



2020-2021 Handbook

OUR COVID-19 “Return to Play” PLAN



Disclaimer: The COVID-19 situation is fluid. New information is continually being received from our sport governing bodies and all levels of government. As a result, this document is subject to change.

Amendments will be communicated to membership and facility users as they occur. We encourage readers to monitor our website at www.hirschcreekclub.com and provide feedback by contacting the Club via email at manager@hcgwc.ca or by phone at 250-632-4216.

Readers please note there are a significant number of changes to our policies/procedures this season.

All participants are expected to read and understand this guide before curling.

WELCOME BACK

The Hirsch Creek Golf and Winter Club Board of Directors and club management have thoroughly reviewed Curling Canada “Return to Play” Guidelines and Curl BC “Return to Curling” Guidelines. We have created this handbook to ensure a success and fun “return to curling” for the upcoming season.

Detailed Safety Plans have also been created as per WorkSafe BC requirements. The health and wellness of everyone attending our facility is a priority.

The Hirsch Creek curling experience will be noticeably different this year as we manage COVID-19 circumstances.

HCGWC’s General Manager, Dan Martin, can be reached via email manager@hcgwc.ca or phone 250-632-4612.

In Summary:

- ✓ Stay home if you are feeling sick or have contacted any suspected case of COVID-19.
- ✓ Comply with self-isolation or quarantine Provincial Health Officer Orders.
- ✓ Practice good hand hygiene.
- ✓ Maintain 6.5' / 2m physical distancing at all times.
- ✓ Wear a face mask at your discretion, or as mandated (if necessary).
- ✓ Read and follow all signs and floor markings.
- ✓ Read and understand all facility guidelines and policies.
- ✓ Sign and submit all required waivers prior to your first game.
- ✓ Adhere to game start times and schedules.

HCGWC COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN

The Hirsch Creek Golf and Winter Club is committed to protecting the health and safety of our staff and curlers.

We will work closely with the local and provincial health authorities to notify staff and Club members whom the health authority deems may be at risk of exposure including recommended next steps.

If you are not feeling well in any way, STAY HOME. This is a requirement. Do not risk getting other members of HCGWC sick because you wanted to curl. Everyone needs to make the effort to prevent Coronavirus from entering our community.

Skips – please take your leadership role seriously in this regard. If you or team members feel sick or have symptoms pertaining to COVID-19 please stay home.

- The HCGWC has completed a COVID-19 Risk Assessment to identify risks to staff members and curlers during the pandemic. We have addressed these risks through the adoption of safe work procedures.
- We have identified areas where people gather, and will put signage on walls and the floor to manage the flow of people in the facility. We have implemented standard operating procedures to provide 2 metres of physical distancing between staff members and curlers.
- Hand sanitizer stations are located near doors, and other high-touch locations for members and staff.

No person is permitted in the facility:

- If they are experiencing any COVID-19 like symptoms in the past 14 days. Symptoms include fever, chills, new or worsening cough, shortness of breath, sore throat and new muscle aches or headaches.
- Who resides or been in contact with a person who has tested positive or is being tested for COVID-19.
- Who resides with a person who is displaying COVID-19 like symptoms.
- Who has been directed by the public health authority to self-isolate.
- Who has arrived from outside of Canada within the last 14 days.

Anyone found in non-compliance with the above conditions will be asked to leave the facility

immediately.

Physical distancing must be maintained throughout our facility. Unless you are from the same household or family, everyone will maintain a minimum 2m (6.5 feet) safe distance from each other.

New for the 2020/21 Curling Season:

- All curlers are required to read, understand and sign:
 - ✓ an Assumption of Risk form.
 - ✓ Under19- Assumption of Risk form. In the case of curlers under the age of 19, parents are responsible for reviewing the above materials with their child and assuming applicable risks on each child's behalf.
 - ✓ a Covid-19 Declaration of Compliance form.

FACE MASKS

At this time, a mask or other personal protective equipment will NOT be mandatory on the ice or in any area of our facility.

Masks will not be provided by the Hirsch Creek Golf and Winter Club. If at any time masks become mandatory, we will attempt to have stock for sale at the pro-shop or bar. Patrons should be prepared to adjust mask-wearing policies during the season.

TRAFFIC FLOW

Traffic flow will be established in the building via visual markers, signage, and barriers, especially in the areas of the lower lounge, stairwell, and entry/exit to the ice surface. For everyone's safety, please follow traffic instructions.

