champion or runner up is not declared at an event, the berth will be reallocated.
- Any tour event berth that is not awarded will be reallocated alternating between either the Open event or becoming an additional CTRS berth. For women, the first berth reallocation will be to the Open event.
- Teams that qualify via Event Berth or as Defending Champion are not eligible for the CTRS berth(s)
- Defending Champion:
 - Must have a minimum of 3 players returning from the 2023 BC Championship lineup.
 - If not returning, this becomes an additional CTRS berth
- Registration deadline will be **December 3, 2023** for all teams planning to qualify for the BC Championships
- All teams, including defending champ, event berth, CTRS and open event qualifiers, MUST register by December 3, 2023.
- No requirement to play outside of BC
- No minimum requirement of events

Rules:

- Individuals shall be bona fide residents of BC prior to September 1st of the year preceding the championship season. For the 2023-24 season this would be Sept. 1, 2023, With the exception of permitting from any other Canadian location to be part of the team as a “Free Agent” and any player who has moved away from the province or territory they were born in can be part of the team due to their “Birthright” status.
- If, prior to the delivery of the sixth stone of an end, a delivered stone causes, either directly or indirectly, an opposition stone in the Free Guard Zone (FGZ) which is touching the centre line to be moved to an off-centre line position, the non-offending team has the option to:
 - (i) remove the delivered stone from play, and replace all stones that were displaced to their positions prior to the violation taking place; or
 - (ii) leave all stones where they came to rest.
 - (iii) <https://www.curling.ca/files/2022/10/NO-TICK-Rule-2022-23.pdf>
- Up to date residency eligibility rules for the tournament of hearts can be found here: <https://www.curling.ca/team-canada/canadian-team-ranking-system/residency-rules/residency-eligibility-rules/>
- Fifth players are permitted at all levels of play up to and including national events.
- If a game is tied after the ten ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- During a ten-end game, a mandatory break of five minutes shall take place at the conclusion of the fifth end.
- In televised or streamed games teams shall play a minimum of eight ends unless permission to concede is granted by the network and Chief Umpire.

MEN

The Men’s BC Championship shall be a 6-day event in Esquimalt from Jan. 23-28, 2024 consisting of 12 teams competing in a 2 Pool Play Round Robin and a 6-team modified page playoff format. The top team in each pool will advance to the 1 vs 2 playoff game and the 2nd and 3rd place teams in each pool will advance to a cross over playoff game with the winning teams advancing to the 3V4 playoff game. There will be a maximum of one tie breaker per pool. Ties at the end of the preliminary round will be broken using the cumulative Last Stone Draw total. Games will be 10 ends in length, 38 minutes thinking time. The successful team will represent BC at the 2024 Brier, March 1-10, 2024 in Regina, Sask.

The 12 teams shall qualify for the BC Championships as follows:

- Defending Champ
- Event 1 – Vernon BC Tour event winner
- Event 2 – GEWC BC Tour event winner
- Event 3 – Kamloops BC Tour event winner
- Event 4 – Victoria BC Tour event winner
- Event 5 - Dawson Creek BC Tour event winner
- Event 6 – Penticton BC Tour event winner
- CTRS berth 1
- CTRS berth 2
- CTRS berth 3
- Open event berth 1
- Open event berth 2

Once all berths have been awarded, ***CTRS will be used to seed the entire field for the championship with the highest ranking CTRS team being seeded first.***

The following criteria will be used for Curl BC Qualification Series Events:

- CTRS will be used to calculate points.
- Points accumulated from July 1st, 2023 - Dec 4, 2023 will count towards the berths
- CTRS berth(s)- awarded to the highest-ranking teams that have not yet qualified
- Points earned during events that are still in progress on December 4, 2023 will be included in the total
- CTRS Berth allocations will be determined and published as soon as possible
- Eligibility to be a CTRS event
 - Minimum 8 teams per category (8 teams in a men's event and 8 teams in a women's)
 - Double, Triple, Round Robin and Pool are acceptable formats
 - Events shall end in playoffs. The number of teams in the playoffs is determined by the total number playing in the event
 - <https://worldcurling.org/teamrankings/calculations/>
- If an event does not run in a Zone or meet the eligibility requirements set by Curl BC, the berth will be reallocated.
- Event Berths are awarded at the event.
- A team will receive a provincial berth if they win one of the tour events above. If the champion already has a berth, the berth will go to the second-place team, if they are eligible.
- If an eligible champion or runner up is not declared at an event, the berth will be reallocated.
- Any tour event berth that is not awarded will be reallocated alternating between either the Open event or becoming an additional CTRS berth. For women, the first berth reallocation will be to the Open event. For men, the first berth reallocation will become an additional CTRS berth.
- Teams that qualify via Event Berth or as Defending Champion are not eligible for the CTRS berth(s)
- Defending Champion:
 - Must have a minimum of 3 players returning from the 2023 BC Championship lineup.
 - If not returning, this becomes an additional CTRS berth
- Registration deadline will be **December 3rd, 2023** for all teams planning to qualify for the BC Championships
- All teams, including defending champ, event berth, CTRS and open event qualifiers, **MUST** register by **December 3rd, 2023**
- The Open event will be held December 15th – 17th, 2023 at the Cloverdale CC.
- No requirement to play outside of BC
- No minimum requirement of events

Rules:

- Individuals shall be bona fide residents of BC prior to Sept. 1 of the year preceding the championship season. For the 2023-2024 season this is Sept. 1, 2023 (With the exception of now permitting players from any other Canadian location to be part of the team as a "Free Agent" and any player who has moved away from the province or territory they were born in can be part of the team due to their "Birthright" status)

- If, prior to the delivery of the sixth stone of an end, a delivered stone causes, either directly or indirectly, an opposition stone in the Free Guard Zone (FGZ) which is touching the centre line to be moved to an off-centre line position, the non-offending team has the option to:
 - (i) remove the delivered stone from play, and replace all stones that were displaced to their positions prior to the violation taking place; or
 - (ii) leave all stones where they came to rest.
 - (iii) <https://www.curling.ca/files/2022/10/NO-TICK-Rule-2022-23.pdf>
- Updated residency eligibility rules for the Brier can be found here: <https://www.curling.ca/team-canada/canadian-team-ranking-system/residency-rules/residency-eligibility-rules/>.
- Fifth players are permitted at all levels of play up to and including national events.
- If a game is tied after the ten ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- During a ten-end game, a mandatory break of five minutes shall take place at the conclusion of the fifth end. In televised games teams shall play a minimum of eight ends unless permission to concede is granted.

