

Gibsons Curling Club

Return to Curling 2020-2021 Season

The Gibsons Curling Club Board of Directors and the Covid Committee have thoroughly reviewed the Curling Canada Return to Play Guidelines and the Curl BC return to curling GCC for the 2020-2021 season. Detailed Safety Plans have been created under WorkSafe BC requirements to protect our staff.

Since the coronavirus situation is so fluid, these guidelines are subject to change at any time. Changes will be communicated to our membership as they occur.

We all must adhere to the following for a safe return to curling.

STAY HOME IF YOU ARE NOT FEELING WELL

If you are not feeling well in any way, STAY HOME. This is not a request; it is a requirement. Do not risk getting other members of the GCC sick because you wanted to curl or didn't want to let your team down. It is imperative that everyone make all efforts to prevent coronavirus from entering our building.

If someone on the ice is clearly not feeling well, we request that members of that person's team ask the sick person to go home.

Registration

Please plan to register online and use an electronic form of payment to avoid having contact with volunteers when it is not necessary. If online registration is not an option for you please call to register and we will confirm your registration with a credit card or when your cheque for payment is received.

Registration will open Sept. 21, 2020 and close Sept. 30, 2020 Payment is expected at the time of registration and must be received prior to the close of registration. The number of registrations is an important data point that will be used in planning for the season. We are looking for 50% of last year's members to register for this session.

The curling fees will be broken into 2 sessions, fall and winter for all leagues. A \$20 fee will be added each session to help offset the extra cleaning and cleaning supplies required.

The online registration form can be accessed on the [Gibsons Curling Club](#) website. If you are unable to access please email the club. Our preferred method of payment is e-

mail money transfer. E-mail money transfers can be made through your on-line banking to gibsonscurling@gmail.com. The second payment option would be to mail a cheque to the curling club.

Expect to sign a waiver of liability or assumption of risk form as has been the case historically, and a Covid-19 Declaration of Compliance upon registration.

If cancellations or closures are necessary due to a COVID-19 outbreak either within GCC or in the Gibsons/Sunshine Coast community and we are advised by the Provincial Health Authority or other governing bodies to close, **refunds will not be provided**. *We are only paying for half the season at the start and will pay the second half in January.*

The club is committing to you, our members, by committing the funds necessary to put the ice in and get the club up and running for the season. In return, we ask that you commit to the GCC and understand that we are a non-profit organization and will be unable to provide refunds if closures or cancellations occur as recommended by health authorities.

Refunds are available until Oct. 5, 2020. On this date we will begin the ice-in procedure, and the coronavirus refund policy described in the prior paragraph will go in to force.

Changes to leagues

We are currently operating under Phase 2 CurlIBC and ViaSport regulations.

Phase 2 allows 3 player or 2 player teams only. Phase 3 allows 4 player teams. If we are still in Phase 2 at the start of the curling season, one player will be required to stay home weekly on a team. We are governed by the Provincial Health Authority.

Some leagues will have their capacity, start time or end time modified to **reflect registration numbers**. Some leagues may need to combine with another. We are still working this out with league representatives and will provide an update as soon as possible.

Changes to bonspiels

Our bonspiels are cancelled for this year.

Moving around the building

Physical distancing must be maintained at all times. Visual markers will be provided for spots to change shoes. **Seating will be provided with ABCD on them. Please sit in a**

spot that corresponds with the sheet you will be curling on. One door will be used to enter the ice arena and the other will be used to exit.

The locker room will be closed and unavailable for any use. Curlers will need to arrive at the rink dressed to play.

Before the season starts, there will be an opportunity to retrieve items left in your locker at the end of last season.

Health checks

Hand sanitizer stations will be provided around the building. Please sanitize your hands upon arrival and before entering the ice arena.

Please feel free to bring your own sanitizer to use. Curlers may also bring their own sanitizer wipes to clean their own rock handles, brooms, etc. if that makes you more comfortable.

Masks

Masks must be worn at all times in the Gibsons Curling Club. This includes all times while out on the ice - ***even while sweeping.*** While this is not required by the BC Ministry of Health guidelines and Curling Canada and Curl BC have not yet recommended mask wearing, the Board of Directors is doing everything we can to reduce the risk of having our members get sick and having to close the club. We ask that you do the same. We want all members of GCC to feel confident coming to the club, knowing that we are doing everything possible to protect their health. It is also imperative that we take steps to avoid closure and protect the financial health of our 2club. The vast majority of members supported wearing masks in the survey sent out earlier.

Any disposable or cloth mask **that provides protection against droplets** is acceptable. If you forget your mask, some will be available for purchase at the club. **Bandanas, buffs, gaiters and visors are not acceptable. Please see the References section for further information.** It may be a good idea to bring an extra mask to change into if your mask gets damp or wet.

If you refuse to wear a mask, you will be denied entry to the GCC. Please don't sign up to curl if you refuse to wear a mask.

Building sanitation

A strict and thorough regime of building sanitation will occur after every draw. This will occur on the main floor and in the ice arena.

Ice arena

Water coolers have been removed. If you must have water, bring your own full water bottle (the kitchen is not available to refill your bottles), labelled with your name.

Carpooling

Carpooling is discouraged.

When to arrive for your league and where to prepare to curl

SANITIZER is provided by the door, please sanitize your hands when you enter the lobby.

