

Circle City Curling Club, Inc.

COVID-19 HEALTH and SAFETY POLICIES

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The Board reserves the right to amend these policies at any time and will notify the membership upon doing so.

Introduction

The Circle City Curling Club, Inc. (CCCC) plans to open in the 2021/22 season with amended rules and policies to mitigate risk related to the COVID-19 pandemic. These policies and procedures were developed in the interest of members’ health and safety. The CCCC will follow all applicable Federal, State, Local, and Fuel Tank requirements, particularly if they are more stringent than those already specified in the policies. These policies are intended to establish procedures so that members can assess their risk tolerance with what we can do to promote safe conditions for curling. Table 1 contains links to important websites.

Website Name	Link
CCCC	https://www.circlecitycurling.com/
Indy Fuel Tank at Fishers	https://www.indyfueltank.com/
USA Curling COVID-19 Updates	https://www.usacurling.org/resources
Hamilton County COVID-19 Information	https://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/1595/Covid-19-Coronavirus-Health-Information
Fishers COVID-19 Information	https://www.fishers.in.us/1161/COVID-19
CDC COVID-19 Information	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/index.html

Table 1 – Important Website Links.

Back to Curling Viability and the 2021/2022 Season

The Board will assess the Federal, State, Local, and Fuel Tank requirements and assess the feasibility of a Winter / Spring League based on Federal, State, Local, and Fuel Tank requirements.

The CCCC plans to conduct a Winter League with four (4) sheets and two draw times (6:30 and 8:30PM).

If a league member gets sick or needs to withdraw due to the pandemic (i.e. quarantine, etc.) the Commissioner will go down the alternates list and offer the alternate the remainder of the season in place of the vacating member. The league fees for the alternate will be prorated based on the expected games remaining. The Board will offer to the vacating league member the option of either a refund of remaining league fees or a donation of their remaining fees to the dedicated ice fund.

If a league is suspended due to the pandemic, the league fees for the remainder of the season will be prorated and refunded based on the games remaining. The Board will offer the option of either a refund of remaining league fees or a donation of the remaining fees to the dedicated ice fund.

Learn to Curls will be planned during the Winter / Spring League. The CCCC COVID-19 protocols apply to Learn to Curls.

This document also covers policies/procedures that would address the CCCC response to a member becoming sick or testing positive with COVID-19, and if a member fails to comply with these policies.

Statement of Risk

1. Statement of Risk for Curling at the Fuel Tank at Fishers at 9022 E. 126th Street, Fishers, IN 46038.

What could happen? – Transmission of the COVID-19 among the membership.

Why could it happen? – While curling is not a contact sport, it is aerobic in nature, and strenuous sweeping can lead to individuals inhaling and exhaling more air. Members may also touch objects or surfaces that could be contaminated with the virus. The COVID-19 virus may survive longer in cold conditions.

Why do we care? – The health and safety of the membership is a top priority for the 2021/22 season.

What can we do? -- COVID-19 is spread through respiratory droplets. The primary methods we can use for controlling transmission are frequent hand washing, physical distancing, and face coverings. Risk of transmission can be also be reduced by additional cleaning and disinfecting of the facility and following recommendations for monitoring health and taking appropriate action if there is a possibility of infection.

What should members do? – Each member will have to decide about their own level of risk and risk-tolerance given these circumstances. Any members who choose to participate in curling must do so at their own risk and observe the risk-mitigation practices outlined in this document.

