

# Lethbridge Curling Club

## COVID-19 Reopening Standards 2020

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## Introduction

This document has been prepared for the Lethbridge Curling Club in accordance with guidance provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada, Alberta Health Services, the City of Lethbridge, Curling Canada, and Curling Alberta and is to be referenced by club and staff members alike. The procedures outlined in this document are mandatory and are to be followed closely and are subject to change as new guidance is provided.

## Enforcement

- The procedures outlined in this document supersede existing policies and practices.
- Every effort will be made to ensure that these standards are communicated to all members and individuals using the facility.
- Management and staff are empowered to eject from the Lethbridge Curling Club at the ATB Centre any individuals acting in a manner that is unsafe to themselves or others, or who contravene the procedures outlined herein. Further measures, including temporary or permanent suspension of privileges, may be enacted by the Board of Directors.
- Reports of unsafe behavior and/or contravention of these standards may be submitted in writing to the General Manager of the Lethbridge Curling Club.

## Guiding Principles

- Employee, member and guest health and safety are of the utmost importance to the Lethbridge Curling Club, its board of directors and management.
- The Lethbridge Curling Club COVID-19 Reopening Standards will be developed, and revised as needed, in adherence to guidance from Public Health Agency of Canada, Alberta Health Services, the City of Lethbridge, Curling Canada, and Curling Alberta.
- If permitted to open, every effort will be made to ensure that the game of curling is accessible to the greatest number of members possible. Every effort will be made to ensure that participants have a safe and enjoyable experience, both on and off the ice.
- While the Lethbridge Curling Club Board of Directors and Management are making every effort to provide a safe and enjoyable environment, it is recognized that each individual is responsible for their own safety and comfort.

## Building Protocols

### General

- If you have a new or worsening fever, cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, gastrointestinal symptoms, chills, fatigue or weakness, muscle or body aches (including chest pain), new loss of smell or taste, or are otherwise unwell, please do not enter the ATB Centre. Please refer to the Alberta Health Services website regarding isolation requirements.
- The Lethbridge Curling Club encourages all individuals to follow Alberta Health Services guidelines as related to mask use.
- In the event that the Lethbridge Curling Club is notified that a user of the ATB Centre tests positive for the COVID-19 virus, Management and the Board of Directors will work with Alberta Health Services to determine next steps.
- The Lethbridge Curling Club will maintain a roster of all active members curling in various leagues. To assist with Contact Tracing in the event that a user of the ATB Centre tests positive for the COVID-19 virus, teams must report any spare curlers to the General Manager.

## Mask Use

In accordance with the City of Lethbridge decision making the use of face coverings mandatory in all City owned and operated facilities the following mask rules must be adhered to.

1. Face coverings must be worn when entering the ATB Centre, and in all public areas in the ATB Centre.
2. Face coverings must be worn in the Lethbridge Curling Club in the following public spaces:
  - a. Pro Shop/Office
  - b. Lobby area
  - c. Locker rooms and washrooms
  - d. Back stairs to lounge, elevator
  - e. Entering and leaving lounge
  - f. Ordering food and drinks at the counter
3. Face coverings may be removed
  - a. Once you have entered the Ice surface
  - b. Once you are seated in the lounge

## Lobby, Lockers & Locker Rooms

- The lobby, lockers and locker rooms are reserved for use only by curlers preparing to enter the ice surface for scheduled games.
- Lockers will be available, as per usual to individuals and teams.
  - Curlers are asked to store brooms, shoes, and other equipment in lockers, but to arrive fully dressed for curling games.
- The locker room is available only to members who have rented a locker in that space, and only to collect equipment from the locker. Locker rooms are not to be used for changing clothing.
  - Locker room bathrooms are open to all curlers.
- Curlers are asked to access lockers quickly, and to minimize time spent in locker rooms. Please do not loiter or socialize in locker room areas.
- Curlers are asked to maintain physical distancing from those using lockers located near to their lockers.
- Curlers are encouraged to share lockers only with individuals who are part of their own households. If individuals from separate households agree to share a locker, they must all agree and accept the increased risks associated with communal spaces and potential crowding.
- Footwear-cleaning machines will be available near the entry doors to the lobby. Curlers are encouraged to sanitize hands prior to and after use of the machines.
- Food and beverages are not permitted in the lobby.

## Office, Pro-Shop, Ice Tech Office, Storage Spaces, and Mechanical Room

- Maximum 3 patrons in the Office/Pro-Shop at any time.

## Kitchen, Concession, Lounge, Restrooms & Multi-Purpose Room

- To be published as a separate document.

## Ice Surface/Cold Side

- Loaner equipment will not be available for general use or league play.
  - Loaner equipment will be available, if requested, for school rental groups. Contact the General Manager for information about availability and costs.
  - Loaner equipment will be available for learn-to-curl clinics.
  - Loaner equipment, if used for these groups, will be sanitized prior to and following use.
- Benches are for use by one individual at any time, and curlers are encouraged not to use the benches unless needed.
- Footwear-cleaning machines (“boot boys”) will not be placed near doors to ice surfaces. Sticky pads will be placed at the home end of each sheet of ice; Curlers are asked to ensure that they walk over these pads to aid with cleaning footwear prior to entering the ice surface.

