



ONTARIO CURLING ASSOCIATION

RULES SUPPLEMENT 2016-2017



CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION IN OCA COMPETITIONS:

It is a condition of participation in any competition **organized and sanctioned** by the Ontario Curling Association that the participant does so at his/her sole risk and that the Association shall not be liable in any case for any loss, damage or injury resulting from or in connection with such participation. The participant is required to complete and submit (electronically or other) a participation waiver.

GENERAL RULES OF CURLING GOVERNING OCA COMPETITIONS:

The OCA will use the rules found in the “Rules of Curling for Officiated Play 2014-2018” Curling Canada Official Rulebook with the following exceptions and clarifications:

- **Moratoriums as released during the rule book cycle (e.g. Sweeping Moratorium)**
- Events convened by a distinct and separate committee that are governed by the rules of that committee as applied by that committee.

Other related documents include:

- OCA [Bylaws](#) & [Policies](#)
- OCA website competition specific guidelines & Competitor Guides
- 2016-17 Operational Review – Competitions leading to a National event
- 2016-17 Operational Review – Competitions leading to a Provincial event

The operational review documents form a basis of understanding for the competitions. The Rules Supplement supersedes the protocol document on specific rules. The protocols are only a guideline as to how each competition will be staged.

DEFINITIONS – “AGE RESTRICTIONS”

OCA Events leading to a National Championship

- Club Championship – Nineteen (19) years or older as of November 1st, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before November 1, 1997.**
- U-21 Men’s and Women’s – Twenty (20) years or younger as of June 30, 2016 **which means athletes born after June 30, 1995.**
- U-18 Men’s and Women’s – Seventeen (17) years or younger as of June 30, 2016 **which means athletes born after June 30, 1998.**
- Mixed – Nineteen (19) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1997.**
- Senior Men & Women – Fifty (50) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1966.**
- Master Men & Women – Sixty (60) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1956.**
- Wheelchair – No age restrictions
- Men’s Tankard – No age restrictions
- Scotties Tournament of Hearts – No age restrictions
- Mixed Doubles – No age restrictions

OCA Events leading to a Provincial Championship

- U-15 Challenges – Fourteen (14) years or younger as of June 30, 2016 **which means athletes born after June 30, 2001.**
- U-18 Mixed – Seventeen (17) years or younger as of June 30, 2016 **which means athletes born after June 30, 1998.**
- U-21 Mixed Doubles – Twenty (20) years or younger as of June 30, 2016 **which means athletes born after June 30, 1995.**
- Silver Tankard & Women’s Tankard – Seventeen (17) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1999.**
- Fairfield Marriott / Best Western Challenge – Nineteen (19) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1997.**
- Colts & Trophy – Nineteen (19) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1997.**
- Intermediate Men & Women – Thirty-five (35) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1981.**
- Senior Mixed
 - Males must be fifty (50) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1966.**
 - Females must be forty-five (45) years or older as of December 31, 2016 **which means athletes born on or before December 31, 1971.**

ELIGIBILITY and REGISTRATION

1. A player shall be eligible to play in an OCA competition whether or not it leads to a Canadian championship provided he/she is a member **in good standing** of the OCA **Affiliated Curling** Club he/she is representing immediately prior to **entry deadline**. At all times during the competition, such member's **residency is compliant with** either:

- (a) The Ontario Curling Association has adopted Canada's Residency policy (see Appendix 'A'). It is expected that all athletes will abide by the residency requirements or exceptions as provided. Any athlete who questions or potentially is in question to their residency status either due to an exception request or inability to provide the proper documentation **must** contact the Executive Director prior to entering the competition process to clarify and have their residency confirmed.

Any athlete found in breach of the residency policy will face sanctions from the OCA including but not limited to: forfeiture of previous victories, suspension from OCA competitions and/or reciprocal requests to other Associations to honour the sanctions **imposed**.

The principles of residency within the Ontario Curling Association are that participants/athletes will be residents of our Association's boundaries, and compete for the opportunity to win a Provincial Championship in Ontario. All participants/athletes may only compete for one Association during the competitive season (2016-17) and this principle will be closely monitored.