General Rules and Practices

2. General Rules and Practices:

1. Members who have a current confirmed case of COVID-19 or have been advised by a medical professional or public health authority that they should be isolating or quarantining may not enter the facility.
2. Masks: Based on USA Curling's consultations with medical professionals such as the USOPC Chief Medical Officer, along with the recommendations of the CDC, USA Curling recommends following the most current CDC guidance. Hence, the CCCC Board requires that masks be worn while curling (unvaccinated and vaccinated individuals). Members must provide their own masks.
 - a. COVID-19 is spread through respiratory droplets, thus making it imperative to minimize the transmission of these droplets to fellow curlers by wearing a cloth face covering, especially when competing.
 - b. To learn more about cloth face coverings, please click [here](#).
3. Every effort should be made to maintain a 6' clearance at all times unless you are with a member of your household.
4. Wash or sanitize hands frequently.
5. Drinking in the ice arena is allowed, provided closed containers and social distancing is maintained while temporarily removing the mask to drink.
6. High-touch surfaces should be cleaned and sanitized after use or contact.
7. Only CCCC members or family members of CCCC members will be allowed inside the ice arena. A sign will be placed near the door to advise Fuel Tank customers of this restriction.
 - a. CCCC members or family members of CCCC members can watch league play if the general rules and practices in Section 2 are followed.
 - b. The CCCC member or family member must remain in the designated area of the stands and maintain social distancing from other member's equipment that will be in the stands.
8. Members should follow public health orders that apply to them, such as travel advisories or directives for exposure or a confirmed infection.
9. League Commissioner will maintain a roster of curlers who participate during each draw and on which sheet(s) to facilitate contact tracing in the event of a member later testing positive for COVID-19.

Pre-Curling Procedures

3. Pre-Curling Procedures:

1. CCCC members and family members must meet the requirements for the Fuel Tank upon entry to the facility, which may include temperature checks, use of hand sanitizer, etc.
2. Two stone prep crew members will arrive at the Fuel Tank facility no earlier than 90 minutes prior to the schedule draw time to place the stones on the ice sheets in the carts and apply the insulated covers approximately one hour before play.
3. The remainder of the Equipment and Ice prep members will arrive at the Fuel Tank facility no earlier than 30 minutes prior to the scheduled draw time to provide enough time for Equipment and Ice prep.
4. Arrive prepared to curl (dressed, stretched and with a duffle bag for a change of shoes). Members will arrive at the Fuel Tank facility no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled draw time. Shoe changing will occur on the bleacher stands (while maintaining social distancing, unless you are with a member of your household). Do not use the ice entry area for shoe changing. Equipment should be placed on the bleacher stands in the designated area.

Stone and Equipment Prep, Ice Prep, and Take-Down

4. Stone and Equipment Prep, Ice Prep, and Take-Down

The purpose of this section is to detail the procedures that The Circle City Curling Club, Inc. has put in place to minimize the possibility of Covid-19 transmission from touched surfaces during league play. For these efforts to be successful all participants must rigorously adhere to these procedures. Only the designated prep team members should touch equipment prior to play. All prep team members must maintain social distancing practices. Disposable gloves and disinfecting wipes will be provided by the CCCC. Place all 'used' disinfectant wipes in the nearest trash can placed on each end of the ice and at the ice entry locations by the North and South doors.

1. Stone and Equipment Prep

- a. Members of the Stone and Equipment Prep team will wear disposable gloves while performing their duties. These should be in place prior to touching any equipment.
- b. Stone Prep
 - i. Prep team members will proceed to place the stones on the ice sheets in the carts and apply the insulated covers approximately one hour before play (2 people required).
 - ii. Prep team members will move the carts – 2 to the south doors and 2 to the north doors once previous ice users have vacated these areas.
 - iii. As soon as the Zamboni has exited the ice following the second (dry) scrape, 2 prep team members will offload and place the stones behind the appropriate hacks at each end (4 people total required).
 - iv. Scoreboard Number Prep
 - All scoreboard numbers will be wiped with disinfecting wipes.
 - v. Once this has been completed, members of the stone prep team will wipe down the handles of the stones with a disinfectant wipe.
- c. Equipment Prep
 - i. Following the placing of the stones on the ice sheets in the carts, prep team members will remove all equipment to be used from the cupboards. This includes brooms, sticks, stabilizers, sliders, and scoreboards. Prep team members will also remove the hack cart and pebbling cans from the cupboard.
 - If you need a broom, stick, stabilizer, or slider for the season the Board will loan these out. The Fall League sign-up will include a request form if equipment is needed.
 - On initial distribution each piece of equipment will be wiped using disinfectant wipes and placed in an appropriate receptacle. There will be enough equipment such that any participant requiring club supplied equipment will be supplied with a unique item to be used only by them.
 - ii. Do not share equipment with anyone (except those in your household). Personal equipment should be marked to avoid confusion.