SINGLE DOORWAY ROOMS

Single doorway rooms, such as locker rooms and washrooms have maximum capacities to ensure social distancing. It is critical that we comply with these posted restrictions, or we risk losing the use of these spaces altogether.

"Max. Capacity" signs will be posted at entrances to single doorway rooms.

We will post occupancy limits for all areas:

- Office (main) - 2
- Office (Manager's) - 2
- Ice surface - 32
- Upstairs restaurant - 62
- Lower lounge - 12
- Ladies locker room - 6

- Men's locker room- 4, urinals 1 person at a time.

LOCKER ROOM:

- Everyone is discouraged from using this space as a change room. Come dressed to play.
- Draw times will be staggered to help congestion in the room.

REGISTRATION

For all curlers you can register in the pro-shop 7 days a week 9:00am-6:00pm. If you can not make these times call 632-4612 and we will arrange a time to accommodate you.

It is critical that people register before October 7th. If not enough curlers sign-up and pay before this date the ice will not go in.

Several people indicate their desire to curl, or just register a team but wait until the season starts to individually register and pay – PLEASE DO NOT do that this season! Significantly more preparation is necessary this year, related to leagues and schedules, due to the variety of Covid-19 considerations. Payment is expected at the time of registration.

The Club is asking curlers to consider the recommendation to limit the number of “bubbles” that they are in. A curler playing 3 times a week on different teams could have a “curling bubble(s)” of as many as 12 players. 3 person teams reduce bubble size and eliminate the “odd curler each end.

When you register you will need to fill out our Membership form, Declaration of Compliance-Covid 19 form, and Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims, and Indemnity Agreement form.

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

- Membership Dues will remain the same this season.
 - ✓ Adults \$350.00

ACTIVITY FEES:

- For each regular league, fees are assessed as follows
 - ✓ Juniors - \$100
 - ✓ Young Curler (19-29) \$125
 - ✓ Seniors (60+) - \$125/Senior Couple \$225
 - ✓ Adult (30-59 years) - \$150 /Adult Couple \$275
 - ✓ Add a night \$100
 - ✓ Sturling \$100

REFUND POLICY:

If cancellations or closures are necessary due to a Coronavirus outbreak or public health order, any refunds of Membership Dues and Activity Fees would be pro-rated on a sliding 25% scale, relevant to the timing of any closure and the number of games offered by that date.

THE CURLING SEASON

We are hoping to begin curling on Monday, November 2. The curling season will run for its usual length of time, roughly to the end of March.

WEEKLY REGULAR LEAGUES

Expect a minimum of 6 weeks before Christmas and a minimum of 12 (a minimum of 18 weeks in total). These leagues will be scheduled on the same nights as they have traditionally existed.

FORMATS AND CHANGES

Expect leagues to have their maximum capacity, start time(s) or formats modified to allow for sanitation and to facilitate the required distancing or capacity limitations. At minimum, you can anticipate staggered start times between 6:30pm and 8:45pm for regular evening draws, and only two games starting at any one time.

Depending on registration numbers, you may also see larger leagues being split into pools to keep teams in smaller “pods” thereby minimizing the interactions between pods.

CURLING DRAWS

Monday	Sturling	1 st Draw 1:00pm/2 nd Draw 2:15pm
Tuesday	Men’s Night	1 st Draw 6:30pm sheet 1 & 2-6:45pm sheet 3 & 4 2 nd Draw if needed 8:45pm sheet 1 & 2
Wednesday	Ladies Night	1 st Draw 6:30pm sheet 1 & 2-6:45pm sheet 3 & 4 2 nd Draw if needed 8:45pm sheet 1 & 2
Thursday	Men’s Night	1 st Draw 6:30pm sheet 1 & 2-6:45pm sheet 3 & 4 2 nd Draw if needed 8:45pm sheet 1 & 2
Friday	Mixed Fun League	1 st Draw 6:30pm sheet 1 & 2-6:45pm sheet 3 & 4 2 nd Draw 8:15pm sheet 1 & 2
Saturday		
Sunday		

PRACTICE ICE

Saturday 11am-3pm by appointment. Call 250-632-4653

DRAW TIMES

We are using staggered starts so no more than two games/sheets start at the same time. It is important that each player and team follow the pre and post game protocols.

Everyone must be prepared to have regular evening games start between 6:00 pm and 8:45 pm. Curlers can expect their start times will not always be the same.

Without prior approval from the Club Manager, games are to start only at their assigned time on the assigned sheet. Using the “first available sheet” at any random time will not be allowed until further notice. Unscheduled games or practices are not permitted.