Exceptions as provided in Curling Canada's Residency Policy will be reviewed on an individual basis and require the written permission from the Ontario Curling Association prior to entering the competition. Under Curling Canada's Residency Policy exceptions will be made in two categories:

- I. **All Competitions leading to a National (except # 2 below)**: Allows for exceptions as detailed in the policy.
 - II. **Men's (Brier) & Women's (Scotties)**: Allow for one non-resident participant/athlete who is identified by the team prior to entering. All other athletes must be bona-fide residents and do not qualify for other exceptions in the policy.
 - III. **All Competitions leading to an Ontario Championship only**: All participants/athletes must be members of an OCA – Affiliated Curling Club.
- b) a resident outside the geographical jurisdiction of the OCA but within forty (40) kilometers of the OCA geographical jurisdiction provided such residency is established prior to the entry deadline and remains in effect at all times thereafter to the end of the competition; and

- c) a player may only compete for one curling association in the same curling season. A player representing more than one association **will** face **a** suspension. (Refer to Curling Canada rules that state that a Provincial/Territorial Champion of an event in the current season where the Canadian Championship of that event occurs in the next curling season, shall be eligible to compete for that Province/Territory in the Canadian Championship despite not being otherwise eligible to compete for such Province/Territory in any other manner); and
 - d) competitors playing in events leading to the Canadian Men's Championship, Canadian Women's Championship and Mixed Doubles **MUST** be residents and citizens of Canada; (as per Appendix 'A') and
 - e) competitors playing in events leading to a national event must comply with any residency requirements issued by Curling Canada for that event.
2. Notwithstanding rule # 1, the members of OCA – Affiliated Curling Clubs located in the United States of America are eligible to play in all OCA competitions, except a competition leading to a sanctioned Canadian championship.
 3. For competitive play, it is the responsibility of the club OCA representative/skip /coach/chaperone to ensure that all team personnel meet eligibility requirements. If a player or coach/chaperone is found to be ineligible after the start of play, the team shall be disqualified. A person who plays **in** an OCA competition or equivalent competition in another curling jurisdiction is ineligible to represent any other OCA – Affiliated Curling Club in the same competition except;
 - an alternate/fifth (5th) accompanying a team to the Canadian Men's or Canadian Women's Curling Championships,
 4. Eliminated competitors are eligible to play as a substitute at the next level (e.g. **Provincial qualifier or** Challenge round) for the same OCA – Affiliated Curling Club they represented.
 5. In the event a provincial winning team also wins a Canadian Championship (Seniors, **U-21, U-18, Masters, Mixed and Mixed Doubles**), such team shall have a direct entry into the next provincial **championship**, if at least three (3) eligible players of the **four (4)** members who won the Canadian Championship (**both players in the Mixed Doubles are required to receive direct entry**) remain on the team and provided that such team pays the prescribed entry fee for the competition in question **prior to entry deadline**.
 6. An entry to **any** Challenge round is another level of the playdown leading to the provincial final for that event. Rules for Eligibility, Registration and Alternates / fifth (5th)/Substitute as outlined in this Rules Supplement shall apply and specific event rules will be outlined in the Entry package for the Challenge Rounds.

COMPETITION ENTRY

1. Each OCA – **Affiliated Curling Club** is allowed unlimited entries in all competitions regardless of the number of registered curlers.
2. All entries to competitions shall be made online and will be paid for at the time of entry and require OCA – **Affiliated Curling Club** approval prior to the start of first level of play.
3. **At least four (4) players must be registered at time of online entry. In “extenuating circumstances”, player personnel changes may be made prior to the start of the competition, by notifying and receiving approval of the Event Coordinator or designate.**
4. The deadline for entries for each competition will be as posted in the competition section of the website. Late entries will not be accepted by the OCA office after the entry deadline. Entry fees are non-refundable after the entry deadline. Confirmation of the entry is emailed when the payment is completed; if confirmation is not received within twelve (12) hours please contact the OCA office.
5. In the event of late withdrawal from the competition, the draw shall be revised, if possible, and teams notified of any changes in the starting time.
6. A Curling Canada competitor’s fee must be paid to be eligible for participation in competitions leading to a national championship, excluding Masters, Travelers Club Championship and Mixed Doubles Championship.
7. All players, coaches and chaperones are required to provide the OCA an online waiver form appropriate for the event(s) they participate in **a minimum of one (1) day prior to the start of their first level of competition**. If the participant is under the legal age (18) of majority they require the signature of a parent or legal guardian in order to be eligible to compete.

DEFAULTS

1. Where a winning team in a **competition** is unable or unwilling to continue in a competition, the skip/chaperone/coach of the team shall notify the OCA **Event Coordinator** to this effect at least three (3) days before the first day of the next scheduled round, and that team will not be entitled to the position, rights, privileges and awards as it has defaulted and may be suspended. A runner-up team in **the previous level of competition** shall be entitled to the position, rights, privileges and awards of the team that has defaulted.