- d. Hack Cart and Pebbling Cans
 - i. The hack cart will be placed by the South door and the pebbling cans will be placed by the North door for use by the ice prep team once the previous ice users have exited.
- e. Wooden Nipping Frame and Industrial dust broom.
 - i. The wooden nipping frame and industrial dust broom will be placed by the South door for use by the ice prep team once the previous ice users have left.
 - ii. Sheet 1 stones 4-8 (red and yellow) will be used to nip the ice by dragging stones. Once this has been completed, one member of each playing team will wipe down the handles of their team's stones with a disinfectant wipe.

2. Ice Prep

- a. Members of the Ice Prep team will wear disposable gloves.
- b. Prep team members placing the hacks shall proceed to the ice and install the hacks (2 people required) while maintaining 6' social distancing. Once this task is completed the drill and water bottle should be wiped with disinfectant wipes.
- c. The pebbling crew will fill the pebbling cans with water and proceed to pebble the ice (2-3 people required). Once completed any remaining water should be drained and the cans wiped with disinfecting wipes and returned outside the storage cupboards.
- d. One prep team member will place the Sheet 1 stones on the ice inside the wooden nipping frame and proceed to nip the ice by dragging the stones. An additional prep team member will follow with the industrial dust broom. Once completed the nipping wooden frame and industrial dust broom handle should be wiped with disinfecting wipes and returned outside the storage cupboards.

3. Take-Down

- a. At completion of play each participant should return the 2 stones they were using to the designated cart being careful to maintain social distancing.
 - i. Should a participant be unable to perform any part of this process a take-down team member wearing gloves (preferably disposable) will assist.
 - ii. Take-down team members will then lock the carts and move them to the storage area while wearing gloves (preferably disposable) (2-4 people required).
- b. Take-down team members wearing gloves (preferably disposable) will return the scoreboards to the storage cupboard (1-2 people required).
- c. Ice Prep team members wearing gloves (preferably disposable) will remove the hacks, place them in the cart and return the cart to the storage cupboard. The cart handle will be wiped down with a disinfectant wipe prior to storage (2 people required).
- d. Storage cupboards will be secured and locked. All locks and keys will be wiped with a disinfectant wipe.

On-Ice Procedures

5. On-Ice Procedures

Related to on-ice activity associated with playing league games

1. General Rules

- a. Masks are required at all times while on the ice, except when actively drinking a beverage at the appropriate physical distancing in the designated area.
- b. Follow USCA recommendations for playing in a safe manner with rules to be posted at all doorways onto the ice.
- c. While social distancing, those teams on Sheet 1 and 3 should enter the ice through the north entry. Those teams on Sheet 2 and 4 should enter the ice through the south entry. To reduce congestion, only one sheet at a time should enter or leave the ice. For the north and south entry locations reference Figure 1.
- d. Closed containers for liquids are recommended. Each player is responsible for their own beverage and taking the container with them at the end of the game. Please place your beverage away from others. Water and extra supplies must be kept and consumed in the area behind the hacks in the red and yellow sections marked as shown in Figure 1. Teams throwing yellow stones have their designated area on the North end, red rock teams on the South end as shown in Figure 1.
- e. No extra members are allowed on the ice.