Under 21

The BC Under 21 Championships shall be open entry women's and men's championships running from Feb. 14-18, 2024 in Salmon Arm with a Preliminary Round and Playoff determined by Curl BC based upon the total number of entries. The successful teams will represent BC at the 2024 Under 21 National Championships, March 24-31, 2024 in Fort Mc Murray, Alberta

Rules:

- Each player shall be born on or after Jul 1, 2003
- Team may have one overage athlete (21 years of age or less on June 30, 2024).
- 10 end games will be played in this championship.
- Coaches will be allowed a maximum of one (1) interaction During ends 1-5 and one (1) interaction during ends 6-10. Opposing coaches will also be allowed to interact with their respective team until the team that called the interaction has concluded their communication. Coaches will be allowed one interaction in an extra end. Unused interactions cannot be carried over. Complete rules can be found [here](#)
- Each team will receive 38 minutes thinking time.
- If a game is tied after the ten ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- During a ten-end game, a mandatory break of five minutes shall take place at the conclusion of the fifth end.
- In televised and streamed games teams shall play a minimum of eight ends unless permission to concede is granted by the network/curl bc and the Chief Umpire.
- Teams may designate a fifth player for BC competitions. Fifth players are permitted at national events but at the team's expense.
- All teams shall have a coach who meets the competition coach certification [requirements](#).
- The coach shall have submitted a valid, current criminal record check with the Curl BC office, a minimum 2 weeks prior to the start of the event.
- The coach shall follow and implement the "Rule of 2" when in the role of coach.
- The Coach shall have completed the NCCP SafeSport Module through the NCCP Locker in the past 5 years.
- Fair Play Time-Outs are permitted at junior events.
- Members of junior teams, including coaches, shall refrain from the consumption of alcoholic beverages or marijuana at any time during a competition.
- Juniors shall be in their accommodation by midnight, unless attending an official provincial championship function. The first violation of this curfew will result in a one game suspension to the player(s). The second violation will result in suspension from the remainder of the championship. The coach will be immediately notified by the Curl BC Championship Event Manager or Board Liaison of the disciplinary action, and further action may be taken by Curl BC following the event.
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made the playoffs in the 2023 BC U21 Championships and are returning with 3 of 5 players for the 2023 BC U21 Championships.
- All other teams shall be seeded in preliminary round draw by double blind draw.

MIXED DOUBLES

The BC Mixed Doubles Championship shall be an open entry event taking place at Victoria Dec. 27-31, 2023. The format for the 2024 preliminary and playoff round will be determined by Curl BC based upon the total number of entries. Games will be 8 ends in length. The successful team will qualify for the 2024 Canadian Mixed Doubles Championships, March 17-22, 2024 in Fredericton, NB.

Rules:

- Teams may be comprised of eligible players from any zone in the province.
- A team shall be comprised of two players, one male and one female.
- Alternate or spare players are not allowed. A team shall forfeit any game(s) in which it fails to have both athletes playing for the entire game.
- Each team will receive 22 minutes of thinking time.
- Each team shall deliver five stones per end. The player delivering the team's first stone of the end shall also deliver the team's last stone of that end. The other team member shall deliver the team's second, third and fourth stones for that end. The player delivering the first stone can change from end to end.
- The last stone draw protocols for this event can be found [here](#).
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made the playoffs in the 2023 BC Mixed Doubles Championships and are returning with 2 of 2 players for the 2024 BC U18 Championships
- All other teams shall be seeded into the preliminary round draw by double blind draw.

STICK (OPEN AND WOMEN'S)

The BC Open and BC Women's Stick Championships are open entry BC Championships taking place in Salmon Arm Feb. 14-18, 2024. The preliminary and playoff format for the 2024 Championship will be determined by Curl BC based on the number of entries.

Rules:

- Each team is comprised of two curlers with no sweeping or brushing between the hog lines, each curler is always occupied, either delivering or skipping.
- One member of each team stays at each end of the rink, and shall not cross center ice except during timeouts.
- The two delivering curlers alternately deliver six stones each per end, while their teammates skip that end. Then roles are reversed.
- Each stone shall be delivered with a curling or delivery stick, from a standing or sitting (in a wheelchair) position. This provides equity for those physically unable to attain the sliding position.
- A stone is in play when it reaches the hog line at the delivering end. A stone that has not reached the hog line at the delivering end may be returned to the player and redelivered. The player will redeliver the same called shot and ice.
- Sweeping/brushing is not allowed between the hog lines. This provides fairness to those unable to sweep/ brush. It also increases the challenge, not having the advantage of sweeping/brushing to affect either line or weight in the initial travel of the stone.
- The first three stones delivered in an end may not be removed from play before delivery of the fourth stone of that end. If that happens, the delivered stone is removed from play and all other stones are returned to their original position. With fewer stones used, and fewer ends, the stick game tends to be more defensive than the regular game. This rule helps make the game more offensive. The "in play area" is the area from the hog line to the back line.
- TIME-OUTS: Each team may call a maximum of two 90 second time-outs (the team calling the time out can meet in the house in play, the team not calling shall meet at center ice). During an extra end, one time-out per team is allowed. Whenever a time-out is called, the opposing team may consult near center ice at the same time. This allows for team member consultation during a game in a timely manner.
- In case of a tie, an extra end is played, with each player delivering 3 stones. The curlers then exchange roles at the midpoint of an extra end to complete the end. In the event the extra end is a blank, another end is played using the extra end format with each player continuing from the end of the rink where they finished the previous extra end.
- If delivering from a stationary position the competitor must remain within 18 inches of the Centerline at all times.
- There is a chief umpire and event manager on site. Curlers will do their own measuring and are asked to mark the scoreboard promptly at the conclusion of each end so that online scoring can be updated timely.
- Rule enforcement and unresolvable on-ice situations are to be directed to the chief umpire and their decision will be final.
- Curl BC will adopt the same rules as the Canadian Stick Curling Association for this event. Curl BC applies the Rules of Curling for General Play, as approved by Curling Canada.

- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made the playoffs in the 2023 BC Stick Championships and are returning with 2 of 2 players for the 2024 BC Stick Championships
- All other teams shall be seeded into the preliminary round draw by double blind draw.

MASTERS

The BC Master Championships shall be an open entry Women's and open entry Men's Championship taking place in Cranbrook February 21-24, 2024 with a preliminary round and playoff determined by Curl BC based on the total number of entries. All games will be 8 ends in length. The successful teams will represent BC at the 2024 Canadian Masters Championships scheduled for April 7-13, 2024 in Saguenay/Lac-St-Jean, Quebec

Rules:

- Players wanting to compete in the 2024 BC Masters will be born on or before Dec 31st, 1963
- If a game is tied after the eight ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- Each team will receive 30 minutes thinking time.
- During an eight-end game, a mandatory break of five minutes will take place at the conclusion of the fourth end.
- The use of the delivery stick at Masters Competitions is permitted and its use shall be in accordance with Curling Canada Rules for General Play Section 18.
- Teams may designate a fifth player for BC Competitions only. Fifth players are permitted at National events
- Team are responsible for 100% of the cost to participate in National Championships.
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made the playoffs in the 2023BC Masters Championships and are returning with 3 of 5 players for the 2024 Masters.
- All other teams shall be seeded in preliminary round draw by double blind draw.

MIXED

The BC Championship shall be an open entry championship taking place in Langley on March 26-31, 2024 consisting of a preliminary round and playoff draw format to be determined by Curl BC based on the total number of entries. Each game will be 8 ends in length. The successful team will represent BC at the Canadian Mixed Championships, November 2-8, 2024.

Rules:

- Team shall be made up of two male and two female players and the male and female players shall play alternate positions. The player delivering last stone and the player acting as vice skip shall be opposite genders.
- The following are the two (2) accepted team position/delivery rotations for 4-person mixed competitions:
 - (1) Male Lead (first thrower and sweeps delivered stones 3-8), female second (second thrower and sweeps stone 1-2 and 5-8) male third (third thrower and sweeps delivered stones 1-4) female skip (fourth thrower)
 - (2) Female lead (first thrower and sweeps delivered stones 3-8), male second (second thrower and sweeps stones 1-2 and 5-8) female third (third thrower and sweeps stones 1-4) male skip (fourth thrower).
- Each team will receive 30 minutes thinking time.
- If a game is tied after the 8-ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- a mandatory break of five minutes shall take place at the conclusion of the fourth end.
- teams are not permitted to have a fifth player.
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made the playoffs in the 2023BC Mixed Championships and are returning with 3 of 5 players for the 2024 Mixed.
- All other teams shall be seeded in preliminary round draw by double blind draw.

