

# Vermilion Curling Club COVID-19 Reopening Guidelines 2020

Document as of October 8, 2020 to be reviewed by Covid Return to Play Committee



## Contents

Introduction	1
Enforcement	1
Guiding Principles	1
Building Protocols	1
General	1
Mask Use	1
Lobby, Lockers and Locker Rooms	1
Ice Technician Office, Storage Spaces and Mechanical Room	1
Kitchen and Bar	1
Equipment	1
League Play and In-Game Protocols	
Facility Access	1
Fees	1
League Play	1
On the Ice	1
Sanitizing	1
Junior Curling Program	1
Practice Ice	1
Rentals	1
Communications	1
Contact	1

## Introduction

This document has been prepared for the Vermilion Curling Club in accordance with guidance provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada, Alberta Health Services, the Town of Vermilion, Curling Canada, and Curling Alberta and is to be referenced by facility users and staff members alike. The procedures outlined in this document are mandatory, 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, individuals and groups using the facility.

Ultimately, the hope is that all curlers and facility users will conduct themselves in a safe manner by following all guidance in this document and any additional AHS guidance.

## Guiding Principles

Staff, member, volunteer and guest health and safety are of the utmost importance to the Vermilion Curling Club, its board of directors, and Curling Alberta. The Vermilion Curling Club COVID-19 Return to Play Guidance will be developed and revised as needed, in adherence to guidance from Public Health Agency of Canada, Alberta Health Services, the Town of Vermilion, Curling Canada, and Curling Alberta.

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 Vermilion Curling Club Board of Directors 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 fever, cough, shortness or 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 Vermilion Curling Club. Please refer to the Alberta Health Services website regarding isolation requirements.

In the event that the Vermilion Curling Club is notified that a user of the facility tests positive

for the COVID-19 virus, the Board of Directors will work with Alberta Health Services to determine next steps.

The Vermilion Curling Club will maintain a roster of all active members curling in each league. Teams must report any spare curlers each night of play to the league coordinator. This is to assist with contact tracing in the event that a user of the Vermilion Curling Club tests positive for the COVID-19 virus.

The Vermilion Curling Club also has a Google Form which can be accessed through this link <https://forms.gle/SB2GqCUaazCdvLaA9> or from a QR code at every entrance to the building. These screening questions **MUST** be completed by each individual **BEFORE** entering the Vermilion Curling Club each day. Responses to these forms are only accessible by one Board member and are used for contact tracing purposes only.

### Mask Use

At the time of writing this document, Vermilion does not have a face covering/mask policy for public spaces. Therefore, it is not mandatory to wear a face covering/mask in the Vermilion Curling Club.

However, Curling Canada and Curling Alberta **strongly recommend** masks be worn upon entering a curling facility, even if two meters of distance is maintained. Masks are recommended for use as curlers walk through the lobby, enter locker rooms and washrooms, access the stairs to the lounge, and while entering and leaving the lounge. Face coverings/masks may be removed once curlers have entered the ice surface or once 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 to individuals for a \$25/year fee. Do not use lockers unless they have been assigned to you for use as they will not be sanitized.

Curlers are able to store brooms, shoes, and other equipment in lockers, but are to arrive fully dressed for curling games.

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 a 2 meter distance from others using the locker room. Only four individuals are permitted in the locker room/washroom in the west hallway at a time. 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.

When in the lounge, curlers and observers are asked to sit at a table and wait to be served. Do

not come up to the bar to request service. You may come up to the bar area in front of the plexiglass to pay bar tabs. Please use the hand sanitizer provided before using the debit machine.

Do not move around tables and chairs. Seating arrangements have been set up to allow for maximum occupancy permitted while maintaining 2 meters of distance between groups.

Washroom and high touch surfaces will be sanitized frequently by bar staff.

The foosball table is not being played at this time.

The juke box is available to be used. Please use hand sanitizer before choosing music.

### Ice Technician Office, Storage Spaces, and Mechanical Room

Only those pre-approved by the Town of Vermilion or the ice technician are permitted to enter the ice technician office, storage spaces or mechanical room.

### Kitchen and Bar

No individual except those approved by the bar manager may enter the kitchen, storage area, liquor room or go behind the bar for any reason. This includes board members and league coordinators.

### Equipment

Loaner equipment will not be available for general use or league play with the following exceptions:

- Loaner equipment will be available for juniors to sign out for the season.
- Loaner equipment will be available, if requested, for school rental groups.
- Loaner equipment will be available for learn-to-curl clinics.

Loaner equipment, if used for these groups, will be sanitized following use.

Benches on the ice surface are for use by one individual at a time, and curlers are encouraged not to use the benches unless needed.

### League Play and In-Game Protocols (includes regular leagues, rentals, etc.)

#### **Facility Access**

All facility users will sanitize their hands upon entering the Vermilion Curling Club, after blowing their nose, and before using the water cooler or measuring device. Hand sanitizing stations are provided at multiple locations throughout the lobby, lounge, ice surface, and before

entering locker rooms and washrooms. Health screening questions, which can be accessed through this link <https://forms.gle/SB2GqCUaazCdvLaA9> or from a QR code at every entrance to the building, **MUST** be completed by each individual **BEFORE** entering the Vermilion Curling Club each day.

### **Fees**

Curling dues for league play are due in the first month of play. In the event of a provincial shut down due to COVID-19 before December 31, 2020, half of league fees will be non-refundable. This is to help cover start up costs of putting the ice in regardless of length of season.

### **League Play**

Waivers/assumption of risk and declaration of compliance documents will be signed by every user of the ice surface. Regular league curlers will sign these documents on the first night of league play. Spares will be asked to sign them the first time they spare for any team. These only need to be signed once and will be kept for the season.