PRE-GAME PROCEDURES

Please arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before the start of your game. Please change clothes and prepare as much as possible before you arrive.

Be especially respectful of overcrowding in the lower lounge and its boot/shoe removal area.

Sanitize your hands immediately upon entry. Follow distancing protocols and signage.

All personal equipment is to be stored in lockers or on the “home” end of the rink.

- If you do not use the locker room, please take your coat with you onto the ice area and hang it on the dowel posts behind your sheet of ice. Do not leave personal items in the waiting area please use the cubbies.

BORROWING CLUB EQUIPMENT

Club equipment such as sliders, brooms and stabilizers will not be available for borrowing. Please see the pro-shop for curling supply sales.

TO AND FROM THE ICE

All curlers will enter the ice area from our “right” doorway, nearest to sheet 4. Players for the adjacent game will enter at approximately the same time; we ask that you let the sheet furthest to the left enter first to avoid overlapping congestion.

Do not put on your gloves before entering the ice rink. Your hands must be sanitized before opening the ice rink door.

During your game, if you leave the ice surface for any reason, use whichever doorway best facilitates proper physical distancing; you may need to wait for an opportunity to depart.

Upon completion of your game, all players depart through the door closest to sheet 1. Please be aware of any throwing teams or other players standing on the backboards and allow time to properly distance.

“GAME TIME”

The skips have authority over the activities on their sheet of ice, and this year that includes responsibility for all players maintaining correct physical distancing. Skips – please take that role seriously.

YOUR “HOME END”

Games will begin on alternating ends of the rink (half of each draw’s games will begin at the far end of the sheet). At the conclusion of your game, please ensure the rocks are returned to the same end from where you started.

ROCKS AND SANITIZING ROCK HANDLES

- Rock handles will be sanitized using club-supplied disinfecting equipment prior to each game play.
- Only touch the handle of your own rocks with your hand. All other rocks are to be moved using your brush head, delivery stick or foot.
- Avoid touching the running surface of the rock with your hand (gloved or bare). You are encouraged to use your own brush head to clean the running surface prior to delivery.
- Once a player chooses their rocks at the beginning of a game, the same rocks must be used by that player for the duration. No trading of rocks to another player is allowed during a game.
- Sanitize rocks after your game.

REPLACING HANDSHAKES

Do not shake hands. Wish your opponents “good curling” from an appropriate distance.

REPLACING THE COIN TOSS

Coin tosses will not occur, unless only one person handles their own coin and retains its possession. Alternatively, use your stopwatch; start the timer and have the opponent call out “odd” or “even” before it is stopped.

SWEEPING

- Behind the T-Line:
 - ✓ No sweeping will be allowed behind the tee line by either skip. Only the active (designated) sweeper may continue to sweep their team's rock behind the tee line.
 - ✓ No sweeping any opponent's stone behind the T-line.
- Teams must follow the "single sweeper" rule:
 - ✓ Only one sweeper will be allowed at a time (no same household exceptions)
 - ✓ No "switching" during a throw; the designated sweeper must follow a delivered stone from the delivery end of the sheet to the target house.
 - ✓ No one aside from the dedicated sweeper for a shot can sweep any stone.
 - ✓ Sweepers may alternate either between shots or between delivering players; teams are encouraged to share sweeping duties amongst teammates as much as possible.
 - ✓ The non-sweeping players must always position themselves to maintain physical distancing (use designated areas and ice markers).

POSITIONING (THROUGHOUT THE GAME)

MAINTAIN PROPER SOCIAL DISTANCING ON THE ICE AT ALL TIMES

GENERAL RULES AND GUIDELINES:

- **"Distancing Lines"** will be installed - 2' from side boards and between the hoglines on only west side of a sheet. Curlers not active in a shot will commonly stop/wait within this area.
- **"Freeze Here"** markers will be installed within the distancing lines, at strategic locations no closer than 2m apart. Each inactive curler should stand on one of these markers.
- If inactive (not throwing, sweeping, skipping or next to throw), stay within the distancing lines between the hoglines and with only one person at each "Freeze Here" marker.
- Skips or vice-skips
 - ✓ Only the delivering team's skip is allowed in the target house.
 - ✓ The opposition skip must be at/near the backboards, and no closer to the house than the hack, until all rocks have come to rest. At this point the opposition team takes possession of the sheet.
- After a team shoots, the priority of all players is to proceed to their appropriate positions on the sheet as quickly as possible, while maintaining social distancing even among team members.
- Between ends, the team that has hammer in the next end should vacate the playing area by moving past the hog line, into the inactive zone within the distancing lines. The team throwing first in the next end should put away the rocks. Consider having two players push the stones from the playing area to the corners, and one player arranging the rocks. Use your broom or your foot to move rocks. Avoid team congregations.