SENIOR

The BC Senior Championships shall be an open women's and open men's championship taking place from March 19-24, 2024 in Penticton with a preliminary round and playoff draw format that is based upon the total number of entries. Games will be 8 ends in length. The successful teams will represent BC at the 2024 Canadian Seniors.

Rules:

- Players wanting to compete in the 2024 BC Seniors will be born on or before June 30, 1974.
- If a game is tied after the eight ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- Each team will receive 30 minutes thinking time.
- During an eight-end game, a mandatory break of five minutes shall take place at the conclusion of the fourth end.

- Teams may designate a fifth player for BC Competitions. Fifth players are permitted at national events at the team's expense.
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made playoffs in the 2023 BC Seniors and are returning with 3 of 5 player for the 2024 BC Seniors.
- All other teams shall be seeded into the preliminary round draw by double blind draw.

BC WINTER GAMES

Girls and Boys zone qualifiers will take place in Curl BC's 8 zones from December 8-10, 2023. Each Zone will qualify 1 girl's and 1 boys' team for the 2024 BC Winter Games (BCWGs) in Quesnel Feb. 22-25, 2024. The BCWG's format shall consist of two pools of four teams with the top two in each pool advancing to a semi-final. The winner of each pool plays the second-place team in the other pool with the winner advancing to the final. All round-robin games will be 8 ends. Teams that do not qualify for the semi-finals will be re-formed to play mixed doubles. This event does not lead to a national championship. For playdowns, the province shall be divided in accordance with BC Winter Games boundaries, which are currently eight zones. Each curler and coach shall compete only for the zone in which they make their permanent residence.

Rules

- Each player entering this competition shall be **15 years of age or under as of Dec. 31, 2023** and shall not be younger than 11 years of age as of the first day of the BC Winter Games, whichever applies. Players shall meet BC Games Society Eligibility Rules in BC Games Years.
- For all of its programs and events in accordance with Policy Registry –Safe Sport -Safe 4 Curl BC mandates the use of well-fitting, properly worn helmets, CSA or designed specifically for the sport of curling for all Individuals under the age of 12.
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will be done by double blind draw.
- Coaches will be allowed a maximum of one (1) interaction per end. Opposing coaches will also be allowed to interact with their respective team until the team that called the interaction has concluded their communication. The same rule applies for extra ends. Unused interactions cannot be carried over. Complete rules can be found [here](#).
- If a game is tied after the eight ends allotted, the teams shall play extra ends until a winner is declared.
- Each team will receive 34 minutes thinking time.
- A mandatory break of five minutes will take place at the conclusion of the fourth end.
- A mandatory break of two minutes will take place at the conclusion of the second and sixth ends. Coaches will be allowed access to their teams.
- For BC Winter Games the sponsorship rules of the BC Games Society will supersede Curl BC rules regarding cresting and team sponsors.
- Fifth players are permitted at all levels of competitions, up to and including the BC Winter Games.
- All teams shall have a coach that meets the [certification requirements](#) and has completed a [criminal record check](#).
- If a zone or zones do not provide a representative(s), the replacement team(s) shall be from the host zone first. Following this it will be allocated to the zone(s) with the most entries. If an equal number of entries in two or more zones prevent a clear choice, the extra berth(s) shall be decided by coin toss.
- Members of BCWGs teams, including coaches, shall refrain from the consumption of alcoholic beverages and marijuana at any time during a competition.
- All teams shall have a coach that meets the certification requirements.
- The coach shall have submitted a valid, current criminal record check with the Curl BC office, a minimum 2 weeks prior to the start of the event.
- The coach shall follow and implement the "Rule of 2" when in the role of coach.
- The Coach shall have completed the NCCP SafeSport Module through the NCCP Locker in the past 5 years.
- Athletes shall be in games accommodation sites (scanned in) by BC Games curfew (11:00pm), unless attending an official provincial championship function. The first violation of this curfew will result in a one game suspension to the player(s). The second violation will result in suspension from the remainder of the championship. The coach will be immediately notified by the Curl BC Championship Provincial Advisor (PA) of the disciplinary action, and. A warning to this effect will be given at the team briefing.
- Coaches and adult supervisors shall be in games accommodation sites (scanned in) by BC Games curfew (11:00pm), Violation of curfew will be reviewed by the Curl BC Provincial Advisor and BC Winter Games Staff, and disciplinary actions will follow.

- Violation of curfew may also be reviewed by the BC Games Society.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The BC Club Championships shall be a 6-day open entry Women's and Men's championship taking place in McArthur Island, Kamloops from March 5-10, 2024 consisting of a preliminary round and playoff draw format determined by Curl BC that is based upon the total number of entries. Teams will play 8-end games, 30 minutes thinking time. The successful teams will represent BC at the 2024 Club Championship Nationals November 17-23, 2024.

- The curling club represented by each team shall be affiliated with Curl BC, in good standing, and all applicable dues paid in full.
- Each four-person team is allowed to have one (1) player who, during the previous three (3) curling seasons, has participated in; and/or, the Canada Cup; and/or, the Continental Cup; and/or, the Under-21; and/or, the Tournament of Hearts; and/or, the Brier; and/or; and/or, the Under-18; and/or, the Canadian Wheelchair; and/or, any Canadian Trials or Pre-Trials event; or any provincial / territorial event leading to these events. This same player can have played in a Tier 1 or Tier 2 Grand Slam event in the previous three (3) curling seasons.
- A team must field three of the four original players for each game played at any level of the Curling Club Championships. "Original" means signed up and registered for league play in their club, OR signed up and registered for a special curling club championship qualifying event created within their club (with the permission of their Member Association). If an "Original" team only has three players, then those three players must be on the ice at all times up to and including the national championships.
- Spares or replacements must play lead at all times throwing the first two stones of any and all ends for their team and sweeping delivered stones numbered 3-8. No exceptions
- In this category a 5th player may compete at any level of competition including the National Championships. They shall play the lead position throwing the first two stones of any and all ends for their team and sweeping delivered stones numbered 3-8. No exceptions. Any 5th player costs will be the responsibility of the team.
- Seeding of teams for preliminary round will only be done for teams who made playoffs in the 2023 BC Club Championships and are returning with 3 of 5 player for the 2024 BC Club Championships.
- All other teams shall be seeded into the preliminary round draw by double blind draw.

Please refer to the national rules for detailed eligibility requirements at the below link, which are appendices to this document as of 10/04/2022. <https://www.curlbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/CCcurlingclubchampionships2022eligibility-ENFINAL.pdf>

Section 3: Competitors Guide for all Championships

The Competitors Guide for all Championships is updated annually based on feedback from athletes, coaches, officials and Curling Canada. It outlines the policies, rules and guidelines athletes and coaches must adhere to at:

- 1. Zone Qualifiers**
- 2. Open Qualifiers**
- 3. BC Championships**

The competitors guide is split into the following four (4) sections.