It is more important than ever for curlers to be on time for scheduled games. If there is a second draw in an evening, or a rental, one group of curlers needs to be finished their game and out of the lobby before the next ice user group arrives at the curling rink. For this reason, two hours will be allotted for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday night games and two and a half hours on Thursday nights. As games draw close to the end of their time slot, regardless of whether the maximum number of ends has been played, teams will finish the end they are on and leave the ice surface. If the game is completed at the away end, please return your own two rocks to the home end.

Curlers are not to arrive more than 15 minutes prior to game time to ensure that there are no large groups in the lobby prior to the start of each game. This would make it difficult to physical distance. Any curlers arriving more than 15 minutes before game start time are asked to wait outside or in their vehicles. Curlers are asked to arrive dressed and ready to play once their curling shoes are on.

Teams are asked to clear out of the lobby/locker rooms/downstairs washrooms within 15 minutes of the conclusion of their game. Teams may choose to leave the facility or sit in the lounge upstairs.

### **On the Ice**

Please use good judgement and stay 2 metres from others. This includes curlers on your sheet and neighboring sheets.

There will not be pre- or post-game handshakes; Curling Alberta encourages waves and smiles as you wish each other “good curling”.

Hammer will be determined using paper, rock, scissors or a coin toss app. Coins or other means of determining hammer using a communal object should not be used.

Rock handles will be sanitized at the conclusion of each game. Every effort should be made to

ensure that your hands are the only ones that contact your rocks. Players responsible for clearing the house at the conclusion of each end shall use their feet and brooms to move all rocks.

- o Please be aware that, during sweeping and other aspects of the game, respiratory droplets may come into contact with your rock. You may choose to use sanitizing materials provided throughout the game.
- o NOTE: Spray sanitizing materials are not permitted on the ice surface, as they are damaging to the ice surface. Please spray the sanitizing material on the paper towel provided and wipe the rock handle. Dispose of paper towel in the garbage cans provided.

Curling Alberta encourages you to clean the bottom of your rock only with your broom, not with your bare or gloved hand.

Draw time and sheet information will be posted on the glass at the end of each sheet. Please do not look for this information at the bulletin board inside the lobby; proceed directly to your assigned sheet to prepare for your game.

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. The non-sweeping team member is to remain to the side of the sheet or can follow to provide encouragement to the designated sweeper, but must maintain 2 meters of distance. The non-delivering team may not sweep any rocks, including their own or delivering team stones which cross the t-line.

The person in charge of the house is not allowed to sweep under any circumstance. The skip or vice skip (not both) of the non-delivering team must stand at the hack or on the back boards until the delivering team has relinquished control of the house.

When the skip and vice-skip are exchanging control of the house, or discussing a shot, they must remain 2 metres apart.

Scoreboards are not in use this year. Thirds should continue to keep score on their own using phones or verbally saying the full score after each end.

Curling Alberta recommends that if more than 8 people are on a sheet of ice (example - a coach) the extra person should wear a mask even if physical distancing is maintained.

Please throw away your own recycling or trash in the receptacles provided. This is a contamination risk for our ice technician and helpers as they clean the ice surface.

### **Sanitizing**

At the end of each league/rental/group play, a team or other assigned volunteer will follow the sanitizing checklist found in the lobby to sanitize high touch surfaces. All equipment will be provided by the Vermilion Curling Club. Sanitization should occur after all

curlers have left the lobby following league play. The team/volunteer should be different each week so as not to overload a single team or volunteer. League coordinators will designate teams/volunteers each week to sanitize.

## Junior Curling Program

The junior curling programs, including the Tuesday after school curling and Monday night Junior Superleague are using the guidelines in this document as well as some guidelines specific to their program. Please see junior program documents provided at the parent meeting for those guidelines.

## Practice Ice

Practice Ice will be unavailable or limited day to day due to the additional cleaning measures required after use. Decisions to allow practice ice will be made by the Ice Technician for individuals and teams who are registered in Vermilion Curling Club leagues. A minimum of 30 minutes will be scheduled between one league/rental/practice ice time ending and the next starting to allow safe traffic flow through the lobby.

## Rentals

Ice rentals may be available upon request and receipt of payment. Renters of the ice surface will have to adhere to all requirements in this document as well as follow the sanitizing procedures at the end of their rental. The person in charge of the rental for the group must sign a rental agreement and a declaration of compliance document on behalf of the group and be responsible for all group members adhering to Vermilion Curling Club's Return to Play Guidance. A minimum of 30 minutes will be scheduled between one league/rental/practice ice time ending and the next starting to allow safe traffic flow through the lobby.

Rentals of Runion Hall may be available upon request and receipt of payment. Renters will have to adhere to all requirements in this document as well as follow the sanitizing procedure at the end of their rental. The person in charge of rental for the group must sign a rental agreement and a declaration of compliance document on behalf of the group and be responsible for all group members adhering to Vermilion Curling Club's Return to Play Guidance.

## Communications

Draft Return to Play Guidance to be distributed to the Covid Return to Play Committee in October 2020. When a final draft is prepared, it will be shared with the Board of Directors for discussion via email in October 2020.

A one page document is to be developed for distribution with registration information on the first night of league play.

Return to Play Guidance will be provided to the Town of Vermilion after review by the Board of Directors in October 2020.

Return to Play Guidance will be provided to one time and regular renters of the facility and made available on social media where able. Return to Play Guidance will also be emailed to members and community stakeholders upon request.

Return to Play Guidance Committee is to meet when required to update this document as needed throughout the 2020-21 curling season.

Members and facility users are encouraged to contact the Board of Directors, in writing, with questions or concerns related to the Vermilion Curling Club Return to Play Guidance. This can be done via email to [vermilioncurlingclub@gmail.com](mailto:vermilioncurlingclub@gmail.com) or mailed to:

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