

TO: All Members of the Lakefield Curling Club -August Update.

The restrictions around our opening have been clarified somewhat but there is still some uncertainty due to the 4th wave associated with the Delta variant in other jurisdictions. Ontario's more hesitant approach may be more stable in the long run, helping us to avoid the surges being seen in Britain and Florida, among others.

The Board has been in touch with Peterborough Public Health, and they have provided us with the 3rd Stage opening guidance. I would like to emphasize that this is the situation if we open **now**; it may be different in October. And although it's hard to say how these things may go, there may well be an expectation that full vaccination will be the ticket for full access to the facility, with medical exceptions of course.

Basically, on-ice activities would be much the same as pre-COVID:

- We may have some physical distancing in the house but sweeping and the back and forth movement on the ice will not be subjected to the choreography that was required to be in place in 2020.
- Masks will not be required on the ice but may be worn if you wish.
- Sanitizer will be provided if you wish to clean your rocks.

Detailed studies of several 'super spreader' events in the early days of COVID where minimal precautions were taken have shown essentially no transmission due to on-ice activities. However, we will do what we can to try to meet your comfort level.

Restrictions relative to the off-ice areas are more demanding. Our lounge and locker rooms would be described as 'cozy' in different times but physical distancing under COVID is difficult. By the time we open in October requirements may have loosened up but under current guidance everyone will be actively screened (i.e., answer a questionnaire) every time they enter the building and will be required to wear a mask until they go out on the ice or are sitting at a table having a drink. There will be no visitors and no spectators – so no arriving early to watch the previous draw. Whether or not we will be able to open the locker rooms before Christmas is still up in the air, but we should be able to manage some post-game socializing with masking, physical distancing and controls around the bar and kitchen areas. Our current plan is to start putting the ice in during the first week of September, as we're hoping to run a Learn to Curl Instructor Training session prior to opening in October.

Based on the phone survey that many of you participated in during June/July, roughly 85% of you want to return, some depending on protocols. Now we need to know how often, and in which leagues you would like to curl. The on-line survey we attempted in 2020 proved to have some technical challenges so we'll try a different process this time. Later next week, I'll

send an email with a list of leagues. You will be asked to pick your first choice and any other leagues you will sign up for.

The fee structure will be basically the same as 19/20 (once per week & unlimited), with an inflationary increase of around 6%. As you may recall from my previous update, the club has some Gov't loans to pay back and for two years has been unable to contribute to our Capital projects fund.

Please respond to the survey when it hits your in box. We'll update you shortly with more details on the registration process and any changes to the league structure that may be needed.

If you have any questions or comments, email them to lccpresident@nexicom.net , and watch the website for news.

Stay Safe and enjoy the rest of the summer

Tom Sayer, President

For the Board, LCC