



Return to Play Plan

Introduction

To our members: The Highland staff and board of directors along with the help of Curl Sask and Curling Canada have put together a plan to help us return to play as safely as possible. Please understand that this was a very long, thought out plan that took many hours of combining safety with realistic practices.

This is going to be a learning process as we work together to reopen. We ask that you be patient with us and each other and help as much as possible, whether that be through volunteering time, suggestions or just positive reassurance.

We appreciate our members and are so glad to have them back curling this season but we need to make sure we are all making a real effort to promote safe and healthy practices even if you don't completely agree with them. The ideal goal would be that one day we return to life as usual but until then having your full support of the "new normal" is appreciated.

The following are the guidelines and rules that have been established for the Highland, and hopefully answers many of your questions.

Do I need to sign anything to be eligible to curl this year?

All members are obligated to sign a Declaration of Compliance as well as Release of Liability, Waiver of Claims and Indemnity Agreement. These documents are mandatory and will be kept track of to ensure all members have signed them.

Will the format of curling be changed? What do I need to know?

Curling Canada has released general guidelines – these can be read on the Curling Canada website – also see the visual aid at the end of this document. We will also be releasing a video guide in the near future. It highlights the flow of player positioning during a game.

For the Highland:

- We will continue with 4-person teams, but will enforce the only one sweeper at a time rule.
- To help keep distances and for a speedier start, we are encouraging ‘Rock paper scissors’ instead of a coin toss for determining hammer.

How are the leagues changing?

The main changes at the Highland are:

- We will ask that players do not arrive more than 15 minutes before their start time
- Leagues will be staggering start times by 15 minutes. 3 sheets will start at one draw time and another 3 will go out 3 mins later to try and avoid cluster points.
- Because of the clustering of traffic at game start and end times, we are asking for extra effort this year to keep games to a strict 2-hour time limit

What rules are in place for moving around the building?

Being that the Highland doesn't have a separate entrance and exit, it is going to be imperative to follow a strict yield policy for this season.

- When entering the rink through the vestibule, it is the responsibility of the person outside to yield to the person inside.
- In the stairwell, it will be the responsibility of the person at the top of the stairs to wait until the person coming up the stairs has passed by them safely.
- The lobby will be exclusively one-way traffic going in a counter-clockwise direction. Just like grocery stores, we will have directional markers to help guide you around the building.
- Lockers will not be available, so curlers will need to arrive dressed to play. Shoes can be put in in the lobby.
- Masks will not be mandatory in the lobby, but highly encouraged. Note this may change dependent on government guidelines. Masks will not be mandatory on ice.

Are there any changes On Ice for keeping Safe?

Again, it is all about avoiding contact.

- Entering and Leaving the ice area will also be in a counter-clockwise direction for all sheets – enter by the Northern door near the office, leave by the southern door.
- There will no water coolers on ice – you will need to bring your own water bottle (or purchase water from the Button)
- For efficiency we are asking teams to sanitize their own rocks - one person from each team will grab a sanitizing wipe and wipe down the handles of their own teams' rocks. Players from that point will only be allowed to touch their own rocks. There will be a sheet of paper hanging behind each sheet of ice.
- The person who sanitizations the rocks needs to initial they did so along with the time to ensure we can hold everyone accountable
- We are asking teams to avoid using scoreboards. Use your phones, or keep a notepad.
- There won't be scorecards supplied – winning teams are to notify the office (via any means – text, email, phone call etc) of the league, date, score, winning team name, and the names of the players on both teams) – contact tracing

What about the lounge?

Changes to the lounge area are similar to what has been mandated to restaurants and bars in general, and these directives also apply to our lounge and are subject to change from the government. The Highland will implement the following changes:

- Tables will only seat 4 per table and will be spaced 6 feet apart.
- There will no longer be “bar ordering” you will sit at your table and a server will take both your order as well as your payment.
- All menus will be available via a QR code on your table.

What other changes should I know about?

- To help with minimising contact with office and to keep our staff safe, we HIGHLY encourage online payment prior to the season starting.
- When you pay you will see a new fee this year It will be referred to as a “C19 Fee”. It is a one-time payment of \$20.00 that will go to trying to cover a small fraction of the costs associated with reopening the rink during the pandemic.

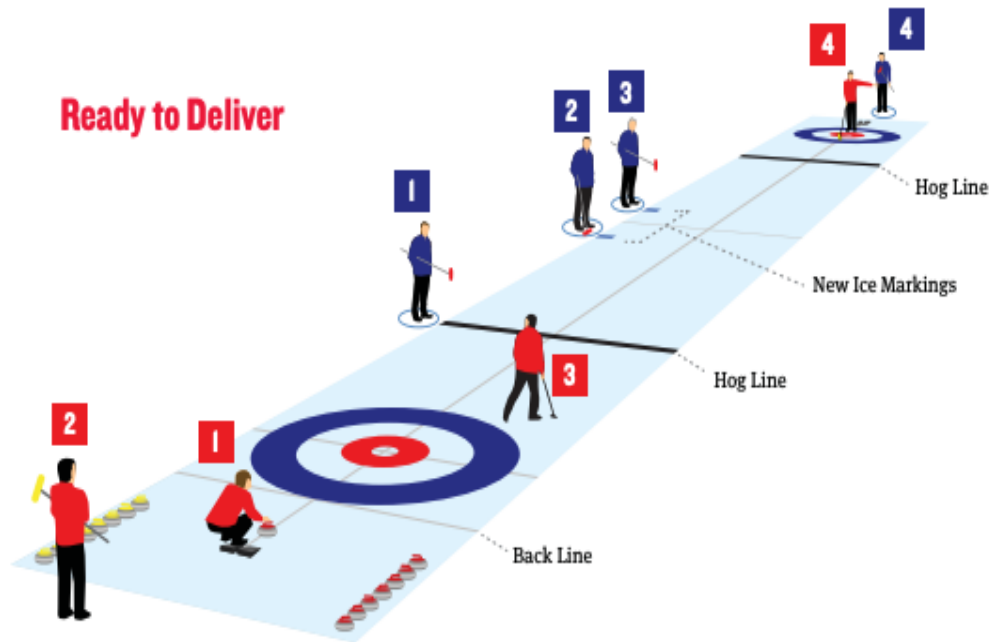
And finally...

We understand that this “new normal” we find ourselves in is less than ideal, but it is our reality nonetheless. There have been countless hours devoted to the reopening of the rink and trying to find the perfect balance of realistic feasibility along with absolutely essential safety measures. We’re asking members to understand and try their best to accommodate these new procedures with a positive outlook so we can all get back to playing a game we love.

Appendix 5: Distancing Illustrations



Ready to Deliver



Stone is Delivered