2. Each member of a team **which defaults at any level of competition will be subject to an immediate review by the Executive Director, Event Coordinator and a member of the Board. Upon completion of the review disciplinary action including suspensions may be imposed.**
3. The OCA Executive Director shall notify each member of a defaulting team in writing of such suspension and the method of appealing such suspension. Such suspension may be appealed in writing and/or in person to the Board of Directors of the OCA within a period of two (2) weeks from notification of such default and in such event the suspension shall be **stayed** until the appeal is heard.
4. Such suspension shall not apply to the level of the competition in which the default occurred, if, in the opinion of the official-in-charge or the head umpire, the team in question has a reasonable explanation for such default. **All defaults by a team are to be communicated immediately to either the Executive Director or Event Coordinator.**

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1. Teams participating in any **level of competition** will not be permitted to practice at the host club or facility within twenty-four (24) hours of the start of first scheduled draw
Exemption: A host club competitor who is participating in a scheduled league draw.
2. All competitions are considered to have started twenty-four (24) hours prior to the start of the first level of play **or the scheduled pre-event practice**. The competition is considered completed, **one (1) hour after the final game is complete**.
3. At the team meeting, every team must confirm to the official in charge; their players, **alternate/fifth (5th) or substitute** and **that all participants'** waiver forms were submitted. **Penalty:** Failure to have a completed waiver on file for each player, coach or chaperone **will result in the team being ineligible to participate until any required waivers have been submitted to the official in charge.**
4. At all levels of the competition, at any time during the competition, the official-in-charge may ask for proof of age.
5. The person standing on the tee line (for 6 stones), directing play and holding the broom shall be known as the skip and the team shall be listed under his/her name.
6. The **use of** electronic equipment, except stopwatches, hearing aids and other pre-approved devices, shall **NOT** be allowed within the immediate playing area. This includes phones, tablets etc. The coach shall be allowed the use of an electronic tablet or equivalent as a coaching tool during time-outs and the fourth/fifth end break on condition that all sound is disabled.

7. In Mixed competition each team shall have two (2) males and two (2) female players and shall play alternate positions in the team's delivery rotation. Sweepers of the final two (2) stones of the end shall be of opposite gender and the skip and acting vice-skip shall also be of opposite gender.
8. For any qualifying event with a weighted average requirement, the following calculation process should be applied:
 1. Determine **Qualifier Entries (QE)** – number of teams entered in a qualifier.
 2. Determine the **Total Entries (TE)** – total number of teams entered in all qualifiers leading to the same next level event.
 3. **Total Qualifying Spots (TQS)** – total number of qualifying position leading to the same next level event.
 4. **Weighted Average Calculation**
 - $(TE) \text{ divided by } (TQS) = \text{Qualifying Spot Average (QSA)}$
 - $(QE) \text{ divided by } (QSA) = \# \text{ spots advancing from qualifier}$
 - Guaranteed spots and Rounding rules in effect with 0.5 being the determining factor
9. For any Qualifying event with a total number of entries less than or equal to the minimum number of teams qualifying from the event, all entered teams will advance directly to the next level event. Any unused qualifying positions will be distributed amongst the other events to the same next level event, using the weighted average calculation.
10. All second round Provincial Qualifiers will be filled to their eligible number of qualified teams. This means that where the qualifiers cannot advance team(s) due to lack of entries to fill the Provincial Qualifier, teams will be advanced from the other Qualifiers using weighted average. The winning teams for these spots need to be willing to advance to that specific Provincial Qualifier site. A team may forfeit their qualifying game if they do not wish to advance to the other site with no penalty under the default clause.

COACHES

1. Any team with a coach under twenty-one (21) years of age, **or a team under the age of majority (eighteen (18) years old) participating in an adult event, MUST** also be accompanied by a chaperone over twenty-one (21) years of age. All expenses relating to the chaperone shall be the responsibility of the team. The chaperone shall not receive any awards, prizes or acknowledgement. Coaches and chaperones must have an acceptable Police Record Check available that is no more than three (3) years old. Police Record Checks should be submitted to the OCA office no later than two (2) weeks prior to the start of the competition. The coach/chaperone shall be responsible for the team both on and off the ice during the entire competition.