- Section 1 refers to ALL Curl BC Competitions (zone, open qualifiers and BC championships)
- Section 2 refers to BC championships for all categories
- Section 3 refers to national curling championships
- Section 4 refers to Safe Sport

It is the responsibility of all competitors and coaches to read this guide and adhere to all policies contained in the most recent publication of this competitors guide. An electronic version of this guide is available here: <https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/documents-forms-athletes/>.

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3. Withdrawals and Refunds
4. Seeding at events
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1. C. RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. General Curl BC Rules
2. Officiating
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1. **D. COMPETITION**

1. Eligibility
2. Safe Sport
3. Game Duration
4. Pre-Game Practice
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7. Penalties and Rules Enforcement

Section 2 (PG 31): This section refers only to BC Championships.

-Part 1 should also be referred to in conjunction with the following rules for BC Championships.

2. **A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Uniforms and Cresting
2. Accommodation and Travel
3. Formal Team Obligations
4. Media
5. Alternates, Substitutions and Replacements

2. **B. Rules and Regulations**

1. Officiating

2. **C. Competition**

1. Game Duration
2. Pre-Competition Practice
3. Stone Selection
4. Double Knockout Round or Modified Page playoff round Stone Selection
5. Playoff Stone Selection (1v2 game, 3v4 game, Semi or Final)

Section 3: Curling Canada Championships

Section 4: Safe Sport

Section 1

THIS SECTION APPLIES TO ALL CURL BC COMPETITIONS.

1. A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. MEALS

Teams are responsible for their own meals. The Competition Manager or Host Committee will inform you of any functions provided (i.e. banquet, brunch, etc.) however this is not common at zone, or open qualifier competitions.

2. Prize Money

Prize money for 4-person category of events will be based on the number of entries. The payout will be as follows:

3 or fewer entries:	Champion - \$500
4-7 Entries:	Champion -\$500, Runner-up- \$300
8- 15 Entries	Champion - \$800, Runner-up-\$400
16- 23 Entries	Champion \$1000, Runner-up-\$500
23-32 Entries	Champion \$1250, Runner up \$500

*Mixed Doubles and Stick Category Prize Payouts will be 50% of 4-person category Prize Payouts based on the size of team and cost of entry.

** BC Men's and Women's Championship prize money will be allocated equally based on the higher number of entries.

3. TEAM NAME & CLUB REPRESENTATION

Team names on all BC championship draws and sanctioned publications will be the last name of the skip (the person that calls the game). Teams must declare which member club they are representing; at least one player must be a member in good standing at that club. Teams can list more than one club on their registration if team members are members of different clubs. In the event that a team wins a BC championship, it should be noted that only one club can be listed for the team registration form for Canadian championships.

4. CONDUCT

Competitors and coaches are required to conduct themselves on and off the ice in an appropriate manner and abide by all [Curl BC Policies](#), Competitor Guide, General Rules, Category Specific Rules and the Team Briefing document for the competition they are registered for. The Event Manager, Board Liaison or Chief Umpire may intervene at any time if a team, player, or coach is displaying inappropriate behavior.

Competitors and coaches agree to abide by the Curl BC Code of Conduct, individuals are committed to being part of a safe and positive environment for the conduct of sport by following the standards of appropriate behavior consistent with Curl BC's core values.

- Competitors will adhere to the responsibilities as outlined in section 9, section 13, and Appendix B of the Safe-1 code of conduct and ethics policy.
- Coaches will adhere to the responsibilities in section 9, section 11, and Appendix C of the Safe -1 Code of Conduct and Ethics Policy.
- Coaches will agree to abide by the Safe-2 Rule of Two Policy
- Coaches will abide by and submit all required screening documents as required by the Safe-3 Screening policy for their designated category (Level 1 or Level 2).

Players may be fined for inappropriate conduct. The fine amounts are as follows:

1st offence: Fine from \$300-\$600

2nd offence: Fine from \$600-\$1,000

3rd offence: Fine up to \$1,000 + suspension

This includes:

- i. Use of inappropriate language to the point that it is offensive.
- ii. Making an obscene gesture that is deemed inappropriate by an official.
- iii. Behavior that constitutes a form of maltreatment (Appendix A Code of Conduct and Ethics)

- iv. Refusing to talk to an accredited member of the media.
- v. Refusing to wear a RF microphone (televised games only).
- vi. Refusing to cooperate with the televising network (televised games only).

Dress code violations, including the use of prohibited branding on clothing or equipment, are not allowed. Fines with regard to dress code violations are as follows. See <https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/rules/> for uniform and cresting rules:

First offence: Fine from \$150-\$500

Second offence: Fine from \$500-\$1,000

Third offence: Fine up to \$1,000 and suspension.

Players can also be fined for refusing to take a directive given by a Curl BC Official, conceding a game before the time frame designated by Curl BC without permission, or any off-ice activity considered inappropriate by Curl BC. The fine system is detailed on the Curl BC website in our rules section under “player fines for violations”.

<https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/rules/>

In accordance with the Curl BC Safe Sport Policies:

i. Competitors and coaches are required to conduct themselves in an appropriate manner on and off the ice, and avoid any action or conduct that disrupts or interferes with events, or reflects adversely upon Curl BC

ii. The Curl BC Event Manager at the event is empowered to manage disputes as per the Complaints and Discipline Policy under application- section 6 (p103): This policy does not prevent immediate discipline or sanction from being applied as reasonably required. Further discipline may be applied according to this policy. Any infractions or complaints occurring within competition will be dealt with by the procedures specific to the competition, if applicable. In such situations, disciplinary sanctions will be for the duration of the competition, training, activity or event only.

iii. Smoking by competitors, coaches or officials anywhere in the playing area at any time is prohibited. Players found in violation of banned substances in contravention to the rules of the World Curling Federation, Sport Canada, and Curling Canada policy, will be subject to the same ban as in place by Curling Canada. A list of banned substances may be obtained from the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) at 1-800-672-7775. For further details go to www.cces.ca

iv. All team members must attend any designated competition team meeting(s), ceremonies and any banquet/social held in conjunction with the competition. If a competitor must be absent from the team meeting, ceremonies or banquet because of illness, accident, or other extenuating circumstances, prior permission must be granted by Curl BC.

V. Curl BC has sportsmanship awards in all categories, a team must participate in the voting procedure for any awards. QR codes will be posted throughout the facility and team must vote by the designated time outlined for each event. The voting process will be done using an online form submission. Each Team will submit one form per team.

5. SOCIAL MEDIA

We encourage any competitor who has a social media account like Twitter, Facebook or Instagram to post about the event and mention us in your posts – we are @CurlBC and will be using the event-specific hashtag which you will see in our posts. You can also use #curlbc. When posting please do so in the spirit of the event and abide by the social media guidelines found at the following link under the tab “Social Media Guidelines for Competitions”
<https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/rules/>.

6. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Devices that receive signals and or text messages must be set to airplane mode (including apple/ smart watches) or otherwise shall be vetted and approved by the Curl BC office a minimum 2 weeks prior to the start of the competition. Devices that send or receive a signal cannot be used by the registered coach in the field of

play. This includes behind the sheet of play while observing. If using a device to track performances like “Curl Coach”, the device needs to be set to airplane mode during the game. Coaches and/or competitors are not allowed to manage/handle the livestreaming of games or practice sessions at a Curl BC Open Qualifier, Zone, or BC Championship if the device is sending or receiving a signal. Speed traps are permitted during pre-event practice and evening practices at the discretion of the chief umpire.