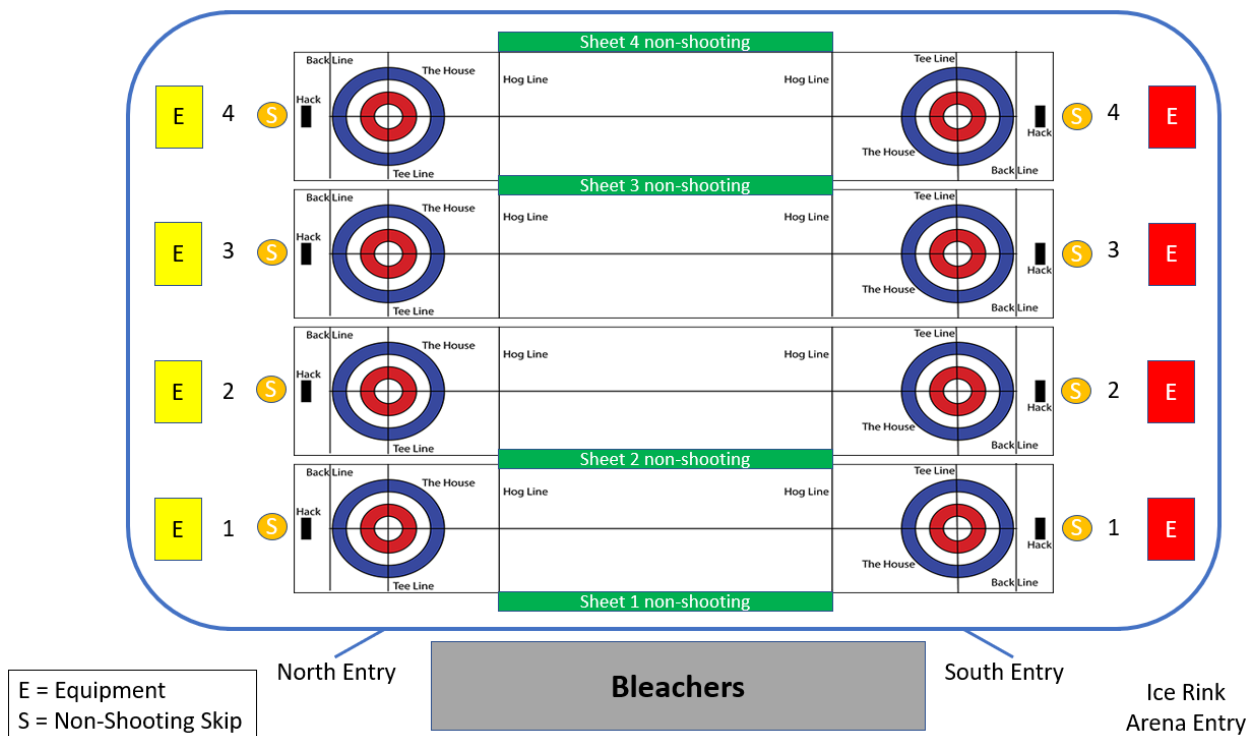


Figure 1 – Fuel Tank Arena Curling Sheet Layout

2. Game Play

- a. Teams will start the game at opposite ends from each other. Teams on sheet 1 and 3 will start on the north end. Teams on sheet 2 and 4 will start on the south end. For north and south end locations reference Figure 1.
- b. There will be no coin toss, League Commissioner will assign hammer and color.
- c. Please exchange “good curling” with everyone playing the game; however, no handshakes or any other physical contact. During the game, there should be no high fives or other physical contact with any player.
- d. Designate one vice to put up the score – no one else, including the other vice, should touch the scoreboard.
- e. Traffic flow during the game:
 - i. The throwing team has control of the sheet and is the only team that can sweep up to the front of the house.
 - ii. Sweepers
 1. There can be only one sweeper for the delivering team. It is up to each team to decide how they want to do this.
 2. The skip and the opposing skip may sweep in the house. The skips must communicate and maintain the appropriate distance (6’).
 - iii. Non-delivering team/inactive players shall wait behind the hacks or ‘along the sheet’ in the green areas (as outlined in Figure 1) while maintaining 6’ distancing.
 - iv. As the delivering team begins to throw, the alternate team should then begin to approach the throwing positions from their waiting positions. Once the team has thrown, they will then occupy the waiting position in a socially-distanced flow.
- f. Move stones only with feet or brooms (while maintaining 6’ distancing), move only your own stone with hands.
- g. No measuring device can be used. The vices need to make the call.