Where required, the only acceptable coaching qualifications are those that are part of the Canadian Certification for Curling recognized by the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP). Note “Club Coach – Youth” is not equivalent to Club Coach. In the upcoming season, coaches/chaperones accompanying teams to competitions are required to have the following qualifications:

EVENT	QUALIFIER OR PROVINCIAL QUALIFIER	PROVINCIAL
U-15 Challenges	Police Check only	n/a
U-18 Men & Women	Certified Competition Coach* + Police Check	Certified Competition Coach* + Police Check
U-18 Mixed & U21 Mixed Doubles **	Police Check only	Competition Coach / Club Coach Trained * + Police Check
U-21 Men & Women	Certified Competition Coach + Police Check	Certified Competition Coach + Police Check
All Adult Events	Certified Competition Coach	Certified Competition Coach

Note * A one-time exemption is available to unqualified coaches/chaperones wishing to coach in a U-18 event provided that the coach signs an agreement with the OCA stipulating their intent to become qualified before November 30th of the following season.

Note ** A coach is required for all youth events except for U-21 Mixed Doubles which allows teams with both players who have reached the age of majority (18 years of age) prior to the start of the competition to participate without a coach. Any team with a player under eighteen (18) will require a certified coach.

2. A coach accompanying a team to a Canadian Championship shall have a minimum Competition Coach Certification or Level 2 Coach Certification for curling or be registered with the Coaching Association of Canada’s Mental Training Registry and shall be at least twenty-one (21) years of age.
3. At all levels of the competition requiring coach certification, prior to the start of the first game, the official-in-charge may ask for proof of the applicable certification.
4. At all levels of competition, a chaperone/coach is only permitted to coach one (1) team. Interpretation: A coach of a team in any competition will not be permitted to coach any other team in the same competition. When two (2) competitions are run simultaneously

at the same place, such as the U-21 Men and Women, a coach will not be permitted to coach a team in both competitions until such time as one team is **eliminated**.

ALTERNATES / FIFTH (5th) / SUBSTITUTES

Definition:

Alternate/Fifth (5th): A player who is not part of the original registered four (4) person team. This alternate/fifth (5th) may be used as a regular member of the team during any game or level of competition. Once declared and registered, the alternate/ fifth (5th) becomes a member of the team and cannot be changed.

Substitute: A player who is a temporary substitute for one (1) of the original registered four (4) members of the team. This substitute may be used for any game (s) during any level of the competition. A team may invoke the substitute player rule only once in any competition.

1. The OCA strongly supports the utilization of four (4) player teams. In extenuating circumstances, a team shall be permitted to begin play with three (3) players, however, the practice of using three (3) players for a complete game, except in “extenuating circumstances” is not permitted. “Extenuating circumstances” are emergency or unplanned activities that preclude a team from fielding their four (4) person team. Abuse of the extenuating circumstances clause will result in disciplinary action. In mixed competitions all teams must begin play with four (4) players.
2. A team may register their alternate / fifth (5th) player, at initial registration or anytime thereafter. (For Mixed teams, two (2) alternates/fifths (5th) may be added, one (1) male and one (1) female). All alternates/fifths (5th) must meet all requirements of team membership, including residency, age, gender and OCA – Affiliated Curling Club membership.
 - a) Alternate/fifth (5th) players are considered full members of the team, and, as such, cannot play as a substitute for another team during the same competition, once officially registered as a member of the team.
 - b) Alternate/fifth (5th) player can accompany their teams to Provincial Finals for an additional cost of \$ 50.00 to cover host club expenses.
 - c) Only in the Men’s and Women’s Canadian Championship is the team permitted to declare and have an alternate/fifth (5th) attend the event.
3. For every game at each level of competition, a team must include at least three (3) members of its registered four (4) or five (5) person team. (For Mixed competitions, a team must include at least two (2) players, one of each gender).

4. If a team cannot field four (4) players from its registered four (4) or five (5) person entry, it may add one (1) substitute player.
 - a) A substitute is not considered a member of the team. The substitute must meet all requirements of team membership, including residency, age, gender and OCA – Affiliated Curling Club membership.
 - b) A team may only use one (1) substitute during the registered competition. If a team advances through a qualifying event, they may use the same eligible substitute at subsequent events.
5. In a Provincial championship, a team may substitute a player to their team as in rule (4) above with the additional option that this substitute may be a member of ANY OCA - Affiliated Curling Club who has not participated in the event at any prior level.
6. In Mixed competition, where a player is unable to continue the game in progress, the team:
 - (a) may play an eligible alternate / fifth (5th) or substitute; or
 - (b) may **complete** the game with the three (3) remaining players. **The team must continue the opposite gender delivery rotation with the same gender player, as the player unable to continue, throwing four rocks in a normal rotation.**

CRESTING/SPONSOR IDENTIFICATION

1. A team competing in an OCA competition will be allowed to wear any number of sponsors' crests with no restriction on size. **Any cresting or logo which is deemed to be in bad taste or demeaning will, at the discretion of the Head Umpire or Event Coordinator, be removed or censored.**

THE DRAW

1. The Men's Tankard, Scotties Tournament of Hearts, **U-21 Provincial Qualifiers, and Men's, Women's & U-21 Challenge Rounds** will be self seeded. (Participating teams will receive a ranking form that must be returned by the deadline shown on the form).