7. TEAM MEETING

A team briefing will be communicated to all teams by email prior to the first draw by the chief umpire. The email’s purpose is to communicate the officiating system, rule enforcement and penalties. Any queries the curlers may have can be addressed by email and in person prior to the pre-event practice. These questions should be directed to the chief umpire for the event.

8. COACHES

All coaches accompanying teams to a BC Championship must be NCCP Competition Coach certified and be a minimum of 21 years of age. One Certified coach in full uniform is permitted on ice for any practice sessions and may meet with their team during time outs and the fifth-end (or fourth-end) break. If there is more than one coach, only the coach of record can be on the ice at the pre-event practice and the pre-draw practices. Only the coach of record can go to ice level for timeouts. A team can change the coach of record by completing a change of lineup form that you can get from an umpire a minimum of 30 minutes before the pre-game practice. For fifth-end (or fourth-end) breaks taken at ice level or in the field of play only the coach of record can take part. Coaches must also meet and adhere to all the Curl BC Safe Sport requirements. This includes having completed a criminal record check within the last 5 years and having it on record with the Curl BC office.

9. POTENTIAL DATE CONFLICTS

Teams competing in a Curl BC Zone, Inter-Zone, Open Qualifier and BC Championships do so with the knowledge that they must continue to play at all levels up to and including BC championship, national and world levels, until they are eliminated. If a team member has a date conflict between a playdown or BC championship in one category, and a national or international competition where they are representing BC or Canada in a different category, that member can be replaced in the Curl BC playdown competition. If a BC championship team cannot maintain a minimum of three of four of its original players, the team will become ineligible for advancement beyond the BC championship level and the runner-up will advance in their place.

If a mixed doubles team member has a date conflict because they are representing BC or Canada at a national or international level in another category, they may be replaced on the mixed doubles team in advance of any Curl BC playdown competition. A mixed doubles team cannot replace more than one player.

10. ANTI-DOPING INFORMATION

Please refer to the Curl BC website <https://www.curlbc.ca/anti-doping-information/>. To identify what substances and recreational drugs are prohibited, please go to the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport at <https://www.cces.ca/>. Karen Watson is Curl BC’s contact with regard to Anti-Doping questions. Her email is watsonkaren@shaw.ca.

For more information, refer to Curling Canada’s Website: <https://www.curling.ca/team-canada/hp-athletes/policies-guidelines/anti-doping-program/>

1.B. TEAMS

1. FIFTH PLAYERS, SUBSTITUTIONS AND REPLACEMENTS

Fifth Players

- a. The inclusion of a fifth player is at no cost to Curl BC or the host committee.
- b. A curler may serve as a fifth player on any team for which they are eligible, but, if that curler has already competed at the same level of competition, they may only accompany a team as a fifth player to a more advanced level of competition;

- c. A fifth player may be declared on the team's entry form at registration or after any of the qualifying events. If you are adding a fifth player after registration you must complete a fifth player registration form in Curling I/O where you are required to pay a fee of \$26.25
- d. Fifth players may play in any game, at any position on the team; the exception to this rule is in the Club Championship category. In the Club Championship category all fifths must play lead and sweep rocks 3-8.
- e. Teams continuing on to national events will be subject to the rules of the body governing the national event regarding fifth players.

Substitution:

- a. Should a competitor be unable to play due to injury, illness or extenuating circumstances, spares or replacements are permitted during playdowns leading to BC Championships.
- b. Spare: a temporary player, replacing a player for one game, on a game by game basis.
- c. Spares who are selected from a spare pool provided by the host committee and who play in one or more games at that playdown event will not be required to pay the Curling Canada competitor's fee unless they continue to the next level of play with the team.
- d. A spare must be an affiliated member of a club in good standing, and meet all eligibility requirements for the competition.
- e. The Chief Umpire must be advised 30 minutes before a game if a spare player will be playing using a change of lineup card.
- f. In the club championship, all substitute players must play lead.

Replacement:

- a. A replacement player replaces a player for the remainder of an event, or if the player cannot rejoin the team, for subsequent levels of competition.
- b. A replacement player must be a member of an affiliated facility in good standing, must meet all eligibility requirements for the competition, and must pay the current Curling Canada competitor's fee.
- c. A spare or replacement may play any position on the team and shall not have competed in nor be competing in the same level of competition in the current season. However, a spare or replacement that played at the Zone, Inter-Zone or Open Qualifier level may be selected to play at a subsequent level of competition.
- d. A team may choose to play with three players with the first two players each delivering three stones in each end. Under no circumstance may a team play with fewer than three players delivering stones. Exception: Mixed curling must always have four players on the ice with two men and two women alternating delivery of stones. The player delivering last stone and the player acting as vice-skip must be opposite gender.
- e. The Chief Umpire must be advised 30 minutes before a game if a replacement player will be playing using a change of lineup card
- f. In the club championship, all replacement players must play lead

Once you have qualified or the BC Champion has been determined, no more than one player of that team may be substituted for the next level of competition

2. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Registration is done through the Curl BC website using the Curling I/O platform. The registration deadline for all open BC Championship event categories and Zone Qualifiers as published on the Curl BC website. For the Open Women's and Men's Qualifiers, the registration deadline is listed in the category specific rules for each category of event. These deadlines are subject to change which will be communicated through email, website, and/or social media. Curl BC will supply the official draw, rosters, and schedule of events for all sanctioned zone, open qualifier and BC Championships.

3. WITHDRAWALS AND REFUNDS

- a. Teams may withdraw from an event prior to the registration deadline by emailing Curl BC (subject to an admin fee of 25% of the team's total entry costs).
- b. Withdrawals after registration deadline will not receive a refund unless approved by Curl BC.

4. SEEDING OF TEAMS AND DRAW PLACEMENT

a. Zone, Open Qualifiers:

- In **Women's** and **Men's** categories we will use the Canadian Team Ranking System standings as of Monday, December 4th, 2023 to seed teams into the open qualifier women's and men's draw. A double-blind draw will be conducted by a member of Curl BC staff to determine draw placement of non-Canadian Team Ranking System seeded entries. The selection will be witnessed by a third party.
- In the BC Winter Games Zone Qualifiers teams will not be seeded. A double-blind draw will be conducted by a member of Curl BC staff to determine draw placement. The selection will be witnessed by a third party.

b. BC Championships:

In the **Women's** category: Once all berths have been awarded, ***CTRS will be used to seed the entire field for the championship with the highest ranking CTRS team being seeded first.*** The 8 teams shall qualify for the BC Championships as follows:

- Defending Champ
- Event 1 – Vernon BC Tour event winner
- Event 2 – GEWC BC Tour event winner
- Event 3 – Kamloops BC Tour event winner
- Event 4 – Victoria BC Tour event winner
- Event 5 – Kootenay/North BC Tour event winner ******currently, no event is scheduled, and therefore this berth would be reallocated
- CTRS berth
- Open Event berth

In the **Men's** category: Once all berths have been awarded, ***CTRS will be used to seed the entire field for the championship with the highest ranking CTRS team being seeded first.*** The 12 teams shall qualify for the BC Championships:

- Defending Champ
- Event 1 – Vernon BC Tour event winner
- Event 2 – GEWC BC Tour event winner
- Event 3 – Kamloops BC Tour event winner
- Event 4 – Victoria BC Tour event winner
- Event 5 - Dawson Creek BC Tour event winner
- Event 6 – Penticton BC Tour event winner
- CTRS berth 1
- CTRS berth 2
- CTRS berth 3
- Open event berth 1

- Open event berth 2
 - For all **Open Entry BC Championship** categories (U18, U21, wheelchair, mixed, mixed doubles, senior, master, club championship, stick) seeding of teams will be as follows:
 - playoff teams from 2023 championships will be seeded #1, #2 and #3 (if 3 of 5 or 2 of 2 players on the roster remains the same). The remaining teams will be seeded into the draw by double blind draw.

