

Curling Etiquette

Before the Game

- Arrive at the Club with enough time to change and warm up/stretch before the scheduled start of the game.
- Check that your shoes are free of dirt and grit as they can interfere with the way rocks move on the ice. Use the brushes at the end of each sheet to clean your broom.
- While the teams are assembling in the shed, you can practice your slide, but don't throw any practice rocks.
- Greet the members of the opposing team with a handshake, tell them your name, and wish them "good curling".

During the Game

- Compliment good shots, no matter which team makes them. Respect your opponent.
- Be ready. Take your position in the hack as soon as your opponent has delivered their stone. Keep the game moving; delays detract from the sport. Be prepared to sweep as soon as your teammate releases the rock.
- After delivering your stone, lift your knees and hands off the ice as body heat melts and leaves marks on the ice. Move to the side of the sheet between the hog lines or if you are next to play, you can stand quietly behind the hack.
- Be courteous. Don't distract your opponent in the hack or cross the sheet when their stone is being played. Sweepers should stay on the sidelines between the hog lines when not sweeping.
- Place your team mate's rock in front of the hack to help speed up the game.
- Focus on your own game and if you're sweeping, be aware of the shot that the skip has called. Keep an eye out for rocks that run onto other sheets.
- All games on the ice should run approximately the same time. Therefore, if your game is an end or two behind all other games you should pick up the pace. Each player should be ready to deliver their rock when their skip puts down the broom.
- Leads and seconds are not permitted in house, except when sweeping or to remove the stones after the count has been determined by the vices.

After the Game

- Finish with a handshake. When the game is over, offer each of the players a hearty handshake and "good curling" or "good game" and move off the ice.
- The winning curlers traditionally offer their counterparts (lead to lead, seconds to seconds etc) a drink of their choice following the game. It's considered polite to socialize with other curlers as you sit together at the table behind the sheet that you played on.