

Curling Etiquette

Curling has always been known for good sportsmanship and the friendly and courteous rivalry that exists on the ice. The courtesies suggested below are practised by curlers who understand the true spirit and tradition of the "roaring game."

Every curling game begins with a hearty handshake of friendship and goodwill to both teammates and opponents.

Be on time. Seven other people will be depending on you.

Clean your shoes before stepping onto the ice. Clean your brush regularly during the game. It is everyone's responsibility to keep the sheet of ice clean. However, you may not remove any foreign object from beneath a moving stone or from one that has come to rest.

Prepare to throw your stone immediately after your opponent's stone has been delivered.

Do not disturb a player in the hack or during delivery or while he or she watches the stone come to a stop. Stay out of the way of opposing sweepers. Stand still on the sideline, between the hog lines, when your opponent is delivering a stone, even if you are the next shooter; do not stand at the back of the hack.

When it's time for each throw, move toward the hack, get your rock, and set up for your next delivery. Make sure to clean your stone before your throw. After you throw, move back to the hog line to wait until your opponent releases his/her rock.

As a sweeper, stay on the sidelines, alert and ready to sweep immediately when called upon. Stay with the stone all the way to the house, sweeping or not. Once the rock has stopped, move to the sideline and walk back. Do not block the centre of the ice, as the other skip and shooter will be visually communicating to each other and you will block their view.

When in the house, skips and thirds should keep their broom heads off the ground and stand still while opponents are throwing. No one should deliberately delay the game.

If you personally touch (foul or burn) a moving stone, be the first one to declare it.

If you personally move a stationary stone, say so immediately so that it may be replaced (put into original position) to the satisfaction of the opposing skip.

Congratulate opposing players, as well as members of your own rink, when they have made a good shot. Never, by word or deed, be guilty of any action that would embarrass a player who has missed a shot.

Every curling game ends with a hearty handshake of friendship and goodwill to both teammates and opponents, and often with a refreshing adult beverage compliments of the winners!