- Floor stickers will be used to indicate where curlers are to stand while waiting to get onto the ice. Traffic flow onto the ice will be controlled and monitored by HCGWC staff at draw times.
- Only registered curlers in a league will be allowed on the ice during that league's draw.

NON-THROWING TEAM:

- The two sweepers of the non-throwing team should be positioned on "Freeze Here" markers while the other team is throwing.
- The player of the non-throwing team whose turn it is next to deliver, should be positioned at/near the hogline on the same side as his/her two sweepers.

THROWING TEAM:

- The Skip (or vice-skip) has control of the house.
- The player whose turn it is to deliver is in the hack.
- The sweeping player is at the T-Line.
- The non-sweeping player is on the backboards, or at a "Freeze Here" marker.
- Once the stone has been released, the player who delivered the stone proceeds down the centre line of the ice until about the halfway point and moves to a "Freeze Here" marker, or proceeds towards the hog line if it is their next turn to deliver.
- After the stone comes to rest, the sweeper proceeds to a "Freeze Here" marker. The nonsweeper travels to a "Freeze Here" marker or the hog line depending on whether it is their next turn to deliver.

MEASURING DEVICES

If measuring is necessary, only one player should handle the device.

- Hands should be sanitized before and after use.
- Do not touch the measuring device with gloved hands.
- Use a sanitizing wipe to clean the device after use.

SCOREKEEPING

Numbers in the box affixed to the wall have been sanitized.

- Assign one person to mark both teams' scores – the third of the team which scores first.

AFTER THE GAME FINISHES

Respect the 2 hours scheduled for your game to avoid conflict with later draws (90 mins Fri)

Following your game sanitize rocks after your game. Please use the standard sanitization procedures explained earlier. Our start times will stay closer to schedule if everyone follows this procedure. Please sanitize your hands before ice sweeping.

Check carefully for personal items left in the rink. Players are not permitted to re-enter the sheet after another game has taken possession.

Depart the ice surface through the door closest to sheet 1.

The winning third is responsible to “circle the winner” on the posted schedule. Pencils in wall-mounted holders have been sanitized.

Do not loiter in waiting or locker rooms. Be respectful of distancing and room capacities.

Adhere to traffic instruction(s) as you move within the facility as you exit the ice proceed down the stairs to the lower lounge.

YOUR EQUIPMENT

Do not leave personal belongings in shared space within locker or waiting rooms. Please return all personal belongings to your locker or vehicle before moving to other locations of our facility.

BONSPIELS

There are no bonspiels planned at this time but do hope to have some if/when Covid restrictions ease.

PRACTICE AND INSTRUCTION

Curling practicing is permitted Saturdays between 11am-3pm by appointment only, please call 632-4612.

BAR AND LOUNGE

The Creek Bar and Grill will be OPEN! We will be following BC Health Services Guidelines and Provincial Health Officer Orders.

In summary, here is what patrons can expect:

- Hours of Operation will be directly affected by PHO orders. Currently, last call is at 9:45pm.
- Maximum total capacity of 58 persons.
- Hand washing & sanitizer stations will be available to patrons/employees at strategic locations.
- Adhere to signage and traffic flow markings.
- Tables and chairs:
 - ✓ Numbers reduced or tables/chairs re-positioned to follow social distancing guidelines.
 - ✓ You must wait to be seated and sign into our guest book leaving your contact information.
 - ✓ No more than 6 people per table; no moving from table to table.

- ✓ Remain seated unless going to the washrooms or exiting the building.
- Table service only, there is no bar service.
- Leave all empties, food trays, dinnerware, etc. on your table when finished.
- Electronic payment is strongly preferred over cash payment.
- Removal self-service stations such as coffee and water
- Live music and/or dancing prohibited. Background music permitted if it is below conversation level.
- Enhanced sanitation protocols.

FOOD SERVICE

Our food service will be open with normal operating hours 11:00am-9:00pm

- Self-serve condiments removed from counter and distributed with each order.
- Utensils distributed with each order
- Table service only.
- Signage and physical markers to indicate traffic flow / distancing requirements.

PRO-SHOP

The Pro-Shop will be open with strict capacity limits (maximum 4 persons). Please respect social distancing rule of 2m. Patrons are encouraged to minimize product touches and sanitize hands upon entrance.

