



# **Brainerd Lakes Curling Association**

## **Code of Conduct**

Revised 06/18/19

**The following Code of Conduct applies to all members, staff and guests of the Brainerd Lakes Curling Association in the building or on the property:**

If for any reason a problem does arise, players are encouraged to speak with a Board Member. Infractions to the following Code of Conduct will then be assessed by the Brainerd Lakes Curling Association Board of Directors and the more serious infractions could result in disciplinary action up to and including cancellation of membership privileges with or without a refund of fees.

### **Code of Ethics**

Curling has its rules of governing play, but equally as important is the way you conduct yourself while curling.

- I will play the game with a spirit of good sportsmanship.
- I will conduct myself in an honorable manner both on and off the ice.
- I will be courteous to opposing teams and treat all players, club members and club visitors with respect.
- I will never knowingly break a rule, but if I do, I will divulge the breach.
- I will take no action that could be interpreted as an attempt to intimidate or demean my opponents, teammates or officials.
- I will interpret the rules in an impartial manner, always keeping in mind that the purpose of the rules is to ensure that the game is played in an orderly and fair manner.
- I will display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat.
- I will humbly accept any penalty that the governing body at any level of curling deems appropriate, if I am found in violation of the Code of Ethics or rules of the game.

# Curling Etiquette – “Sportsmanship, Courtesy, Respect for Others”

- Start with a handshake. At the beginning of each game, greet the members of the opposing team with a handshake, tell them your name, and wish them “Good Curling!” Make sure everyone knows everyone else.
- Finish with a handshake. When the game is over, offer each player a hearty handshake and say “Good game”, regardless of the outcome. The winning curlers traditionally offer their counterparts some refreshment, with the opponents reciprocating.
- Compliment a good shot. One of the nicest curling traditions is that players and spectators compliment a good shot by either side while withholding comment on a poor shot or a competitor’s misfortune.
- Be courteous. Avoid distracting movements when a curler is in the hack. When your team is not shooting, keep your distance and stand quietly. Leads and seconds should stand **off to the side between the hog lines**, unless it is their team’s shot. Skips and vices should **stand still and behind the backline** when the opponents are shooting (OCA rule). Never walk or run across the ice when an opponent is in the hack. Avoid gathering around the hack at either end of the ice.
- Be ready. Get into the hack as soon as your opponent has delivered his/her rock. Keep the game moving – delays detract from the sport. Be prepared to sweep as soon as your teammate releases the rock. Wait for the score. Vice skips are the players who determine the score for each end. Other players should wait outside the house until the outcome is settled. Once decided, others may help clear the rocks.
- Pay attention to game time. A buzzer system is used at the Brainerd Lakes Curling Club and most other curling facilities. Two hours are allotted for an eight end game, and a buzzer will sound when there are approximately 20 minutes left. At that point, you are to finish the end you are on and play only one more end.
- Post game. At the Brainerd Lakes Curling Club, the losing team sweeps the ice after a game. This includes sweeping the full sheet and cleaning the hacks.
- Keep the ice clean and in good condition. The shoes you wear for curling should only be used for curling. Change into a clean pair of flat, rubber soled shoes that can grip the ice. Avoid resting hands, fingers or knees on the ice as this results in “flat” spots in the ice.
- Clean up after yourself. Our club is run solely by volunteers, so everyone cleaning up after themselves leaves less work for everyone. Within the social area, bar and kitchen take care of your trash, utilize appropriate recycling bins, pick up after yourself (e.g. personal items, etc.).
- Be on time. Get to the club in time to change and warm up before the game. When you’re late, you hold up the other players. If you know you’ll be unavoidably late, let your team know in advance.
- Get a sub. There may be times when you’re not able to curl as scheduled. It’s your responsibility to get a substitute. Call your skip and give the name of the curler subbing for you. We have a full list of subs who want to play, so please utilize them rather than playing with three.
- Be respectful. No acts of physical or verbal abuse directed at a team member, opponent, club member or club visitor will be tolerated. No swearing, trash-talking or broom slamming.

I have read and agree to abide by the Brainerd Lakes Curling Association’s Code of Conduct and Curling Etiquette Rules.

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_