For all other events:

The OCA operations staff shall draw for position and start times and post the draw on the OCA website by Friday 12:01 pm **a minimum of two weeks prior to the start of the event.** www.ontcurl.com/scoreboard

GAMES

1. Three (3) games per day may be scheduled for all competitions with the following exceptions:
At Master Men, Master Women, Senior Men, Senior Women, Senior Mixed, Stick and Wheelchair three (3) games cannot be scheduled for two (2) consecutive days, excluding tie-breaker games and playoffs.
2. All games are eight (8) ends except Men's Tankard, Women's Scotties Tournament of Hearts and **U-21 Men's and Women's**.
3. During the **optional** fourth/fifth end break, which shall be a maximum of five (5) minutes and taken on the backboard behind the team's sheet of play. **Non-alcoholic** beverages and small quantities of **prepared food (NO food products deemed to be potentially hazardous to the ice surface by the official in charge of the event)** shall be permitted provided they are in a non-breakable container.
4. In all games of competition played in a curling club, all extra ends must be played towards the glass. **An optional three (3) minutes extra end break will begin once all rocks are moved over the back line at the delivering end.**
5. Time clocks may be used at any level of any competition. 'Thinking Time' will be used (refer to Exhibit #15).
6. Changes to a posted schedule must be approved by an OCA Zone Representative AND the OCA Event Coordinator.

PRE-GAME TEAM MEETING & PRACTICE

1. A team meeting will be held forty-five (45) minutes before the posted start time of the teams' first game at each level of play of the competition. Each team must have at least one (1) member at the team meeting. If a team fails to have a team member at the team meeting, that team shall forfeit the choice of colour and last stone for that game and shall practice first.
2. **All levels of qualifiers** of all OCA events (exceptions will be double team entries) **thirty (30) minutes prior to each game**, teams will conduct a coin toss to determine choice of stone colour or choice of practice. At provincial **championship events** refer to the competitors guide for details.

3. All competitions shall allow for a seven (7) minute per team pre-game organized practice. Practice is to be on the sheet of ice where the team is scheduled to play and only with the stones they will be using in the game.
4. After each team's practice is declared complete and the coach has left the ice surface, one player from each team shall throw one (1) stone within the one (1) minute period to the home end with sweeping that will be measured and removed. **The team practicing first will throw their Last Stone Draw (LSD) (see #4) with a clockwise rotation while the team practicing second will throw their LSD with a counter-clockwise rotation.**
5. **If the delivered stone is not measurable or has covered the pin, then another team member will throw one (1) stone with sweeping using the same rotation immediately thereafter. The first delivered stone will have a measure of 186 cm or 0 cm if stone covered the pin.** One (1) player from the opposing team has the right to observe the measure. The team that has the least measurement will have last stone advantage. In the event that **both teams' two (2) measurements are equal**, the teams shall conduct a coin toss to determine last stone advantage.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE DRAW TO THE BUTTON WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE TEAMS WITHOUT ASSISTANCE OF AN OFFICIAL.

At all Provincials please refer to the Competitor's Guide for LSD procedures.

6. A team receiving a bye due to a default will be permitted to practice on the sheet of ice that they would have played on for the length of time that the game would have taken. (2 hours for an 8 end game or 2 ½ hours for a 10 end game).
7. Teams shall not be permitted to select stones off other sheets of ice at the facility unless at a provincial final that has a scheduled playoff format (Note: Tie-breakers are not included in a playoff format).

OFFICIATING

1. At **qualifiers or provincial qualifiers**, a **Zone** Representative or designate shall act as official-in-charge. At **officiated** OCA Provincial Championships, a Head Umpire will be appointed and will work in consultation with the Event Coordinator or designate. **At all other Provincial Championships, the Event Coordinator or designate will act as the Head Umpire.**
2. No person who is a player or coach in a competition shall be appointed or act as an official in that competition.
3. No person who has a **direct** conflict of interest (eg. Competed or coached at any level of the competition) will be permitted to officiate at the Provincial event.