5. REGISTRATION AND ROSTERS

- a. Registrations for zone, open qualifier, or open BC championship events will close immediately following the registration deadline published on the Curl BC website.
- b. Registration information for each event received prior to the registration deadline will be published online and available publicly on Curling I/O.
- c. Late team registrations will only be accepted in the case of an administrative/technical error by Curl BC.
- d. The official rosters will be created as per the information submitted by the teams through the online registration process.
- e. The official rosters and draw will be posted online at least three days prior to the start of competition. These rosters will carry forward through each level of competition unless a change is submitted to Curl BC by email and confirmed.

6. PRE-COMPETITION PRACTICE

A. Zone, Open Qualifier Events:

- i. Practice ice may be available prior to competition. The teams should arrange these sessions directly with the host club. Instructions will be emailed to the team contact via the team briefing email.

B. BC Championships:

- i. When pre-event practice is sanctioned, the schedule will be provided by Curl BC.
- ii. Team will receive 10 minutes on each sheet of ice they will play on during the BC Championship.

7. DRAW PRODUCTION

- a. Draws will be created and approved by the Curl BC Competitions Manager.
- b. At minimum, the official draw and roster will be emailed to the team contact of each team as soon as possible after registration closes. The draw and roster will also be published on the Curl BC website as soon as possible after registration closes. Due to scheduled event dates, the draw for the Open Women's and Open Men's qualifier will not be issued until 3 days prior to the event commencing.
- c. If there are any delays due to unforeseen/unavoidable circumstances, Curl BC will advise affected teams of the reason for the delay and the estimated time of completion.
- d. The official draw, including draw times, is subject to change after being published. If any changes are made, teams and the host committee will be notified by email.
- e. The Chief Umpire will be responsible to allocate ice in the event of an error or conflict during the competition after the first draw (which will be assigned by Curl BC). This information will be posted publicly at the host club. Any issues or concerns should be brought to the attention of the Chief Umpire, whose decision will be final. Once the draw is posted at the host club, changes may be made by the Chief Umpire in consultation with the Curl BC Competitions Manager.

1.C. RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. GENERAL

Curling is based on a code of ethics, good sportsmanship and personal integrity. Players and coaches are expected to follow [Curl BC's Safe Sport Framework](#) and the rules of the game throughout the competition. The suite of safe sport policies that guide the governance of Curl BC and its athletes, coaches and volunteers are contained in the first section of the Curl BC Board Policies (PDF) below on pg. 69-118.

https://www.curlbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Curl-BC-Board-Policies-2023-June_2-1.pdf

All Zone, Open Qualifier and BC Championship events will be played under the "Rules of Curling for Officiated Play" as specified in the latest edition of the rulebook published by Curling Canada (CC) including all subsequent rule changes and interpretations adopted by CC at the start of the competition.

“Rules of Curling for Officiated Play” are to be supplemented by rules in the Curl BC Rules document, this Competitors’ Guide and/or the related appendix for a category specific event.

Note: There will be no warnings for any infraction unless it is stated in the rulebook or brought to your attention by the Chief Umpire prior to the start of competition. The Chief Umpire may suspend a player or coach from play.

2. OFFICIATING

Chief Umpire - The Chief Umpire shall be appointed by Curl BC and is responsible for rule enforcement and interpretation. During a competition, the Chief Umpire assumes responsibility to interpret and administer the Curl BC Competitors’ Guide, Category Specific Rules, Curl BC General Rules, Code of Conduct, and Curl BC Policies as listed on the Curl BC Website and Curling Canada Rules for Officiated Play. At BC Championships, a time clock operator and on-ice observer may be assigned to each sheet of ice and they are responsible for the timing and observing of that game. Officiating for BC championships is further defined in section 2(B) (1).

3. EQUIPMENT

- a. All brush heads, including “target” brooms must be WCF compliant. It is the responsibility of the players and coaches to ensure compliance.
- b. Hair brooms and corn brooms are banned as sweeping devices. Visit the WCF website for the up to date code list and for more details: <https://worldcurling.org/competitions/brushes/> . Visit <https://www.curling.ca/team-canada/hp-athletes/policies-guidelines/brush-head-moratorium/> for the detailed Brush Head Moratorium document.
- c. Each person must declare their one (1) sweeping device that will be used for the entire game and only that player may use that sweeping device. This declaration must take place prior to the first pre-game practice (brooms will not be marked).
- d. A player may only change a brush head with approval from the Chief Umpire.
- e. A sweeping device broken during the game cannot be replaced, except at the sole discretion of the Chief Umpire.
- f. A substitute entering a game must use the sweeping device of the player they are replacing.
- g. All equipment is subject to random inspection.
- h. Equipment penalties:
 - If a player uses an illegal brush head, the game is forfeited AND:
 - For a 1st offence, the offending player is removed from the game and cannot continue in the specific competition - they cannot be replaced.
 - For a 2nd or subsequent offence, the entire team is disqualified from the specific competition and suspended from any Curl BC competition for 365 days.
 - If a player uses another player’s legal brush head, the stone is removed from play

1.D. COMPETITION

The rules and procedures contained within this section apply to all competitions except where amended within a specific category. See the category specific rules at <https://www.curlbc.ca/resources/rules/>

1. ELIGIBILITY

- a. Each playdown participant must meet the eligibility requirements of the competition as set out by Curl BC and Curling Canada. (See Curl BC rules for more information)
- b. Each playdown participant must primarily reside within the geographical boundaries of the province of British Columbia and within the jurisdictional area of Curl BC. (With the exception of Men’s [Brier] and Women’s [Scotties] permitting:

- One [1] free agent is allowed. A free agent is a citizen and a resident anywhere in Canada and can choose to compete in any member association. Note: Both affected member associations must approve.

- Each men's or women's team may also have up to 5 players who do not reside in the member association but who have Birthright status. This allows curlers to represent the province or territory they were born in should they move away. Refer to <http://www.curlbc.ca/resources/rules/>

*It is the team's responsibility to cross reference Curling Canada's Residency and Age Eligibility Policy at <https://www.curling.ca/team-canada/hp-athletes/policies-guidelines/residency-eligibility-requirements/> *

2. SAFE SPORT

Curl BC, along with our sport and government partners, recognizes the need for all sport governing bodies to play a stronger role in protecting athletes, coaches, officials, administrators and support staff, especially youth, from harassment and abuse. Curl BC has pledged to be part of the Responsible Coaching Movement by ensuring all competitive coaches adhere to the below requirements at Curl BC Competitions:

- Screening via a criminal record check every 5 years
- Ethics Training via Making Ethical Decisions
- Coaches Association of Canada's, Safe Sport Module.
- Following the Rule of 2 when working with athletes.