3. Draw Length and Stop Time

- a. Last end will start no later than 8:15PM for the first draw and 10:15PM for the second draw.
- b. Ties are possible if no time to conduct a draw to the button.

4. Recording Final Game Scores

- a. The skip or vice of either team can record the game score via any web browser (<https://www.circlecitycurling.com/>).
- b. Team can also email the League Commissioner with results (leagues@circlecitycurling.com).
- c. The bulletin boards will have team rosters and games listed, but will not be used for game score results.

Response to Confirmed Case

6. Response to Confirmed Case

Related to confirmed cases of COVID-19 in individuals who been in the facility

1. Member responsibility

- a. Members who have a current confirmed case of COVID-19 or who have been advised by a medical professional or public health authority that they should be isolating or quarantining may not enter the facility.
- b. Members who have a household member with a current confirmed case of COVID-19 or who have been advised by a medical professional or public health authority that they should be isolating or quarantining may not enter the facility.

Indiana quarantine information:

https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Family%20quarantine_COVID-19.pdf

“Who should quarantine? If you or a member of your family has been in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes, even if you are wearing a mask to lower your risk of infection) with someone who has COVID-19, you should quarantine.”

“When is my home quarantine over? You can end quarantine 14 days after your last close contact (closer than 6 feet for longer than 15 minutes) with someone who has COVID-19.”

- c. Members who are later confirmed to have COVID-19 and entered the facility during the time they were potentially contagious must notify the League Commissioner.

2. Club response

- a. Immediately isolate and seek medical care for any individual who develops symptoms in the facility.
- b. The club will directly notify all members signed in for the same day, at either the same time or later, that the person with the confirmed case was present.
- c. A general announcement will be made to club membership regarding the positive case and the timeframe.
- d. The club will provide all requested information (i.e. email and phone number) and cooperation to Indianapolis Public Health, Hamilton County Public Health, and other government agencies.
- e. The club will report all cases to the USCA and Steven O’Keefe via the form: <https://usacurl.us2.list-manage.com/track/click?u=c25268f54c595689f237b4786&id=31445225e0&e=1321e3c021>.
- f. If there are many confirmed cases among the members, the Board will consider what further action will be taken.

Enforcement

7. Enforcement

COVID-19 Policy Enforcement

1. Following the COVID-19 policies is required of all members.
2. Occasionally, people may forget or have a momentary lapse in compliance. As a first step, please offer a courteous reminder to the member to follow the policies.
3. **Oversight and Penalties**
 - a. If a problematic behavior persists, please report the activity to the League Commissioner or Board Member, if present. If the League Commissioner or Board Member assess that there is a violation in policy, they should give a verbal warning to the member, and report the incident to the President. If there is no League Commissioner or Board Member present, any member should report concerns to the President.
 - b. **First Incident**
 - i. For a first incident, there will generally be no further action if a verbal warning has been issued. If no warning was issued, the President will issue a warning.
 - c. **Second Incident**
 - i. If the President determines that a second incident has occurred, a written warning will be issued. An email will be sent clearly identifying the infraction, expectations, and possible consequences.
 - d. **Subsequent Incident(s)**
 - i. If the President is notified of additional incident(s), the President may apply a penalty based on the severity of the incident, or refer the Board for consideration of a penalty. Any single incident, if severe, may also be subject to penalty or board action. Possible penalties include:
 1. Additional written reprimand
 2. Suspension for a specified number of games
 3. Removal from leagues and ineligibility to sub for the remainder of the session, but may register for next session
 4. Revoke membership for the remainder of the season, with possible consequences for future seasons

Sources Consulted

Sport Specific

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