

# What Curling Will Look Like This Fall



Following our truly exciting and successful inaugural season, our second season faces unprecedented challenges due to COVID-19. After reviewing guidelines published by USA Curling and consulting with medical professionals familiar with the sport of curling, the CCC Board of Directors has adopted the following guidelines for the 2020/21 season. These protocols may change as the situation unfolds and as guidance is updated from USA Curling, regional Departments of Health and the medical community. Your health and safety are our primary concern and the Board will alter these protocols as necessary to minimize the risk to its members, our guests, and the club.

CCC has accordingly issued the following protocols consistent with Return to Curling guidelines published by USA Curling and Canada Curling. We ask that everyone follow the letter and spirit of these rules.

[Curling Canada - Return To Play Guidelines](#)  
[USA Curling - COVID-19 Updates and Resources](#)

## Cincinnati Curling Club Return to Curling Protocols

Getting ready to come to the club:

1. Don't come if you are sick. Before you drive to the club we ask everyone to think about how you are feeling. All members/participants should ***not come to the club if they are not feeling well*** or are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms such as:
  - Fever or chills
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Fatigue
  - Muscle or body aches
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Sore throat
  - Congestion or runny nose
  - Nausea or vomiting
  - Diarrhea
2. Be flexible. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19. We ask teams to be ***flexible*** with the re-scheduling of games so that people do not feel compelled to show up when they are unwell.

Arrive at the site:

1. Complete the Check-in. In the parking lot, in the safety of your own car, and before you enter the club you will be asked to complete a quick questionnaire. This allows us to track who is in the club and at what time. Your health and safety are our primary concern and the check-in process enables timely and accurate communication should someone contract COVID-19.
2. ***Put your mask on. Masks will be required at all times inside the facility***, both in the warm room and on the ice. Wear masks properly at all times covering both your nose and mouth. When lowering your mask to eat or drink, please do so while facing away from other people.

## In the Warm Room:

1. Come prepared. Please show up prepared to curl because the locker rooms will be closed for the season. If you do need to change, the bathrooms will be available. Shoes should be carried in and changed into immediately upon arrival. It is important that we maintain social distance and avoid clusters.

## On the Ice, Pre-Game Set-Up:

1. No coin toss. Instead of a coin toss, return to your childhood and use **Rock/Paper/Scissors to decide the hammer but no touching**. Paper will always beat the Rock but no need to show it.
2. Wish your opponent luck. **As is a new global practice, handshakes will be eliminated** both before and after the game. Please be sure to wish your opponents "good curling" in your best Canadian accent.
3. Red vice keeps score. **The vice of the red team will be responsible for hanging the scores** for both teams.

## Curling:

1. Alternate ends at start. To provide sufficient space for social distancing while on the ice, **3 sheets will be in use at a time, alternating starting ends**. Players on sheets A and C will start at the end near the scoreboard. Sheet B will start at the opposite end.
2. Only 1 sweeper at a time. Per USA Curling guidelines, **only 1 sweeper will be allowed**. Failure to comply with this rule will cause the rock to be burned and removed from play.
3. No skip cluster. To support social distancing, **the skip (or vice skip) in control of the house and the skip (or vice skip) of the non-delivering team will not be permitted to sweep rocks of either color**. The delivering team may only sweep their own stones. The non-delivering skip will remain behind the hack to maintain proper social distancing.

Post-curling:

1. ***Our patio is OPEN! Our facility is basically a giant airplane. We have very limited fresh air circulation so pre- and post-game broomstacking participation will be on the patio.*** Broomstacking protocol will be based on ratings issued by the Hamilton and Butler County Health Departments and will inform club procedures. Safety is always our top priority and the Board will inform all participants if the safety measures change.
2. Monday through Thursday the facility will undergo a thorough and deep cleaning provided by Project Life, a non-profit organization providing job training for individuals with disabilities.
3. When it's too cold to Broomstack outside, indoor bar service will be provided with modified practices to accommodate pandemic safety measures such as limiting tables to maintain a 6' separation between all non-family members. Subject to changes by the State & Board of Health regulations.

**General guidelines when the club is open:**

- There will be hand sanitizer near the entrance.
- Restroom lights and fans will be on at all times.
- Door handles will be wiped before and after each draw.
- Weather permitting, the windows in the warm room will be open.
- Hand sanitizer will be available at each sheet.
- The transparent barrier at the bar, near taps will protect everyone.
- Please limit the number of people approaching the bar to 2 maintaining the 6' space.
- Please use a credit card whenever possible.

Disclaimer: The Board will continually monitor and evaluate safety practices and procedures and will alter based on current health and safety measures. If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please email the Board at [CincinnatiCurlingClub@gmail.com](mailto:CincinnatiCurlingClub@gmail.com).

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