It is expected the pro-shop will not be as fully stocked as normal, especially with respect to sized merchandise (shoes, clothing). However, every effort will be made to maintain adequate stock of common items.

SANITIZATION

Enhanced sanitization and cleaning will be a priority in all areas of our facility however, our frequency will now be increased. This will be a shared responsibility between ice/bar/kitchen staff, custodial and members.

If cleaning products are provided for members to sanitize an item after you use it (for example, rock handles), we encourage you to do so.

A thorough building sanitation will occur every day, at minimum, and more often as needed based on use. Our detailed standards and internal policies will minimize risk. A general summary is below:

- All staff will be trained and monitored with respect to new protocols and expectations.
- Assured use of approved disinfecting and sanitization products.

- Specific and increased frequency sanitization/disinfecting of shared areas and touch surfaces.
- Increased sanitization of food/beverage contact surfaces, preparation surfaces, and equipment.
- Added emphasis on hand hygiene (washing and the use of sanitizer) for all patrons and staff.

OUTBREAK PROTOCOL

Our goals are:

- To manage any incident or outbreak properly, with care and attention to the parties affected.
- To ensure the safety of our patrons and staff, and to minimize any present or future risk.
- To comply with directions and guidance from public health authorities and provincial/national sport governing bodies.
- To determine (if necessary) whether we should continue, modify, or discontinue our programming and/or operations.

IF YOU HAVE A SUSPECTED OR CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19

If you have been in the Hirsch Creek Golf and Winter Club and you suspect or know that you have COVID-19, please contact our Manager, Dan Martin by email manager@hcgwc.ca or by telephone 250-632-4612.

In the event of a positive COVID-19 test of a person or persons who were at the HCGWC in the last 14 days we ask that they notify us immediately so we can initiate our case or outbreak protocol.

The Hirsch /Creek Golf and Winter Club will immediately contact health authorities for further guidance. Ensuring privacy principles are met, we will also facilitate prompt contact tracing and/or contact with each person/team that may have interacted with a positive case.

Members will be notified of any outbreak, their required follow-up, and any resulting decision with respect to our continued operations.

IMPLEMENTATION OF SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Use designated/marked waiting areas only - line control for waiting and entrance onto the ice surface is in place; please adhere to these procedures.

Do not bring chemicals, sanitizers or disinfectants, or cleaning items for non-personal use into the Club. These can interact with our chemicals, sanitizers, or disinfectants, causing adverse reactions or serious interactions of chemicals. Should you require a surface to be cleaned please see any staff member for assistance.

Use the marked sanitization stations for hands, throughout the facility, as required.

Dispose of all disposable masks, gloves, tissues, etc. in the designated garbage bins.

Tissues will not be provided by the Club - please bring with you.

Water bottle filling will not be available - please bring a full bottle with you. Remember that alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the rink.

Individual cubbies have been built at the "home" end of each sheet for all personal belongings.

Non-curling related items found outside of the cubbies will be removed by HCGWC staff members.

Curlers are encouraged to bring "only themselves" to the facility - there are no facilities available for spectators for most draws, and there will be no waiting area available. The "bleachers" may not be occupied.

Members will be required to sign a COVID-19 declaration and waiver at the beginning of the season. If at any point the member is required to miss a game due to COVID-19 like symptoms - whether or not a test comes back positive - the member will be required to re-attest to the declaration and waiver.

Only registered members will be allowed on the ice surface and in the lobby area before draw times.

All coolers and benches will be removed from curling rink.

Spares must be members of the HCGWC. In addition, to facilitate contact tracing as mandated by the Provincial Health Authority, we require spares to print out and fill in an attestation prior to arriving at the facility, which will be dropped off at the office prior to going out to curl. It is the responsibility of the skip of the team the spare is playing for, to ensure this is adhered to.

UPSTAIRS RESTAURANT AREA

The restaurant will be accepting only "card" payments (debit, credit, tap). Limited cash transactions please. POS will be cleaned and sanitized regularly.

Tables have an occupancy limit of 6 patrons - some have an occupancy limit of 4 patrons. These limits must be adhered to and will be strictly enforced. The expectation is that there will be one team per table in most cases.

Table-hopping will not be permitted. Tables are not to be moved under any circumstances. Tables will be sanitized after each use.

If you want to patronize the restaurant before or after your game, you can not access the restaurant from the ice area stairs. You must go back downstairs and enter through the restaurants front doors where you must give your name and phone number and wait to be seated. At this time "The Creek Bar & Grill" must be treated as a stand-alone operation.