



# CURLING ETIQUETTE

The spirit of curling is reflected in these traditions and courtesies which embody good sportsmanship and honorable conduct.

## **BEFORE THE GAME**

1. Get to the Curling Center in time to change and warm up before the game.
2. Make sure your equipment is clean before you get on the ice. Shoes worn outdoors should not be used on the ice. Clean your broom with the brushes provided.
3. While practice slides from the hack are allowed before the game, it is not acceptable to practice with rocks.
4. Shake hands with all teammates and opponents and wish them “good curling”, never “good luck”.

## **DURING THE GAME**

1. Play safe – for example, avoid walking backward and lifting rocks off the ice.
2. When an opposing player is in the hack, stand still on or near a sheet edge line between the courtesy line and the hog line and keep silent. If you are next to deliver you may stand quietly behind the hacks.
3. Do not distract another player.
4. Never cross the ice sheet when a stone is being played or a player is in the hack.
5. Get into the hack in a timely fashion when it is your turn to deliver. Be ready before your skip calls the shot.
6. After you deliver, lift knees and hands off the ice as quickly as possible in a safe manner. Body heat will melt and leave imprints in the ice.
7. Compliment a good shot by either team. Encourage your teammates, but avoid exaggerated celebrations for your own team’s shots, and never “trash talk” the other team.
8. Be attentive to your own game. If you are sweeping, know the shot the skip has called.
9. Prevent rocks from going onto other sheets.
10. Do not measure the rocks in play using anything but your eyes.
11. At the conclusion of the end, only the vices are allowed in the house. Leads and seconds should wait outside the house, ideally outside the hog line, until the score has been determined. Skips should move to the other end of the ice and be ready to call the next shot.
12. After the vices agree on a score, the leads should move directly to the carpet behind the hacks to get ready to throw a stone. The seconds and thirds will clear the stones and arrange them in order.

## **AFTER THE GAME**

1. Shake hands with your teammates and opponents and say “good curling” or “good game”.
2. When leaving the ice, wait for other curlers to deliver their stones from either end before crossing behind them or opening a door.
3. Winners traditionally treat the losers to a beverage of their choice after the game, with the opponents reciprocating after the first round. Please be aware of this tradition. It is considered rude not to socialize with the opposing team except for compelling reasons. If you are unable to socialize after the game, apologize to your opposing team as you leave the ice.
4. Sit together at the table behind your sheet and enjoy the company of your fellow curlers.