Please arrive no earlier than 15 minutes before the start of your game. Please change clothes and stretch before you arrive at the GCC.

There will be no place to change clothes and no room to stretch. The only thing you can do after arriving at the GCC is change into your curling shoes.

As soon as you have put on your curling shoes, proceed immediately to the sheet you are curling on. This allows other club members to use the chairs and lobby and will allow for physical distancing.

When you arrive at your sheet of ice move directly to your initial starting position. Do not congregate at the end of the ice as has been the practice historically. The team with hammer will need to be determined prior to heading out on the ice.

There will be no league boards utilized in the lobby area.

Please check the schedule online at home to see what sheet you are curling on.

Leave your street shoes under your chair and bring the rest of your stuff with you out into the ice arena and leave it at the end of your sheet. Please minimize the amount of stuff you have with you.

On the ice

Please maintain physical distancing at all times on the ice. Do not touch anybody else's property, or their rocks.

We will adhere to Curling Canada guidelines and Curl BC Guidelines. Please review these at <https://www.curling.ca/blog/2020/07/06/return-to-play-guidelines/> and <https://www.curlbc.ca/curling-guidlines-released/>. Some highlights of these guidelines are mentioned below.

Lead from the team without the hammer as predetermined on the draw will sanitize all 16 rock handles on their sheet before the start of the game and the skip from the same team will do all 16 rock handles at the conclusion of that same game.

You will throw the same 2 rocks for the entire game, if for some reason there is a change, you must re-sanitize your rocks.

Do not shake hands or touch in any way! Wish your opponents "good curling" from an appropriate distance.

Hammers will be predetermined and will be shown on the draw.

Club equipment such as brooms and stabilizers will be removed from the ice arena and will NOT be available for borrowing. These are considered potential high touch objects.

Line up all rocks in single file across the back using your brooms or shoes to push them.

Do not touch other people's rocks with your hands or gloves!

Team with the hammer: proceed to the indicated markers between the 2 hog lines and stay on the indicated marker until the rock and sweeper have moved past the hog line at the far end. Skip with hammer proceed to the far end-take position on the backboard at the far end.

Team without the hammer: proceed to positions, one sweeper, one thrower, Skip at other end, 4th player (if applicable) stands behind the thrower on the backboard.

Only **one** sweeper will be allowed at a time, and the other sweeper is not allowed to take over at any time during a rock's travel. No sweeping will be allowed behind the tee line by either skip. The active sweeper may sweep their own team's rock behind the tee line. **The active sweeper may not sweep the opposition's rock behind the tee line.**

When a skip's team is not throwing, the skip must move behind the hacks onto the back board to make room for the throwing team's skip.

Try to avoid measuring, but if it's necessary one player should remove gloves, sanitize their hands, retrieve the measuring device, use it and return it, and then re-sanitize their hands. Don't touch the measuring device with gloved hands since gloves cannot be easily sanitized.

If possible, avoid hanging the score. If it is necessary to hang the score, the skip with the hammer will put up the score for both teams and after the game the same person needs to sanitize the numbers used.

Between ends, the team that has the hammer in the next end should vacate the playing area by moving past the hog line, and the team that will throw first in the next end will put away the rocks, while maintaining distancing. Consider having two players push the stones from the playing area to the corners, and one player arranging the rocks in single file. Use your broom or your shoes to move the rocks.

What to do after you are done with your game

Do not shake hands! Congratulate your opponents on a “good game” from an appropriate distance.

Please exit the ice arena using the designated door, change back into your street shoes in the same chair you used earlier. If there are other teams in the lobby, wait on your sheet of ice, maintaining social distancing, until all of the curlers in the lobby have left before your team have enters the lobby.

Please do not linger in the lobby after you have changed your shoes so that other curlers can safely remove their curling shoes.

RESULTS - advise your league coordinator of the W/L of your game (Process to be finalized and or determined by your league rep).

Lounge

It has been decided that to keep things simple ... the lounge run by volunteers will not be open this session.

Kitchen

The kitchen will be closed, and members must avoid entering or using the kitchen including the kitchen counters.

Pro Shop

There will be items available but purchase must be done with physical distancing ensured and appropriate rules will be posted on the office door.

As the club rental equipment will not be available to rent this year, curlers will need to get their own equipment. Again, please remember you are not able to borrow other curlers' throwing aids, etc. during the game. You will need to acquire your own. In order to have equipment as soon as possible, please place your orders as soon as you register.

There are three main suppliers that the club uses. They are:

Edge Curling (<https://edgecurling.bc.ca/>)

Asham Curling (<https://www.asham.com/>)

Goldline Curling (<https://www.goldlinecurling.com/>)

Please review their web sites and identify what items you would like to purchase. E-mail the club with a list of items you would like ordered for yourself. Please use the title **“Pro Shop”** when emailing the club with your order. When the items are received, you will be contacted and advised they are in and the amount owing.

Our preferred method of payment for Pro Shop items is e-mail money transfer. E-mail money transfers can be made through your on-line banking to gibsonscurling@gmail.com. The second payment option would be to mail a cheque to the curling club.

Washrooms

Washrooms will remain open, but **one** person only at a time. Please ALWAYS wash your hands thoroughly and use sanitizer before entering the ice arena.

If you have a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19

If you have been in the Gibsons Curling Club and you suspect or know that you have COVID-19 ***please contact the club and your league coordinator immediately.***