

I want to begin by expressing my deepest gratitude to everyone who took the time to answer our survey regarding reopening the Capital Curling Club amid the pandemic. Your survey responses have been incredibly helpful in coming up with a plan to reopen the club. As a board, our number one goal is to provide a safe atmosphere that gives us the best opportunity to enjoy an entire season of curling. There will certainly be bumps in the road along the way, but with members willing to make sacrifices and compromises, we'll be able to put ourselves in a good position to maintain the viability of the club through this season and beyond.

The survey has revealed that the club can essentially be broken down into three groups: (1) those who will not return due to COVID; (2) those that have no concerns about reopening the club; and (3) those that will return if proper COVID precautions are put in place. To the group that will not be returning: **YOU WILL NOT LOSE YOUR LEAGUE SPOT** for the 2021-2022 season. Your spot may be filled by another team this season, but it will be made available to you again in the 2021-2022 season. Any team that moves from one league to another to fill a COVID vacancy this year will not lose their prior league spot for the 2021-2022 season either. Essentially, the 2019-2020 season will be the baseline for assigning teams to leagues in 2021-2022 season. New teams this season will also be treated as new teams for purposes of assigning league spots in the 2021-2022 season but will be given preference over new teams that did not participate this season.

To our members who have no concerns about reopening this season: we hear you and we understand your position, but we need to ask you to make some sacrifices and compromises this season. You make up about 45% of our club, and your dedication and commitment to the club leave us confident that the club will be in great shape for years to come. When reviewing the policies and precautions below, we ask that you keep in mind that about 40% of the club will not return to play without proper COVID precautions put in place. Both groups are essential to the Club, and we cannot have a successful year, financially or otherwise, without most or all you returning this season.

SPECIFIC POLICIES

These policies will be re-evaluated on a monthly basis at board meetings which are generally held on the third Sunday of every month.

Masks

The membership is essentially split 50/50 on requiring masks to curl, with a slight majority supporting the requirement. The Board has unanimously decided that masks will be required whenever someone is (1) in the facility and (2) off the ice/not competing.

While on the ice and competing, masking is required if you are not sweeping. We understand some of you have concerns about the ability to sweep while masking, but please give it a try. As stated below, we're also encouraging all of you to utilize one sweeper, so as to limit face to face interactions during rigorous activity. If you are utilizing two sweepers, we believe it makes a lot of sense to have both masked.

Socializing after matches: The extent of socialization will depend on the risk standards set forth by the North Dakota Department of Health. You can read about gathering restrictions for every level of risk here:

<https://ndresponse.gov/sites/www/files/documents/covid-19/ND%20Smart%20Restart/Standards%20for%20all%20Industries.pdf>

Currently, Burleigh and Morton County are in the **Yellow/Moderate Risk Level**. There will be no socializing allowed while either County remains at this level. This is the level where there is a heightened risk for exposure, so to maintain the viability of the curling season, we'll ask that no socializing in the club room occur.

If Burleigh and Morton County moves back into the **Green/Low Risk Level**, socializing after games will be discouraged. If you do choose to socialize, we ask that you socialize for no longer than 30 minutes, so as to prevent unnecessary transmissible moments with the league that follows yours.

If Burleigh or Morton County moves into the **Orange or high-risk level**, we will cease all curling activities until we return to the yellow level.

Snacks will be suspended indefinitely. In lieu of weekly snack duty, teams will be assigned cleaning duties in the club room. A specific list of these cleaning duties will be detailed at a later date.

Beverages

We recommend designating one member of your team to assigned to fetch your beverages, and we encourage you to wait until the club room is cleared out and/or your match is about to begin to make your beverage run.

Locker Rooms

Lockers will be assigned this season, but members are strongly encouraged to arrive dressed and ready to play.

As you enter the club before your match, please use the doors nearest to the locker rooms to enter the club room. Do not loiter in the club room. Change as promptly as possible if you are using the locker room, and then promptly await the start of your game at your assigned sheet.

Gameplay: The primary goal is to maintain physical distancing when practical on the ice.

At the start of the match, simply stating “Good Curling” or “Good Luck” should suffice. Shaking hands is discouraged.

Please make every effort to touch only the stones you are throwing. Moving stones with your feet should be fine.

When measuring, players doing the measuring should follow these steps

1. Remove gloves
2. Sanitize hands
3. Measure
4. Sanitize hands again.

We recommend utilizing only one sweeper per shot, so as to not have two sweepers face to face while engaging in rigorous activity. No relaying the sweep (sweeper switches with teammate halfway down the ice).

Non-delivering team skip may not enter the house until it becomes necessary to sweep behind the Tee-Line or opposing Skip relinquishes control of the house.

Teams should remain on the side of the sheet that corresponds with the color of their rocks for the duration of the match.

Non-delivering team locations:

1. Skip stands behind the hack.
2. Sweepers stand near the center of the ice.
3. Next to deliver can be at the deliver side hogline.
4. Always maintain proper physical distance from other players on your sheet and neighboring sheets.

Delivering team locations:

1. Skip in the house
2. Shooter in the hack
3. Single sweeper near tee line
4. Remaining sweeper/timer at the near hogline.

Time allotted for gameplay

4:20 Leagues: No new end may be started after **5:50**. Your match ends and you must be off the ice at **6:05**, regardless of where you are in the current end.

6:20 Leagues: No new end may be started after **7:50**. Your match ends and you must be off the ice at **8:05**, regardless of where you are in the current end.

6:30 Leagues: No new end may be started after **8:00**. Your match ends and you must be off the ice at **8:15**, regardless of where you are in your current end.

Late leagues: Begin play as soon as ice is ready and prepped. Please finish game and exit promptly after 1 hour and 45 minutes of gameplay. Unless your team is assigned ice on a particular night, please do not enter the facility until **8:15**.

Any and all spectators must remain in the upstairs room with elevated viewing.

POSITIONING ILLUSTRATION