PROTESTS / APPEALS

1. A skip or coach may lodge a protest as to the outcome of the game on behalf of the team no later than ten (10) minutes after the completion of their game.
2. The protest will be lodged with the on-site official and **will be referred** to an Official-on-Call **for consultation**. The subsequent decision is final.
3. All decisions made (excluding the entry process) may be appealed in writing to the OCA **Event Coordinator** within forty-eight (48) hours of the original decision rendered. The subsequent decision is final.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

1. The Curling Canada rules found under Special Rules in the Curling Canada “Official Rulebook for Officiated play” shall apply with the exception that appeals must be made within two (2) weeks.

This includes:

- (a) The right to implement and administer reasonable disciplinary measures arising from any Competitor/Coach’s conduct (whether of a verbal or physical nature) occurring,
 - (i) during any competition, whether in the course of on ice play or at other times,
 - (ii) at any other time or place.
- (b) Such disciplinary measures may include but are not limited to,
 - (i) formal reprimand or verbal warnings;
 - (ii) formal reprimand (written);
 - (iii) temporary or permanent suspension of competition privileges;
 - (iv) dismissal from a team.

COMPETITION BEHAVIOUR

Inappropriate behaviour will not be tolerated at any time during an OCA competition (e.g. slamming brushes in anger, **verbal or physical abuse of an official**, willful damage to curling club, hotel or restaurant facilities, offensive and/or abusive language, etc.). Such inappropriate behaviour shall be subject to the disciplinary procedure outlined under the disciplinary section above.

The OCA reserves the right to impose **participant** fines as introduced by Curling Canada in cooperation and with the support of the World Curling Players Association. This fine system includes (but is not limited to) the following sample:

- (a) On-ice conduct
- (i) Use of inappropriate language and/or behaviour to the point that is offensive.
 - (ii) Making an obscene gesture that is deemed inappropriate by an Official.
 - (iii) Being abusive to anyone involved with the event.

1 st Offence	\$ 150 - \$ 500
2 nd Offence	\$ 500 - \$ 1,000
3 rd Offence	Fine up to \$ 1,000 and suspension
- (b) Refusing to take a directive given by an OCA official.
- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 st Offence | \$ 300 - \$ 600 |
| 2 nd Offence | \$ 600 - \$ 1,000 |
| 3 rd Offence | Fine up to \$ 1,000 and suspension |
- (c) Off-Ice Activity: Any conduct considered to be inappropriate by the OCA.
- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 st Offence | \$ 300 - \$ 600 |
| 2 nd Offence | \$ 600 - \$ 1,000 |

APPENDIX A – Policy for Residency

The Canadian 4-person Mixed, Senior Men's & Women's, Junior Men's and Women's Curling Championships involve the participation of teams that are made up of individuals that are Canadian Citizens and bona fide residents within the geographic area of the Member Association they are intending to represent. To ensure that all individuals are treated equally, a policy has been established that clearly outlines what an individual must be able to provide to be considered a resident for playdown purposes.

It is understood that an individual can only participate in one province/territory in any championship season. (Explanation – an individual may only participate in the playdown process in one Member Association in one championship year – this includes all championships that lead to a national event. These include Masters, Juveniles, The Travelers Club Championship, etc. It is understood that the Canadian Mixed, held in November, will be part of the previous year's group of competitions even though it is dated in the following year. For example – the 2017 Canadian Mixed held in November of 2016 will be considered a part of the 2015/16 Championship season for residency purposes.)

An individual claiming to be a bona fide resident of the specific curling province/territory whose playdown structure he or she wishes to enter, must be able to provide a minimum of three of the following four items to the Member Association (if requested):

- Current Drivers License (or valid travel picture ID) from that province/territory
- Current Health Care Card from that province/territory
- Letter from employer confirming employment within the province/territory
- Statement from landlord (if renting) or bank (if owned) confirming residency within the province/territory – a copy of a property tax invoice for non-mortgaged property is also adequate. Recommend a statutory declaration be obtained.

Traditional, on-campus, full time students will be allowed to establish residency by providing a confirmation letter from their school's Registrar's Office confirming full time status and class enrollment for the academic year. This policy defers to the institution that the student attends in terms of defining full-time student status.

To participate in the Canadian Championships identified above, individuals **MUST** be permanent residents of the province/territory in which they wish to enter playdowns prior to September 1st of the year preceding the championship season (for example – prior to Sept 1st of 2016 for the 2016/17 championship season). This time frame may be shortened in the following circumstances:

- Transfer due to employment
- School attendance
- Military service and transfer

Exemptions may be made in exceptional circumstances if granted by two Member Associations where:

- Individuals live within a short distance of a provincial/territorial boundary
- Part-time students
- An individual is based in two provinces/territories due to an employment situation

(The individual must provide positive proof that their predominant employment from September 1st to March 31st, of the curling season the exemption is being requested for, will be located within the geographical area of the Member Association they wish to participate in*).