More information can be found by visiting Curl BC's Safe Sport Page [here](#)

3. GAME DURATION

a. Timing:

1. Games will not be timed at the zone or open qualifier level. All games will be timed at the BC Championship level. Consult event-specific team briefing document for details. The penalty for time clock violation (e.g. running out of time) will be enforced as per the Curling Canada Rulebook.
2. Time Clocks are not typically used at zone or open qualifier events.
3. If games are NOT timed, the Umpire will enforce 'pace of play' per the rule book to assist with keeping the games on schedule.

b. Time-Outs:

1. Time-outs are to be signaled with the traditional "T" sign and the Chief Umpire will time the 90 seconds from the time that both coaches together reach the ice level and must be signaled from the ice surface by the team whose clock is running.
2. If the play is at the away end the team that did not call the time-out will not meet with their coach until the coach of the team that called the time out reaches the hogline at the away end.
3. The coach of the team that did not call the time-out will have access to their team at the home end backboards only and must give priority to the team calling the time-out.
4. At the conclusion of the time-out (expiration of time) or when the team that calls the time-out leaves the field of play, the time-out is over for both teams. Coaches that call the time-out can access their teams on the backboards of the playing end only.
5. Only the designated coach or 5th player (not both) can meet with their team during the time out. Coaches can access their teams from the backboards only, there is no use of empty sheets or walk ways unless all sheets have walk ways.

4. STONE SELECTION, PRACTICE AND LAST STONE ADVANTAGE

Teams will toss a coin before the practice a minimum 30 minutes prior to the game; the winner will have the choice of practice order OR rock color in the preliminary round of all events including BC Championships. Teams will practice using only their stones for that game and may not handle or otherwise disturb their opponent's stones. The last stone draw sheet needs to be completed by both teams and given to the Chief Umpire indicating the players who will be delivering the last stone draws. All players will throw an equal number of last stone draws during the event (depending on the number of games played). Players are requested to stay off the ice until 1 minute to practice has been announced. Under the direction of the Chief Umpire, curlers may cool their sliders and they may slide. Opposing teams may not be in the field of play during the other team's pre-game practice.

- Pre-game practice will be nine (9) minutes per team.
- The Last Stone Draw protocols can be found [here](#).
- Only the four 'game' players are allowed on the ice surface for the Last Stone Draw.
- Full sweeping is allowed; however, one of the four players must hold the target broom.
- A stone not delivered within the time allotted by the umpire will be assigned a distance of 199.60cm (the stone must reach the near tee-line before the time expires).
- If a member of the non-delivering team or an external force moves a stationary stone or causes it to be moved before the Umpire completes the measurement, the stone is replaced to its original position by the delivering team.
- Both teams will name two (2) different players delivering the stones before the start of the first of the two pre-game practices team practice.
- After pre-game practice, these two different players will each deliver one (1) stone to the button. Both stones will be measured and totaled.
- If the second team registers the same two-stone distance as the team with first practice, the teams will alternate delivering one (1) stone with their designated rotation until the tie is broken. Any player on the team can deliver the third and any subsequent stones including the players who delivered the first two stones.
- Only the combined distance of the first two stones delivered will be registered for the accumulated
- At zone and open qualifier events, teams will throw a maximum of 16 stones for a maximum of 9 minutes; at BC championship events, teams may throw as many stones as they wish within the 9 minutes.
- Coaches may NOT deliver stones in the pre-game practice.
- Speed traps are NOT allowed in the pre-game practice

5. LAST STONE DRAW (LSD)

The Last Stone Draw Protocols are aligned with Curling Canada and have been modified so that it is in-line with the competition formats in BC for the 22-23 season:

<https://www.curlbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Curl-BC-laststonedraw-protocols-2022-23.pdf>

OTHER PRACTICE: During a zone, or open event, no other practice is permitted. Late night practice for BC championship events is determined by the Chief Umpire for that event in consultation with the event manager, host committee and chief ice technician.

Section 2

THIS SECTION REFERS ONLY TO BC CHAMPIONSHIPS. SECTION 1 SHOULD BE CONSULTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH Section 2.

2.A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. UNIFORMS AND CRESTING

- a. All team members must wear identical uniforms (matching jackets and shirts) when accessing the field of play including Opening/Closing Ceremonies. This includes fifth players.
- b. Coaches must also wear matching on-ice attire. If not possible, attire should be either similar in colour and style or plain black. Coaches and players are not permitted to wear jeans in the field-of-play or any sanctioned Curl BC event.
- c. Advertising/sponsorship on jackets may be worn provided it does not conflict with Curl BC Event Sponsors. If Teams have a conflicting sponsor not approved by Curl BC on their jackets, they will be required to cover the sponsor's crest prior to accessing the ice.

Curl BC Sponsors:

- Kruger (Scotties)
- Best Western
- belairdirect
- AMJ Campbell
- Connect Hearing (for BC Masters Championships event)
- Original 16 (for BC Club Challenge Championships event)

BC Championship crests are to be attached to the upper left sleeve or on the left chest, in the same position for all members of the team.

Additional crests may be provided for categories with title sponsors. Team's must follow these categories specific crestring requirements as instructed. *BC Championship sponsors' crests (if provided) are to be affixed to the upper right chest of the outer garment of the team uniform. Team sponsor advertising should not be placed in these locations and cannot be in conflict with Curl BC's sponsor categories who have exclusivity (Best Western, Belair Direct, Kruger, Connect Hearing, and Original 16), unless approve by the Curl BC CEO.*

Headwear (baseball hats, headbands) can be worn if they match and are free of any corporate advertising conflicting with Curl BC sponsors. Hats with professional sport teams or other commercially trademarked logos cannot be worn on the ice during the championship. The Chief Umpire shall provide final approval of all headgear. Any headwear worn must be the same for every player should any player choose headwear.

Non-compliance will result in the competitor or team not being able to access the field of play for the event until they comply.

2. ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL

a. Rooms will be blocked at Best Western hotels if they are in the area of the BC Championship. If no Best Western is in the area, a hotel room block will be set up by Curl BC; you will need to call the hotel to make your reservations. Information will be provided to all teams.

b. Curl BC will award a minimum of \$500 prize for 1st place in all BC Championship events. Prize money for all BC Championships will be based on the number of entries each category receives.

3. FORMAL TEAM OBLIGATIONS

a. The entire team, including one coach, is required to attend and participate in event ceremonies and social events. This includes opening ceremonies, banquet, etc.

b. A member of each team may be called upon to speak or offer thanks to the Host Committee, event sponsors, volunteers and/or officials at different functions during the championship. Your cooperation is expected as a show of sportsmanship and failure to attend may result in disciplinary action.

4. FIFTH PLAYERS, ALTERNATES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

The Curl BC office must be notified of any changes to the roster by email, including addition of an alternate, coach or replacement. Refer to section 1.B. for more information on alternates, substitutions and replacements, how to change rosters and associated administrative fees.

2.B. RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. OFFICIATING

In addition to the Chief Umpire, identified in section 1(C) (2), BC Championships may see the addition of the following officials.

- Timing Officials – The Game timer may be responsible for the timing of both teams during the game using “thinking time”
- On-Ice Observers – The Game observers may be positioned at the end of each sheet of the ice for the main purpose of observing all play and updating scoreboards.
- Game Supervisors – home, away and timing supervisors will be positioned to assist with rule infractions and rule disputes.
- Deputy Chief Umpire

2.C. COMPETITION

1. GAME DURATION

Minimum Length of Game:

- a. In ten (10) end games, a minimum of five (5) ends must be played.
- b. In eight (8) end games a minimum of four (4) ends must be played.
- c. In all playoff, semifinal, and final games, a minimum of six (6) ends must be played (or as adjusted by a Chief Umpire, e.g. for TV games 8 ends must be played).