## League Play (includes regular leagues, rental leagues, etc.)

- League start times will be staggered to ensure that we do not have large groups of people in the lobby prior to the start of each game. Each curler is responsible for verifying their game start time as listed on the league schedule.
- Curlers may arrive up to 15 minutes prior to the start of game time. Any curlers arriving more than 15 minutes before game start time are asked to wait in the building foyer or in the lounge area.
- Curlers are asked to arrive dressed and ready to play. Curlers may don appropriate footwear in the lobby.
- Curlers must take all belongings and store them at the home end of the sheet they are playing on. No items may be left in the lobby. Please bring appropriate storage bags or containers to minimize the transfer of dirt or other materials between the lobby and the ice surface.
- Rock handles will be sanitized prior to the start of each game.
- Please ensure that your hands contact only the rocks that you will deliver throughout the game. Every effort should be made to ensure that your hands are the only ones that contact your rocks. Players responsible for clearing at the conclusion of each end shall use their feet and brooms to move all rocks.
  - Please be aware that, during sweeping and other aspects of the game, respiratory droplets may come into contact with your rock. You may wish to purchase and carry sanitizing materials for use throughout the game.
  - NOTE: Spray sanitizing materials are not permitted on or near the ice surface, as they are damaging to the ice surface.
- You are encouraged to clean the bottom of your rock only with your broom, not with your bare or gloved hand.
- Draw time information will be posted on the glass at the end of each sheet. Please do not look for this information at the draw board inside the lobby; please proceed to your assigned sheet to prepare for your game.
- Immediately following the completion of your game, please do not linger in the lobby or locker room areas. The lounge has been configured to allow for safe distancing for all participants; if you do not intend to socialize in the lounge we ask that you leave the building.

## Junior Curling Program

- Registration for the Junior Curling Program will be limited to 40 athletes (4 per sheet of ice).
- One coach/volunteer will supervise two sheets of ice and provide instruction/guidance.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to drop athletes off at the beginning of the program (no more than 15 minutes prior to start time), and to exit the lobby area. Parents/guardians are invited to utilize the upstairs lounge area for viewing.
- At the conclusion of the weekly junior program, parents/guardians are asked to pick up their children and to exit the lobby area within 10 minutes of completion of the program. Parents/guardians are invited to visit the lounge following completion of the program.
- Loaner equipment will be provided for the Junior Curling Program; equipment will be sanitized prior to and after use.
  - Sharing of equipment between athletes is not allowed.

## In-Game Protocols

- At the beginning of the game, curlers will proceed immediately onto their assigned sheets. There will not be pre-game handshakes; we encourage waves and smiles as you wish each other “good curling”.
- We have provided markings in the ice surface to assist with social distancing. Please use good judgement and stay 2 metres from others. Note that all players will stay to one side of the sheet to ensure distance from neighboring sheets.
- Last stone first end (Hammer) will be assigned by the Office and will be posted with the schedule.
  - The team who does not have the last stone in the first end will choose stone colour.
  - The vice-skip of the team WITH FIRST END HAMMER will be responsible for keeping the score for both teams and returning provided score sheets.

- The vice-skip of the team WITHOUT FIRST END HAMMER will be responsible for all measurements for both teams. No other players should touch any measuring equipment.
  - Curlers are encouraged to minimize use of measuring devices.
  - Curlers are encouraged to sanitize their hand prior to and after use of the measuring device.
- Only one sweeper from the delivering team is permitted, on all delivered stones. No relaying (e.g. second sweeper taking over halfway down the sheet; allowing skip/vice-skip to take over). No other member of either team can sweep on a given play, including behind the t-line and raised/tapped stones. Non-sweeping team member is to remain in the designated area to the side of the sheet.
- Non-delivering team may not sweep any rocks, including their own.
- The person in charge of the house is not allowed to sweep under any circumstance. The skip or vice-skip (not both) of non-delivering team must stand at the hack until the other team is finished playing and has relinquished control of the house. The skip or vice-skip (both teams) may not sweep any stones (both colours) set in motion by the delivering team.
- Only one member of the non-delivering team may be behind the backline.
- When the skip and vice-skip are exchanging control of the house, or discussing a shot, they must remain at least two metres apart at all times.
- When the buzzer sounds, the end currently underway is your final end. Do not finish that end and play an additional end; finish that end, put the rocks away and exit the ice surface promptly. If game is completed at away end, please return your own two rocks to home end. Rather than handshakes, wish your opponents “good game” verbally.

## Practice Ice

Practice Ice will be unavailable until further notice. Exceptions may be made by the General Manager of the Lethbridge Curling Club for scheduled practice time for individuals and teams who are registered to participate in sanctioned competitions. Please contact the General Manager for details regarding times and costs.

The Board understands that this is a big change for our members, and likely a disappointment to many. Practice ice poses a number of challenges given our current circumstances, and we will continue to revisit the feasibility of practice ice as the season progresses. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to manage sanitization needs, scheduling, and our budget during this challenging year.

## Rental Ice

Ice rentals will be unavailable until further notice. Please contact the General Manager for details.

## Communications

- Draft plan to be distributed to the Board of Directors for discussion in July 2020.
- One-pager to be developed for distribution with registration information in August 2020.
  - Draft plan to be available at time of one-pager distribution.
- Reopening Plan Committee to meet regularly, posting and distributing changes to this document as needed throughout the 2020-21 curling season.
- Members and facility users are encouraged to contact the General Manager, in writing, with questions or concerns related to the Lethbridge Curling Club Reopening Plan.

## Contact

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