Process for Exemption Requests

- Exemption requests must be received by Curling Canada and applicable Member Associations a minimum of 30 days prior to the Member Association's entry deadline.
- Detailed information will be required with the exemption request
- The respective Member Associations will review all information and approve or deny the application. If Member Associations cannot agree on a decision, a committee that includes the following three individuals will make the decision and their ruling will be considered final:
 - CEO of Curling Canada
 - Director, High Performance of Curling Canada
 - Chair or Vice-Chair of the Operations (ED) Council
- (*) Individuals who have employment in two curling jurisdictions may be required to participate in a formal interview that will include the identified employer, a representative of the Member Associations and the Director of High Performance of Curling Canada.

For Canadian championships that do not lead to World Championships, there may be unique circumstances that allow a curler to be residing outside of Canada and still be eligible to compete. These circumstances must be approved by the respective Member Association (for example – Point Roberts, Washington residents may be eligible to compete in Curl BC events leading to Canadian Juvenile, Master and Travelers competitions if granted an exemption by Curl BC).

Any individual who has provided proof of residency or has been granted an exemption will also provide a signed waiver that will agree to a one year suspension from any Curling Canada sanctioned championship OR championships coordinated by Member Associations in the event it is discovered that any information has been provided in a fraudulent manner.

Process for Challenges

It is understood that this policy will be a national policy and, in the event the policy is challenged, Curling Canada will assist in the defense of any challenge at the MA level and/or protect Curling Canada's interest and its costs, as the Associations mutually deem appropriate.

POLICY FOR RESIDENCY
2016 – 2017 CURLING SEASON

The Canadian Men's & Women's Curling Championships

The Canadian Men's and Women's Curling Championships involves the participation of teams that are made up of individuals that are Canadian Citizens, residents of Canada and a minimum of three [3] of the team members [four [4] including the alternate] must be bona fide residents within the geographic area of the Member Association they are intending to represent. A maximum of one [1] "Free Agent" will be allowed per team. Teams requesting this exemption must identify their "Free Agent", notify both Member Associations involved, seek their approval and provide the required documentation proving the remaining players [3 or 4] are bona fide residents of the Member Association they are intending to represent. To ensure that all individuals are treated equally, a policy has been established that clearly outlines what an individual must be able to provide to be considered a resident for playdown purposes. Individuals claiming to be bona fide residents of the curling jurisdiction they wish to represent and individuals engaged in the exemption process may be requested to participate in Curling Canada's "Whereabouts" Program, as administered by the Director of High Performance to validate their residency or the merit of their request for an exemption.

It is understood that an individual can only participate in one province/territory in any championship season. This includes individuals that apply for and receive exemptions and individuals that have "free agent" status on their Scotties or Brier Team. All individuals must comply with the club membership criteria of the province/territory they wish to represent including the acquisition of a competitors card. (Explanation – an individual may only participate in the playdown process in one Member Association in one championship year – this includes all championships that lead to a national event. These include Masters, Juveniles, The Travelers Club Championship, etc. It is understood that the Canadian Mixed, held in November, will be part of the previous year's group of competitions even though it is dated in the following year. For example – the 2017 Canadian Mixed held in November of 2016 will be considered a part of the 2015/16 Championship season for residency purposes.)

An individual claiming to be a bona fide resident of the specific curling province/territory whose playdown structure he or she wishes to enter, must be able to provide a minimum of three of the following four items to the Member Association (if requested):

- ** Current Drivers License (or valid travel picture ID) from that province/territory**
- ** Current Health Care Card from that province/territory**
- ** Letter from employer confirming employment within the province/territory**
- ** Statement from landlord (if renting) or bank (if owned) confirming residency within the province/territory – a copy of a property tax invoice for non-mortgaged property is also adequate. Recommend a statutory declaration be obtained.**

IN ADDITION TO PROVIDING THE ABOVE DOCUMENTATION AN INDIVIDUAL MUST SPEND THE MAJORITY OF THEIR NON-COMPETE TIME IN THE PROVINCE/TERRITORY IN WHICH THEY ARE CLAIMING TO BE A BONA FIDE RESIDENT.

Traditional, on-campus, full time students will be allowed to establish residency by providing a confirmation letter from their school's Registrar's Office confirming full time status and class

enrollment for the academic year. This policy defers to the institution that the student attends in terms of defining full-time student status.