2. PRE-COMPETITION PRACTICE

Prior to the start of a competition, when available and in conjunction with the host, Curl BC will sanction and schedule practice ice time for all teams, giving each team an equal amount of time on relevant sheets of ice. A schedule will be provided to all teams prior to the event.

3. PRELIMINARY ROUND STONE SELECTION:

Teams will conduct a coin toss and will select either practice session of stone handle colour as per the process outlined in section 1 of stone selection, practice and last stone draw

4. Double Knockout ROUND or MODIFIED Page playoff Stone Selection

Only stone on the assigned sheet are used.

In a triple knockout format If a team has qualified from a better bracket they will receive BOTH hammer and choice of stone colour in the DKO or Modified Page Round. If teams have qualified from same bracket, the teams will draw for hammer. The team that won the last preliminary round game or if they have not played, the team with the better cumulative LSD for the event will have choice of first/second practice or stone colour.

5. PLAYOFF STONE SELECTION (1v2 game, 3v4 game, Semi or Final)

Within 15 minutes after the preliminary round, double knockout round or modified page playoff round teams must determine stone handle colour by meeting with the chief umpire and completing the playoff stone selection document as required. The Chief Umpire will assign stones in the event of non-compliance. For dual events (events with teams of each gender playing at the same time such as U18, U21, Men's/Women's, Seniors, Masters, BC Winter Games), the following will apply:

- i. In the odd years (2023 for example) the top team on the Men's side (regardless of format) will have priority for selecting rocks.
- ii. In the even years (2022 for example) the top team on the Women's side will have priority for selecting rocks.

In a triple knockout format If a team has qualified from a better bracket they will receive BOTH hammer and choice of stone colour in the playoffs. If teams have qualified from same bracket, the teams will draw for hammer and the team that won the last preliminary round game or if they have not played, the team with the better cumulative LSD for the event will have choice of first/second practice or stone colour.

In all Triple Knockout BC championship events, teams are seeded based on the bracket that they qualified from. This will be done as follows:

- 3 team Playoff- A Qualifier will advance to the Final and the B and C qualifiers will advance to the Semi-Final.
- 4 team playoff- A and B Qualifiers will play in 1v2 game and the two C qualifiers will play in 3v4 game
- 6 team playoff- A Qualifiers play B Qualifiers with winners advancing to the 1v2 game. Losers play C qualifiers with the winners advancing to the 3v4 game
- 8 team playoff- 8 qualifiers play in Double Knockout Round with 4 teams advancing to the page playoff.

Section 3-NATIONAL CURLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The winner of the BC championship will represent British Columbia at their respective Canadian championship, unless they are deemed ineligible. These champions, or the replacement team, become a BC champion team representing British Columbia rather than representing their local club. National event forms must be completed immediately following the closing ceremonies. This information will be communicated to you by the event manager on site. Teams will receive a national competitors' guide with information relevant to the event they are attending.

Section 4- Safe Sport

CODES OF CONDUCT: Curl BC supports equal opportunity and prohibits maltreatment of all individuals involved with the sport of curling in B.C. Curl BC is committed to providing an environment at our competitions in which all individuals are treated with respect and fairness. The purpose of the Code is to ensure a safe and positive environment during competitions by setting the standards of appropriate behavior consistent with Curl BC's core values. This code applied to athletes, coaches, conveners, officials, volunteers, managers, administrator, committee members, parents/guardians' spectators and governors involved in Curl BC competitions and events. Individuals must have a clear understanding and adhere to the responsibilities outlined in Curl BC's Safe-1: Code of Conduct and Ethics outlined on Page 71 of [Curl BC's Board Policies](#).

Curl BC's Curlers' Code of Ethics

- I will play the game with a spirit of good sportsmanship.**
- I will conduct myself in an honourable manner both on and off the ice.**
- I will never knowingly break a rule, but if I do, I will divulge the breach.**
- I will take no action that could be interpreted as an attempt to intimidate or demean my opponents, teammates or umpires.**
- I will interpret the rules in an impartial manner, always keeping in mind that the purpose of the rules is to ensure that the game is played in an orderly and fair manner.**
- I will humbly accept any penalty that the governing body at any level of curling deems appropriate, if I am found in violation of the Code of Ethics or rules of the game.**

Curl BC's Coaching Code of Ethics

- The coach shall act with integrity in performing all duties owed to athletes, the sport, other members of the coaching profession and the public.**
- The coach shall strive to be well prepared and current in order that all duties in their discipline are fulfilled with competence.**
- The coach shall act in the best interest of the athlete's development as a whole person.**
- The coach shall accept both the letter and the spirit of the rules that define and govern the sport.**
- The coach shall accept the role of umpires in providing judgment to ensure that competitions are conducted fairly and in accordance with the established rules.**
- The coach's conduct toward other coaches shall be characterized by courtesy, good faith and respect.**
- The coach shall maintain the highest standards of personal conduct and support the principles of Fair Play.**

In addition to following the code of conduct, Individuals are expected to comply with the suite of Curl BC Safe Sport Policies, Rules, and Regulations that are enacted to ensure that sport experiences for all participants are enjoyable and free from harm. Sport provides opportunities for people to stay physically and mentally well, to connect with others, and to compete if they wish. Safe sport creates the conditions for a positive experience, and fosters positive behaviors. Non-compliance with these policies in competitions may result in sanctions pursuant to the Safe-5 Complaints and discipline policy or Safe-6 Dispute resolution. SAFE-7 Appeals is intended to resolve any complaints, disciplinary, harassment, dispute and appeals in relation to Curl BC competitions. The suite of 9 Safe Sport Policies that must be adhered to at all times can be found on pg. 69-118 of Curl BC Board Policies at the below link:

https://www.curlbc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Curl-BC-Board-Policies-2023-June_2-1.pdf

Individuals are expected to comply with all Curl BC policies, rules, regulations and the Code of Conduct and Ethics. Non-compliance may result in sanctions pursuant to the above policy. This policy sets out the process that Curl BC uses to address any complaints and disciplinary matters.

Harassment Officer: A designate of Curl BC (Scott Braley) has been trained in respect to this policy and its procedures. The role of the Harassment Officer or Advisor is to serve in a neutral, unbiased capacity, to provide information about the resources and support available, and to receive Complaints, assist in informal resolution of Complaints, and to make recommendations for further action. The Harassment Officer will handle Complaints that may be resolved through informal procedures and will assign any other Complaints to an Investigation Officer. Scott can be reached at sbraley@curlbc.ca or at 604-333-3621.

Section 4: Team Briefing Templates

- Team Briefing Template- BC Winter Games Zone Qualifiers
- Team Briefing Template- BC Women's and Men's Open Qualifier
- Team Briefing Template-BC Winter Games, U18, U21 Championships
- Team Briefing Template- BC Men's and BC Scotties
- Team Briefing Template - BC Championships Seniors, Masters, Mixed and Club Championships.
- Team Briefing Template- BC Mixed Doubles Championship
- Team Briefing Template-Wheelchair
- Team Briefing Template- BC Open and Women's Stick Championships