To participate in the Canadian Championships identified above, individuals MUST be bona fide residents of the province/territory in which they wish to enter playdowns prior to September 1st of the year preceding the championship season (for example – prior to Sept 1st of 2016 for the 2016/17 championship season). This time frame may be shortened in the following circumstances:

- Transfer due to employment
- School attendance
- Military service and transfer

Exemptions may be made in exceptional circumstances if granted by two Member Associations where:

- Individuals live within a short distance of a provincial/territorial boundary
- Full-time on campus students that are attending a recognized post secondary educational institute may either play out of the province/territory in which they are attending school or the province/territory in which they are maintaining a residence. An individual may be requested to provide proof of registration and semester transcripts.
- Individuals that reside in province/territory “A” and conduct the majority of their work outside of province/territory “A”, may represent province/territory “A” on the assumption that they can validate that the majority of their non work and non train/compete time is spent in province/territory “A”.
- Individuals that have a primary residence in province/territory “A”, a temporary/secondary residence in province/territory “B” and conduct the majority of their work in province territory “B” may represent province/territory “B” on the assumption that they can validate that the majority of their work related time is spent in province/territory “B”.**(The individual must be able to provide positive proof that their predominant employment from September 1st to March 31st, of the curling season the exemption is being requested for, will be located with the geographical area of the Member Association they wish to represent*).**

Process for Exemption Requests

- Exemption requests must be received by the Curling Canada and applicable Member Associations a minimum of 30 days prior to the Member Association’s entry deadline.
- Detailed information will be required with the exemption request
- The respective Member Associations will review all information and approve or deny the application. If Member Associations cannot agree on a decision, a committee that includes the following three individuals will make the decision and their ruling will be considered final:
 - CEO of the Curling Canada
 - Director, High Performance of the Curling Canada
 - Chair or Vice-Chair of the Operations (ED) Council
- (*) Individuals who have employment in two curling jurisdictions may be required to participate in a formal interview that will include the identified employer, a representative of the Member Associations and the Director of High Performance of the Curling Canada.

- Individuals that meet exemption criteria will be considered bona fide residents of the province/territory granting the exemption. They are not considered free agents.

For Canadian championships that do not lead to World Championships, there may be unique circumstances that allows a curler to be residing outside of Canada and still be eligible to compete. In these circumstances, the respective Member Association[s] must provide approval. For example – Point Roberts, Washington residents may be eligible to compete in Curl BC events leading to Canadian Juvenile, Master and Travelers competitions if granted an exemption by Curl BC).

In the case when a team enters the Provincial/Territorial/Canadian Championship playdown and are found not to be in compliance with the residency policy, the entire team risks being suspended for 1 year from Curling Canada and Member Association sanctioned events. Suspension shall only be implemented subsequent to due process and it is determined that residency and/or exemption related information has been provided in a fraudulent manner.

Process for Challenges

It is understood that this policy will be a national policy and, in the event the policy is challenged, Curling Canada will assist in the defense of any challenge at the MA level and/or protect Curling Canada's interest and its costs, as the Associations mutually deem appropriate.

CURLING CANADA WHEREABOUTS PROGRAM

Curling Canada's "whereabouts" program will be implemented as required to provide confirmation that a team member is in compliance with established residency and/or exemption criteria and to ensure all related documentation/ statements that the individual has provided are valid.

The protocol for the "whereabouts" program is as follows:

- It is brought to the attention of a Member Association (MA) or Curling Canada (CC) that a team member(s) may not be compliant with the residency/exemption policy criteria.
- The MA and CC shall work together in an effort to establish confirmation that the individual is compliant.
- The individual(s) shall be contacted and asked to confirm that the documentation/statements provided are accurate/valid and to establish that they are aware of the potential consequence of having provided fraudulent documents and/or statements.
- The MA and CC shall then determine if further confirmation is warranted and if so Curling Canada's Whereabouts Program will be implemented by the Director of High Performance (DHP).
- The individual will be contacted and requested to participate in Curling Canada's Whereabouts Program and their team will be advised. Failure to grant approval will result in the individual being deemed not to be in compliance.
- The whereabouts program is intended to establish the exact location of the individual on a 24/7 basis and therefore the individual must be a willing participant in providing proof positive as to the credibility of their claim to be in compliance with the residency policy and/or exemption criteria.
- The Whereabouts Program will make use of any reasonable means possible/available to establish that the individual in question is in fact in compliance with the residency policy and/or exemption criteria. This will be done with the approval of the individual in question. Failure to grant approval will result in the individual being deemed not to be in compliance.

- If it is established that the individual is deemed not to be in compliance, they will be provided the opportunity to participate in Curling Canada's Appeal Process which will be implemented in a timely manner by the DHP.